

Course Syllabus

Criminal Justice 106

Introduction to the American Corrections

Spring 2012

Dr. Michael Caldero

Office: Online

Office Hours: Monday through Sunday (online)

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Class meets online

Textbooks: Corrections in the 21st Century. Frank Schmalleger Pub: McGraw-Hill.

AND

An EasyGuide to APAStyle by: Schwartz, Landrum, and Gurung. Sage Publications ISBN 978-1-4129-9124-7.

Syllabus and Pre-Test: During the first week of this course you will need to take the "syllabus test" and the "Pre-Test", it is a ten point deduction from your final score if not taken and can only be taken during the first week. Go to the week one module and just click on the "syllabus test" and the "pre-test" icons after you have read this syllabus.

You must have:

- Internet access
- Text -
- An open mind

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

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The purpose of the course is to present a cursory analysis of the American Correctional Systems and its role in American society. The course then continues with an analysis of a variety of components and issues that constitute the Correctional system today and its operation.

This course is designed to inform you regarding a broad spectrum of issues and problems confronting American society by exposing you to a variety of opposing and sometimes controversial perspectives regarding key issues, questions and problems we are currently facing.

IF YOU WANT TO DO WELL IN THIS CLASS READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND FOLLOW THEM CAREFULLY

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Properly constructed research papers are the heart of college level learning and a skill you must learn to master if you expect to be successful in any educational or professional endeavor, this is especially true for anyone working within the criminal justice system in almost any capacity. It is also true that the ability to pay attention to details can significantly enhance both a professional as well as academic career. It is to these ends that the first two weeks of this class will be dedicated.

For the first two weeks of class you will need to concentrate on one of your assigned texts: "An Easy Guide to APA Style". You will need to acquire a good working knowledge of the APA style and format as it will be required for all your assignments. For your papers the APA style and format must be followed meticulously (this means the style and format for all your references and content), but for your discussions you need only follow the requirements for proper reference citation in the body of your discussion and in your reference page. (If you have questions regarding this requirement please feel free to ask me at any time).

As a general guideline for all your assignments I highly recommend that you use more than just one or two references (never rely on just the text) when writing your papers and discussions. The more references you utilize the greater the depth of your subject analysis. And try to use references with both authors and dates, this rationale for this is explained in your APA text.

At the end of the second week of class (see exam dates in this syllabus) you will have an exam on the contents of the text "An Easy Guide to APA Style". I strongly urge you to study this text thoroughly. This exam will be worth 100 points. By taking the time to learn the proper style and format you will greatly increase your success rate, not only in this class, but in every college or university class you take. Since you are obviously smart enough to read this far I will give you some more very useful information. Several hours before you take this test (APA exam) go to the Bulletin Board and print out the "exam key", you will find it very useful for completing the exam successfully. But one caution however, do not, under any circumstances, pass on to any of your classmates the information you learn in the exam key, doing so will be grounds for your failure in this class.

A BRIEF CLASS OUTLINE

READ THIS AND YOU WILL KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU

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- 1. Read the syllabus carefully, pay attentions to details, especially in the "Special Instructions" section.**
- 2. Take the syllabus and Pre-test which will be available Saturday, April 7th thru Sunday, April 8th.**
- 3. For the first two weeks of class study for the APA exam, worth 100 points. Take the APA exam, which will be available Saturday, April 14th and Sunday, April 15th.**
- 4. You will have four (4 page) papers and one five page paper (Term paper) due for the class. One paper is due on each of the following dates: Sunday, April 29th, Sunday May 13th, Sunday May 27th, and Sunday June 10th. The Term paper is due FRIDAY June 8nd. (see the assignment and term paper modules for designated topics).**
- 5. You will have five discussions to post. The first is only a paragraph or two about yourself and it is due April 8th. (Yes, that's two things to do at the end of the first week of class, the syllabus test and your introduction). The other four discussions are two (2) pages and are due Sunday, April 29th, Sunday, may 13th, Sunday, May 27th, and Sunday, June 10th. (see assignment module for designated topics)**
- 6. The exam dates are as follows: (Syllabus test), available Saturday, April 7th and 8th. (Pre-Test), available April 2nd thru April 8th. (APA exam), available Saturday, April 14th thru Sunday, April 15th. (Mid-term exam), available Friday, May 11th, Saturday, May 12th and Sunday, May 13th. The (Final exam) which will be available Friday, June 8th, Saturday, June 9th, and Sunday June 10th. And finally the (Post-Test), also available June 9th and 10th.**
- 7. Don't forget to check the BULLETIN BOARD regularly for the following: 1. Lecture material, 2. Extra Credit options, and 3. Helpful hints for the exams. (all these are discussed and explained in the syllabus). I will contact you through the "class email", as well as "announcements" and the "bulletin board". If for some reason Vista/Blackboard is not working I can be reached at my Bellevue College email address: mcaldero@bellevuecollege.edu**
- 8. And most importantly, getting your papers, discussions and exams done in a timely manner is most important, so is "paying attention to details", especially when doing your assignments and following the APA style and format, and reading the syllabus, "it gives you some very valuable information".**

•Technological Objective:

To master the simple use of any computer that happens to be available. Many of your assignments and readings will be located on the Internet. Outcomes: You will be expected to research information on a website. With that information, you will be expected to create a paper and to post your research in the discussion forum.

•Praxis Objective:

To recognize differences between theory, factual knowledge, and the application and synthesis of that knowledge in praxis. Outcomes: You will apply theoretical discussions to examples within their own institutions, as they relate to race and ethnicity. Focus on conceptually linking criminological theory to current events and personal narratives shared in discussions.

