

CRJ 342: Punishment and Correction
Fall 2021
Online

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Zoom Introduction Meetings: Join one of the following meetings to discuss the syllabus, answer any questions you might have before we get deep into the semester. The zoom links for both meetings will appear in your E360 email Monday, September 13th in the morning.

- Monday, September 13th at 7:30PM
- Tuesday, September 14th at 1:00pm

Required Text and Other Materials

- Clear, Cole and Reisig American Corrections (10th edition) ISBN: 978-1-133-04973-9
 - o A PDF copy can be found in E360
- E360 account (required weekly use)
- WhatsApp connection

Course Description

This course is a basic analysis of the correctional systems in the United States. The class will focus on the need to punish, theoretical approaches to punishment, the modern methods of “correcting” or punishing, constitutional rights afforded to the convicted and the realities associated with being an ex-offender. Special emphasis will be placed on restorative justice as an alternative or supplemental to the traditional modes of correcting.

Course Objectives

- Understand the evolution of punishment in the United States.
- Be able to communicate and distinguish the ways the US society punishes individuals who violate the law.
- Understand the different philosophies and objectives of punishment.
- Recognize the differences between jails and prisons and who is sent to each facility.
- Discuss population trends in incarceration rates over time, what has influenced the correctional population and the demographic composition.
- Have an understanding of the incarceration experience and what inmates face while incarcerated.
- Understand the issues of ex-prisoners face upon early release from prison.
- Understand the constitutionality of the death penalty and the method of arriving at this punishment.

- Understand restorative justice and how it can fit into contemporary correctional practices.

Graded Assignments

1. **Keyword assignments (11 assignments x 10; Total: 110 points):** Beginning the second week of the semester you are to submit definitions for important keyword from each chapter in a single, typed document. The weekly terms can be found on the e360 website under each chapter. Do not use the **emboldened words** in the text as a way to complete this assignment. Not all of the terms in the text will be focused upon and it would be regretful to do extra work. You should complete this assignment as you do the reading for the week.

To do well in this course it is expected that you will review the keywords throughout the week rather than cramming at the last minute. If you review the keywords for five minutes each night, you will begin to “cement” this information in your long-term memory. Consider using them while you are waiting for service; or on the train, even in a car!...As a passenger only.

2. **“Linking it together” assignment (11 assignments x 20; Total 220):** Because we will not meet like a traditional class, to compensate for difference, and to ensure you are critically thinking (and reading), students are required to watch the provided videos or listen to the provided audio clips and respond to EACH independently. The responses should include information about the video or NPR listen and how it connects to the week’s readings. Below is an example I wrote up deriving from an NPR radio story about how Ramen Noodles are now being used as prison currency. You will see that the paragraph briefly discusses the story and then links it to a specific aspect of the reading. In this case the link between the story and reading are “prison currency” and “barter system” and indicates tobacco products were once currency. However due to changes in prison policy Ramen has taken over.

Ramen Noodles Are Now the Prison Currency of Choice

According to the listening assignment, in recent years Ramen Noodles have become the “currency of choice” in prisons. This currency is part of the underground prison economy addressed in the chapter which is best described as a barter system (pg 273). The book indicates tobacco products used to be prison currency but with prisons now no smoking facilities, new currencies are being adopted. Prisoners are not allowed to have money while they are incarcerated; to substitute for this “lack” prisoners have developed a system for which certain items are worth other items. Ramen noodles are so valuable that it’s used to trade for other goods such as clothing, toiletries and other foods.”

Each link it story or video should have a caption (bold) along with a short paragraph

linking the story to the text book. Each response should certainly be greater than one sentence but no as lengthy as it takes an entire page. The link it assignments should be submitted on the prescribed due date and should be no more than one page total!

- 3. Weekly online quiz (11 quizzes x 5; Total: 55)** Upon completion of the reading and the chapter assignments you are strongly encouraged to complete the online quiz for the chapter. Taking the quiz will earn you points, not a passing or high grade. The numeric score from the quiz will not be used in your final grade. The points are earned simply by completing the quiz. The table below reveals the number of quizzes taken with the number of points earned.

Quizzes Completed	% Completed	Points Added to final grade
11	100	55
10	90	50
9	81	45
8	72	40
7	63	35
6	54	30
5	45	25
4	36	20
3	27	15
2	18	10

- 4. Oral/Online Exam (2 exams x 150 pts each. Total exam: 300)**

There are two exams divided into two major sections. The first section, you are familiar with as it includes multiple choice, true false, fill-in the blank section. This portion of the exam will be completed online as a “timed exam”. The second section involves an oral component. Approximately two weeks before the exam a time will be agreed upon between the student and instructor to meet virtually to complete the oral exam. Details for both portions of the exam will be made available on e360.

The traditional portion will be worth 100 points. The oral portion of the exam is worth 50 points. A “review sheet” for each exam will be made available approximately two weeks before the exam is scheduled.

Grade Breakdown and Scale

Grading Scale:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Grade Ranges</u>	<u>Grade Point Value</u>
A	720-670	4.000
A-	669-648	3.667
B+	647-627	3.333
B	626-598	3.000
B-	597-576	2.667
C+	575-555	2.333
C	554-525	2.000
C-	524-504	1.667
D	503-432	1.333

Breakdown by Assignments

Discussion board	10
Assignment 1	25
Quizzes (total)	55
Keywords	110
"Link It" (total)	220
Exam One	150
Exam Two	150
Total:	720

Class Schedule

Complete readings/assignments by	Reading	Assignment due in class
September		
13	Review syllabus Watch Prison Town USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce yourself to the class (discussion 1) • Prison Town USA response paper
20	Chapter 1: The Correctional System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link it • Quiz
27	Chapter 2: The Early History of Correctional Thought and Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link it • Quiz
October		
4	Chapter 3: The History of Corrections in America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link it • Quiz

		Extra video: Let the Doors be of Iron
11	Chapter 4: The Punishment of Offenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It for 4 only • Quiz
18	Chapter 5: The Law of Corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It • Quiz
25	Chapter 7: Jails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It • Quiz <p>Extra video "The Asylum (PBS)</p>
25-31	Exam I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please be sure to set up a video time with me before the 29th of October.
November		
1	Chapter 8: Probation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link it • Quiz
8	Chapter 9: Intermediate Sanctions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link it choice • Quiz
15	Chapter 10: Incarceration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It • Quiz
29	Chapter 11: The Prison Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It • Quiz
December		
6	Chapter 20: The Death Penalty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO Assignments Due
13	Chapter 15: Release from Incarceration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keywords • Link It

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz
15-21	Final Exam	
22	Grades Due	