

# University of North Texas at Dallas

## FALL 2016 SYLLABUS

### Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hours CJUS 3400.001 / SOCI3460.001 Correctional Systems 3Hrs

Department of	Liberal Arts & Life Sciences	Division of	Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
<b>Instructor Name:</b> Dr. J. Eric Coleman			
<b>Office Location:</b> DAL2 Founders Hall 318			
<b>Office Phone:</b> 972-338-1833			
<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:eric.coleman@untdallas.edu">eric.coleman@untdallas.edu</a>			
<b>Office Hours:</b>	M 8:30 – 11:30 / 1:00 – 2:00 T 8:30 – 9:30 W 8:30 – 10:30 / 1:00 – 2:00 TH 11:30 – 12:30.		
<b>Virtual Office Hours:</b>	None		
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	Founders Hall 337		
<b>Class Meeting Days &amp; Times:</b>	Thursday 1:00 p.m.– 3:50 p.m.		
<b>Course Catalog Description:</b>	This course focuses on prisons and jails. It examines the goals and history of punishment; the death penalty; the composition and social organization of jail and prison populations; bail, detention, sentencing and classification; institutional management and the conflicts between rehabilitation and punishment.		
<b>Prerequisites:</b>			
<b>Co-requisites:</b>			
<b>Required Text:</b>	<i>American Corrections in Brief</i> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition by Clear, Reisig, Petrosino and Cole. Published by Cengage Learning, Inc. ISBN #978-1-305-63373-5		
<b>Recommended Text and References:</b>			
<b>Access to Learning Resources:</b>	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a> UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com">1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com</a>		
<b>Course Goals or Overview:</b>			
	The goal of this course is to engage the reader about the correctional system. This course directly addresses the most crucial questions and concerns about the correction system while challenging the stereotypes that guide to current prison policies.		
<b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes:</b> At the end of this course, the student will			
1	Be able to understand corrections.		
2	Demonstrate the ability to understand the punishment of offenders.		
3	Define probation and intermediate sanctions.		
4	Identify the role of corrections at the local level.		
5	Understand prison management.		
6	Understand prison staffing.		
7	Identify the legal issues and the death penalty.		

8	Recognize the sentencing process.
9	Discuss the issues and challenges in managing prisons.
10	Understand the dual functions of probation: investigation and supervision.
11	Recognize incarceration trends.
12	Identify and discuss reducing recidivism for people reentering society.

## Course Outline

Please note that this is a tentative schedule of reading. The instructor may modify this to accommodate speakers, films, more discussion, etc.

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class and blackboard.

<b>August</b>	
08-25-16 TH	Chapter One: What is Corrections
<b>September</b>	
09-01-16 TH	Chapter Two: The Punishment of Offenders
09-08-16 TH	Chapter Three: Jails: Corrections at the Local Level
09-15-16 TH	Chapter Four: Community Corrections: Probation and Intermediate Sanctions
09-22-16 TH	Chapter Five: Probation Supervision
09-29-16 TH	Chapter Six: Prisons
<b>October</b>	
10-06-16 TH	Midterm Exam
10-13-16 TH	Chapter Seven: The Prison Experience Issue paper due
10-20-16 TH	Chapter Eight: Prison Management
10-27-16 TH	Chapter Nine: Special Populations
<b>November</b>	
11-03-16 TH	Chapter Ten: Reentry into the Community
11-10-16 TH	Chapter Eleven: Legal Issues and the Death Penalty Article critiques due
11-17-16 TH	Chapter Twelve: Corrections for Juveniles
11-24-16 TH	THANKSGIVING
<b>December</b>	
12-01-16 TH	Chapter Thirteen: The Future of Corrections
12-08-16 TH	Final Exam TBA

## Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- Exams for this course include midterm and final exam. These exams will be multiple choice.
- Issue Paper – Students will write a 5 – 7 page issue paper on an issue on a current issue that may be controversial in criminal justice. The requirements for the paper will be given out separately in class.
- Students will critique six (6) scholarly articles pertaining or relating to topics or issues in the text book. Students will follow the guidelines posted below for completing all article critiques. The completed assignments must be a minimum of 4 pages and a maximum of 6 pages, double-spaced, and should follow current APA style guidelines. The title page and reference pages are not included in the required assignment length. References should support any opinion stated in the critique. The three article critiques will be due in class as a “completed set” on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Keep electronic copies of all work submitted.

