

# American Corrections System

Criminal Justice 106/ item #5008

Instructor: Charlene Freyberg

Office: D-100 C

Dates: 1/5/15-3/25/15

Hours: T/TH 12:30pm-3:00pm and by appt.

Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30am to 12:20pm & Fridays 11:30a-12:20p

Phone: 425-564-2698

Room: D-103

E-mail: [charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Required Text:** *American Corrections, 10th Edition*. By: Clear, Cole, and Reisig. **Publisher:** Wadsworth Publishing. **ISBN-10:** 1133049737 **ISBN-13:** 978-1133049739. You can choose the hardback or the looseleaf version or an e-reader version. **Please do not use older editions** since the information and statistics could be incorrect/out of date.

**Course Description:** This course gives an overview of the administrative and operational aspects of the American correctional system, both institutional and community based. Areas covered include historical development, offender characteristics, non custodial alternatives, correctional institutions (jails and prisons), inmate rights, dealing with special clients (e.g., females, elderly, youthful offenders), correctional staffing, special contemporary issues (e.g., crowding, direct-supervision jails, privatization, accreditation), and future trends.

**Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:**

- Describe the multifaceted complexities of the U.S. correctional system.
- Identify how public policies have shaped correctional practices over time.
- Describe the differing goals, functions, and operational features of institutional and community-based corrections.
- Compare various types of traditional and innovative inmate treatment programs.
- Analyze the impact of special offenders, including female inmates, the mentally disabled, drug addicts, the AIDS-afflicted, and the elderly.
- Explain how corrections is being affected today by such issues as drug-related crime, overcrowding, capital punishment, prison gangs, privatization, organizational management, vicarious liability, chronic stress, and social policy.
- Describe the historical problems that frame our contemporary experience or corrections.
- Identify and analyze the current theory and empirical evidence on methods of punishment.
- Demonstrate recognition and understanding of the issues surrounding how we portray the correctional client (the offender) in relation to criminal legislation, the criminal justice process, and greater societal forces associated with criminal behavior.
- Identify and explain the major components and practices which constitute the American correctional system.
- Construct critical assessments of current issues, trend, and policies which dominate the function and operation the correctional system.

**Prison paper requirements:** APA format only. This paper is to be 4-5 pages in length, 12 point font (Times New Roman or Arial), 1 inch margins, cover page, page numbers (BUT no abstract page is needed). (You will be given more detailed instructions about this paper later in the quarter). You *CANNOT USE* Wikipedia for a reference since it is not peer reviewed, and if used you will receive a F. Please see me for all sources that you are unsure about using. I will post an example paper, APA help pages, and peer reviewed information on the link PAGES for your help. You must have at least two peer reviewed sources for your prison paper. The paper is worth 50 points and is due by **11:30am Friday March 13th, to turnitin.com (see pages link).**

**Schedule:** The following schedule is tentative and may be modified **with** notice. **Students are responsible for ANY and ALL changes that are made to this schedule.** The assigned readings should be read **prior** to the assigned week.

### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

#### **Week 1 1/5-1/10**

1/6 Introduction to course and expectations (syllabus)

