

# **AMERICAN CORRECTIONS SYSTEM**

**Criminal Justice 106/ item #5008**

**Instructor:** Charlene Freyberg      **Office:** D-100 C  
**Dates:** 1/3/12-3/22/12      **Hours:** M/T/W/Th 11:30am-12:30pm and by appt.  
**Class:** D103      **Phone:** 425-564-2698  
**T/Th:** 9:30-11:20am      **E-mail:** charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu

**Required Text:** *American Corrections, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*. By: Clear, Cole, and Reisig.  
**Publisher:** Wadsworth Publishing. ISBN: 9780495812517 (looseleaf) or  
9780495807483 (hardback)

**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.

**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, even if not present when changes are discussed.** The assigned readings, which should be completed **prior** to class, and all test dates are in bold.

**GROUP PRISON PROJECT & RESEARCH PAPER REQUIREMENTS:** APA format  
**This project and paper is to be 5-10 pages in length, 12 point font (Times New Roman or Arial), 1 inch margins, and have a blue print of your prison, a cover page, references page, page numbers, and at least 5 peer reviewed references included.**  
The project and paper is to build a prison and keep it running for one year based on a budget I give you. (You will be given more detailed instructions later in the quarter). You must pick your group members and turn in your group members names by week 4 (1/27). You **CANNOT USE Wikipedia** for a reference since it is not peer reviewed (see me for all sources that you are unsure about using). You will be presenting your prison design to the class during week 11 (3/12 and 3/14) which must be 10-15 minutes in length. You can use powerpoint, handouts, music, video or any other approved form for your presentation.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**Week 1 1/2-1/4**

1/3 Introduction to course and expectations (syllabus)  
**Read:** Chapter 1: The Corrections System  
**Read:** Chapter 2: The Early History of Correctional Thought & Practice

**Week 2 1/7-1/11 & Week 3 1/14-1/18**

**Read:** Chapter 3: The History of Corrections in America  
**Read:** Chapter 4: The Punishment of Offenders  
**Read:** Chapter 5: The Law of Corrections

**Week 4 1/21-1/25 & Week 5 1/28-2/1**

**Read:** Chapter 7: Jails: Detention & Short Term Incarceration  
**Read:** Chapter 8: Probation  
**Read:** Chapter 9: Intermediate Sanctions & Community Corrections

**Week 6 2/4-2/8 & Week 7 2/11-2/15**

**2/7 Thursday NO SCHOOL**  
**Read:** Chapter 10: Incarceration  
**Read:** Chapter 11: The Prison Experience  
**Read:** Chapter 12: Incarceration of Women

**Week 8 2/18-2/22 & Week 9 2/25-3/1**

**2/12 Exam #1 Chapters TBD**  
**Read:** Chapter 14: Institutional Programs  
**Read:** Chapter 15: Release from Incarceration

**Week 10 3/4-3/8 & Week 11 3/11-3/15**

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

**Read:** Chapter 20: The Death Penalty  
**3/12 & 3/14 Presentations**

**Week 12 3/18-3/20 FINALS WEEK**

**3/19 (Tuesday) 9:30-11:20am Chapters TBD**

**COURSE EVALUATION:**

<b>Total Points</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Exams</b>	<b>2 @ 50 points=100</b>
<b>Prison Paper and Presentation</b>	<b>1 @ 100 points = 100</b>
<b>Assignments/Small group</b>	<b>10 @ 10 points=100</b>
<b>Participation/Class Attendance</b>	<b>100 points = 100</b>

**Academic Etiquette:** Class begins promptly at 9:30am. 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, pagers, etc. (if they go off OR I SEE YOU TEXTING you may be leading a class discussion up front or be asked to leave the class!) Laptops are allowed in the back row only. If you are not taking notes, no one will be able to use their laptops. Check your e-mail, facebook, the weather on your own time; NOT class time.

**Attendance:** All students are expected to attend every class. Obviously, if students do not attend class regularly, the opportunity to perform well in this course is greatly diminished.

**Veterans:** I thank you for your service to our country and let me know if you need help in any way (tutoring, advising, job opportunities, or any other services at the college).

**Running Start Students:** If this is your first class please plan on meeting with me in person for a short chat (e-mail me at [charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:charlene.freyberg@bellevuecollege.edu)) during the first two weeks of class. I want to help make this college transition successful for you.

**Student Complaints:** If you have a viable complain about the class material, videos, assignments, or exams please see the instructor for a private meeting. If you do not feel comfortable going to the instructor, please see the Dean of Social Science in D110.

**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 attend class regularly, take notes, ask questions, and participate in class discussions.

**Make-up Policy:** Any make-up tests are allowed *only at the discretion of the instructor* and immediate notification from the student is imperative. Additionally, *all* make-up exams (for *any un-excused* circumstance) will adhere to the following criteria: 1) administered *only* by the instructor during office hours/or instructor’s choosing 2)

*cumulative* in nature; and 3) given in an *all-essay* format. I will allow make-up work or tests with documentation (Dr. note, death notification, etc.) without penalty.

**Extra Credit:** As a general rule, there is usually no extra credit available in this introductory level course. I may, however, **at any time during the quarter** provide in-class extra credit opportunities. Obviously, if you are not in class on these days, you are not eligible for these opportunities.

### **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 a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). 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 circumstance 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 designated by the instructor.

### **Withdrawal From Class**

College policy states that 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 and exceptional

circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

**Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:**

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

**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 through the BC Web site.

**Return of Papers and Tests**

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies 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.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*