**Requirements for Article Critiques.**

**Citation**

- A. Provide a full citation of the article to include author(s), title of article, and name of journal, volume and pages. For example:

Coleman, E. & Cheurprakobkit, S. 2009. Police hiring and retention of sexual minorities  
In Georgia and Texas after Lawrence v. Texas. Journal of Criminal Justice, vol. 37(3),  
256-261.

**Topic**

- A. Briefly describe the topic of the journal article (hint: it's usually in the article's title). Identify the major and minor objectives of the article as well.
- B. Identify and define the important concepts focused on by the author. Are the definitions clear, in your opinion?

**Theory/Research Methods**

- A. Is the author being guided by a particular theoretical perspective? If so, what is it and how does he use this theory to understand the problem?
- B. Does the author collect data? If so, what method does he use (survey, field observation, use of existing sources, experiment, and is it cross-sectional or longitudinal in design)?

**Main Ideas**

- A. Summarize the article's content. In doing so, what is the author's major argument?
- B. What are the supporting arguments?
- C. Are the ideas clearly presented?

**Conclusions**

- A. What conclusions does the author(s) make?

**Reflection**

- A. In your opinion, do the data support the conclusions being made by the author(s)?
- B. In your opinion, are the results thought provoking?
- C. In your opinion, what could be done to improve the research?
- D. What was the most important thing you learned by reading and critiquing this article?

**Grading Matrix:**

Assessment	Measures SLO	Points
Midterm exam	1,2,3,4,5	100
Final exam	1,2,3,4,5	100
Issue Paper	1,2,3,4,5	100
Article Critiques x6	1,2,3,4,5	300
<b>Total:</b>		<b>600</b>
<b>Extra Credit Participation Points</b>		<b>50</b>

**Extra credit points are earned by class attendance and participation to be determined by the instructor. Roll sheet will be made available at each class session. Extra credit points cannot be made up. Students coming in late or leaving early will result in the loss of extra credit points at the discretion of the instructor.**

**Grading Scale:**

POINTS	GRADE
540-600	A
480-539	B
420-479	C
360-419	D
Below 360	F

## University Policies and Procedures

### Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

#### Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untdallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

### Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

### Assignment Policy:

**Exams** - Two exams will be given over the course of the semester. Each exam will be multiple choice type exam

**Issue Paper** - Students will write a 5 – 7 page issue paper on an issue on a current issue that may be controversial in criminal justice. The issue paper must be written at the university level. This paper will be completed outside of the classroom environment and is due on **October 13<sup>th</sup>**.

**Article Critiques** - Students will critique six (6) scholarly articles pertaining or relating to topics or issues in the text book. The articles critiques should follow current APA style guidelines. The title page and reference pages are not included in the required assignment length. References should support any opinion stated in the critique. The three article critiques will be due in class as a “completed set” on **November 10<sup>th</sup>**. This assignment is to be completed outside of the classroom environment.

### Class Announcements and Notifications

All class announcements will be given during class lecture, posted on Blackboard, and/or sent via email. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard and your e-mail early and often. Being unaware of any posted announcement will not be an excuse.

### Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). It is your responsibility to contact me during the first two weeks of class if there's anything about which I should know concerning special accommodation for any of the assignments. I will try to work out a suitable arrangement, but I must know about it during the first two weeks of class. It is also your responsibility to bring me the required documentation(s) or have the responsible parties contact me in a timely manner for any kind of special accommodation for any of the assignments.

### Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at [http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf) for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

**On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the**

## UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

### Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [www.unt.edu/dallas](http://www.unt.edu/dallas). Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

### Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. Further, in order to receive credit for class discussion the student must be present in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

### Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses, will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate. This course is designed to be a safe open forum so that we may critically analyze and discuss crime theories. Thus, please adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

### Optional Policies:

- Use of WebCT/Blackboard: All material will be primarily distributed in class. However, the use of the Blackboard site associated with this course may be utilized if necessary.
- Use of Cell Phones, Laptops, & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: Please turn all cell phones off/on silent before each class starts. If you need to take an emergency call please excuse yourself from the classroom. Students may use laptops to take notes during class. If students begin to exploit the use of computers I will not allow them. **If a student wants to use a recording device you must get my approval prior to use.**
- Food & Drink in the Classroom: Food and drinks are allowed during class, but if they become disruptive to the lecture/discussions, they will be disallowed.

**Grade of Incomplete, "I": Though not encouraged, incomplete grades will be granted on a case by case basis. Each student seeking such grade must come speak to me as soon as it is being considered.**