**Read:** Chapter 1: The Corrections System

**Read:** Chapter 2: The Early History of Correctional Thought & Practice

#### **Week 2 1/13-1/17 & Week 3 1/20-1/24**

**Read:** Chapter 3: The History of Corrections in America

**Read:** Chapter 4: The Punishment of Offenders

**1/23 Quiz #1 (chapters 1-4)**

#### **Week 4 1/27-1/31 & Week 5 2/3-2/7**

**Read:** Chapter 5: The Law of Corrections

\*\*no chapter 6

**Thursday 2/6 NO SCHOOL-Professional Development Day**

**Read:** Chapter 7: Jails: Detention & Short Term Incarceration

#### **Week 6 2/10-2/14 & Week 7 2/17-2/21**

**Read:** Chapter 8: Probation

**2/13 Quiz #2 (chapters 5,7 & 8)**

**Read:** Chapter 9: Intermediate Sanctions & Community Corrections

**Read:** Chapter 10: Incarceration

**Week 8 2/24-2/28 & Week 9 3/3-3/7**

**Tuesday 3/4 NO SCHOOL-College Issues Day**

**Read:** Chapter 11: The Prison Experience

**Read:** Chapter 12: Incarceration of Women

**3/6 Quiz #3 (Chapter 9,10,11 &12)**

**\*\*no chapter 13**

**Read:** Chapter 14: Institutional Programs

**Week 10 3/10-3/14 & Week 11 3/17-3/21**

**Read:** Chapter 15: Release from Incarceration

**Read:** Chapter 16: Making It: Supervision in the Community

**Read:** Chapter 20: The Death Penalty

**3/13 PRISON RESEARCH PAPER DUE at 11:30am on turnitin.com AND IN CLASS (no late papers will be accepted)**

**\*\*no chapters 17-19**

**Week 12 3/24-3/26 FINALS WEEK**

**Tuesday 3/24 9:30am-11:20am (Chapters 14,15,16 & 20)**

**GRADING:**

Activities	Points	Description	Total	Points
Quizzes	4 @ 25 points each		100	
Video Assignments	4 @ 20 points each		80	
Assignments & Attendance	Various assignments @ 10-20 points each		100	60
Prison paper	1 4-5 page paper @ 50 points		50	

**Total Points:**

**390**

A	94-100%	A-	90-93%	B+	87-89%
B	84-86%	B-	80-83%	C+	77-79%
C	74-76%	C-	70-73%	D+	67-69%
D	60-66%	F	0-59%		

**Academic Etiquette:** Class begins promptly at 10:30am on T/Th and 11:30am on Fridays. Please make every effort to be in class and to be here on time. If it is unavoidable that you arrive late- or even leave early- please do not disrupt the class. **Respect for opinions voiced in class is essential, and I expect all students to treat each other courteously.** Any type of disruptive or discourteous behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated; these types of behaviors will result in the student(s) being asked to leave the class. **Class "No No's":** cell phones must be turned off for class (or on vibrate for emergency purposes) and stored (phones should be in your backpack, NOT ON YOUR DESK), (if they go off you may be leading a class discussion or be asked to leave the class). Laptops are permitted in the last row only. If you are not taking notes, you will be banned from use of your laptop (no Facebook, checking e-mail, etc. PLEASE DO IT ON YOUR OWN TIME).

**Affirmation of Inclusion:** Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp> (Links to an external site.)

**Bellevue College E-mail:** All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to *MyBC*.

All e-mail communication from you should come to me from your BC account (not your g-mail, hotmail, yahoo, etc.). Please e-mail me through CANVAS for the quickest reply. I will respond to you within 24-48 hours (except on weekends). BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#). (Links to an external site.)

**Course Requirements:** All students are expected to read the required chapters of the textbook as outlined in the schedule section of this syllabus. Students are also expected to read the required chapters to attend the classroom regularly, take notes, ask questions, and participate in discussions.

**Make-up Policy:** Any make-up assignments or quizzes are allowed ***only at the discretion of the instructor*** and immediate notification from the student is imperative. Excused absences: death of immediate family member (death notification needed), medical emergency (ER discharge papers required) or other emergency with documentation. Any excused absence (with documentation) will be allowed to take the make-up the assignment and/or quiz without point penalty within 1-2 weeks of missed work. Any un-excused or undocumented missing assignment and/or quiz will NOT be allowed to make-up the work.

**Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*:** Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

**Incomplete:** If a student fails to complete all the required work for course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("F"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an ("F").

**F Grade:** Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

**Final Examination Schedule:** The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstances beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designed by the instructor.

**Withdrawal from Class:** College policy states students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

**Hardship Withdrawal:** Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

**Distribution of Grades:** Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades online through Canvas.

**Return of Papers and Tests:** Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if students supply the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**Public Safety:** The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100.

**Disability Resource Center (DRC):** The DisabilityResourceCenter serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B-132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498 for help. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc) (Links to an external site.) or the office in the library.