Deadlines/Due Dates- All due dates and deadlines are firm. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval from me. The absolute final deadline for ALL course work is every Sunday no later than 11:59 PM PST with exception to the Final Paper. The Final paper will be due on Friday, December 2nd, 2011 no later than 11:59 PM PST.

Communicating - It is your responsibility to communicate to me any emergency and/or other situations in a timely manner prohibiting you from completing a task. Communicating to me your emergency is important for you to receive any extension on any assignments, exams, etc.

Groupwork (Peer Collaboration): You may work in study groups on all exercises, assignments, quizzes, and exams. Cooperative learning groups are strongly encouraged. However, you may not collaborate with anyone during the taking of the exam, doing so will result in failure of this course.

WARNING: THIS IS NOT YOUR TRADITIONAL COURSE WHERE I LECTURE AND YOU QUIETLY TAKE NOTES. I ENCOURAGE A COOPERATIVE LEARNING APPROACH AS WELL AS SEVERAL EXPERIMENTAL AND INNOVATIVE TEACHING/LEARNING TECHNIQUES. GROUPWORK IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THIS COURSE!

Extra Credit Work: If you want to hedge your grade a bit, especially if you have missed an assignment and need to make up points, you can do so by following these directions. Check the Bulletin Board regularly (just click on the website icon) and you will see that I often post topics and questions for you to research. I suggest you go the Bulletin Board right now and read the posting instructions. The first three students who do these three things will receive an extra credit grade point that will be added to your total grade score. First, research the topic. Second, post the reference you located concerning the topic. Third, write a paragraph or two discussing or describing what you found, you can even express your personal opinion on the subject, and post it. If your work follows these guidelines and is timely (one of the first three) I will notify you through the Bulletin Board. These extra points can be a real grade saver by the end of the course, grab them when you can.

Discussions:

You will apply principles you are learning and participate in discussion with the online class on the information covered in the assigned reading. You must participate in each discussion and must respond to at least two (2) discussions. When you post a discussion if you fail to respond to at least two other students' discussions you will receive a grade of zero (0) for that assignment.

Your exam questions will be developed from three sources: your textbook, the posted lecture material, and the Bulletin Board Postings. So please read all three carefully and regularly.

Grading:

All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course. Your course grade will be calculated in the following way:

Four - 4 page papers 25 points each = 100 points

Five - 2 page discussions, 20 points each = 100 points

APA Quiz, Mid-term, and Final Exam: (short answer) 100 points each = 300 points

Final Paper = 100 points

Total points = 600

Grades and Grading

- Grades on assignments are calculated using a 100-point scale

A	A-	B+	B	B-			
100-95	94-90	89-86	85-84	83-80			
C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	
79-76	75-74	73-70	69-66	65-64	63-60	Below 60	

Due Dates:

All assignments are due on the dates listed in the course schedule:

All assignments must reach me through Assignment drop box or email by midnight on the due date.

Exceptions: There are none. Your assignments must be submitted on time, as in life, this is an important elements of this class.

Other Important Notes

BCC Technical Support

Troubleshooting for WebCT or Vista

- First: Check the WebCT Server Status page to find out if there are reported problems
- Second: If the problem is with your class, not the system, contact your instructor to report the problem
- Third: If you cannot reach your instructor, contact the Distance Education office at (425) 564-2438 or landerso@bcc.ctc.edu

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-start> - welcome to online learning, browser check, logging on

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-LMC> - Library Media Center access online

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-downloading> - info on getting files to download on a PC

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-getFlash> - instructions for students who need to download Flash to view Camtasia lectures/videos

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-unzipping> - instructions on how to unzip a file (a little dated)

<http://tinyurl.com/studentsupport-zipping> - instructions for students on how to compress (zip) a folder of files into a single file

The Academic Tutoring Center offers one-on-one and group tutoring sessions for college credit courses.

Location: D204

Phone: (425) 564-2468

Students and community members can find career planning and job search assistance in the Career Center. The Center provides one-on-one career advising, classes and workshops, work-study and internship opportunities, and many computerized resources.

Location: B231

Phone: (425) 564-2018

Academic, career, and personal counseling services and credit classes are available to all enrolled BCC students.

Location: B234

Phone: (425) 564-2212

DRC provides advocacy and classroom accommodations, including specialized materials, technology and equipment for eligible students with disabilities.

Location: B132

Phone: (425) 564-2498 or 564-4110 (TTY line)

The Childcare Center provides affordable, quality childcare to children ages 3 months to 7 years, an on-site Head Start program, and resources and classes for parents.

Location: Building Q

Phone: (425) 564-2240

Educational Planning Resource Center

Advisors, counselors and resources are available for students who wish to transfer to a four-year university, pursue a career or are undecided about their major.

Location: B232

Phone: (425) 564-2437

Learning & Computer Labs

Many academic learning labs and nearly 1,300 computers are dedicated for student use at BCC. View our complete list of labs including those located in the library and across campus.

Location: Various

Library Media Center

In addition to traditional library resources, the LMC provides access to electronic periodicals, research assistance, books and publications, computers with Internet connections, material reservation, media lab, study rooms and other helpful resources.

Location: D124

Phone: (425) 564-225

Multi-Cultural Student Services (B233)

MCS provides culturally-sensitive academic and support services to BCC students. MCS services include outreach, advising, counseling, cultural events planning, and curriculum and policy development.

Location: B233

Phone: (425) 564-2208

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

FALL 2011

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.

*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.