

**University of North Texas at Dallas  
Spring 2016 Syllabus**

**SOCI 3460.030 "Correctional Systems" (3HR-Internet Based)**

<b>Department of Business and Public Leadership</b>		<b>Division of Criminal Justice</b>	
<b>Instructor Name:</b>	<i>Ralph A. Yates</i>		
<b>Office Location:</b>	<i>UNT-Dallas, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Office #318</i>		
<b>Office Phone:</b>	<i>972-338-1837</i>		
<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:ralph.yates@unt.edu">ralph.yates@unt.edu</a> / Use the Message Link inside the course		
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Posted on office board		
<b>Virtual Office Hours:</b>	<i>By appointment</i>		
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	Internet Based Course		
<b>Class Meeting Days &amp; Times:</b>	Internet		
<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>	<b>American Corrections in Brief, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Todd R. Clear, George F. Cole, Michael D. Reising and Carolyn Petrosino. Published by Cengage Publishing., ISBN# 978-1-305-63373-5</b>		
<b>Recommended Text and References:</b>	<b>None</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@fheg.follett.com">1012mgr@fheg.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 corrections 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 and staffing within the prison subculture..		
6	Understand the issues of a growing population of mentally ill, aging, and AIDS within prison.		
7	Identify legal issues from the inmate to the U.S. Supreme Court concerning the death penalty.		

8	Recognize the sentencing process.
9	Discuss the issues and challenges in managing prisons.
10	Understand the dual functions of probation; parole; community reentry; investigation and supervision.
11	Understand youth crime and the development of juvenile corrections in the U.S.
12	Identify and discuss reducing recidivism for people reentering society.

### Course Outline

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

**Assignments will open at 12:00am. on the start date and close at 11:55pm. on the completion date. Once an assignment is closed a student will not be able to go back and complete any missed part of the assignment.**

<b>START DATE:</b>	<b>COMPLETION DATE:</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT:</b>
01-19-16	01-25-16	Info. Quiz Due
01-25-16	02-15-16	Unit #1 / Ch. #1-2-3
02-15-16	03-07-16	Unit #2 / Ch. #4-5-6
03-07-16	03-13-16	Practical Exercise & Mid-term Survey Due
03-14-16	03-20-16	Spring Break
03-21-16	04-11-16	Unit #3 / Ch. #7-8-9
04-11-16	05-02-16	Unit #4 / Ch. #10-11-12
05-02-16	05-06-16	End of the Semester & SETE Surveys
<b>There is NOT a final exam for this course</b>		

**Course Evaluation Methods:** A student's final grade will be calculated from the following means.

- four examinations that will be given over material covered in the required textbook
- one information quiz
- four discussion board postings
- one practical exercise

**Chapter Quiz Policy:** There will be (4) different chapter unit quizzes over selected chapters from the textbook in each unit. The online part I of the quizzes will be timed and you will have 1 ½ hours (90 min.) to complete the quiz. Do not leave the quiz for any reason and do not have long periods of non-activity inside the quiz for blackboard will lock you out automatically. Remember each unit chapter assignment has a completion date.

- Each quiz will come from selected chapters in the textbook and worth up to 100 points toward the students final grade.
- Each quiz will consist of questions both multiple choice, true-false and short answer.
- Each quiz will be broken down into two parts.
- Part I will have a mix of (40) multiple choice and true-false questions worth 2 point each.

- Part II will have (20) short answer questions worth 1 point each. (your answers must be placed on the answer form furnished by the instructor and attached to a message sent to me via the Message Link).
- Five points will be deducted for failing to put your name on the submitted form.

**Quiz Lockout:** If a student gets locked out of a quiz he or she must send me a message *via the message link in the course* stating why you were locked out. I will only unlock one quiz during the semester and the unlocked quiz must be taken before the unit assignment closing date.

**Grading Matrix:**

Instrument	Point Value	Total Points
4 unit quizzes	0 – 100 points each	<b>400</b>
4 discussion board questions	0 – 25 points each	<b>100</b>
Information quiz	0 – 50 points	<b>50</b>
Practical Exercise	0 – 50 points	<b>50</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>Total earned points will be divided by 6 to get a final average.</b>	<b>600</b>

**Final Grading:**

90 – 100 = A      60 – 69 = D  
 80 – 89 = B      Below 60 = F  
 70 – 79 = C

**Practical Exercise (Reaction Paper) Assignment:**

- There will be one (1) practical exercise assignments in the course.
- The exercise will be worth from 0 – 50 points toward the student’s final grade in the course.
  - Five points will be deducted for each day the paper is late.
  - Five points will be deducted for failing to put your name on the submitted assignment.

**Grading Rubric**

Practical Exercise Assignment Rubric	Excellent (40-50 points)	Good (30-39 points)	Acceptable (20-29 points)	Poor (10-19 points)	Non acceptable (0-9 points)
Comprehension	Reflects complete understanding	Reflects a good understanding	Reflects a poor understanding	Reflects no understanding of	Minimal or no effort in

	ding of project	ding of project	ding of project	project	submitting assignment
<b>Content</b>	<b>Contains all required elements of the assignment</b>	<b>Contains at least 80% of the required elements of the assignment</b>	<b>Contains at least 60% of the required elements of the assignment</b>	<b>Contains less than 60% of the required elements of the assignments</b>	<b>Minimal or no effort in submitting assignment</b>
<b>Organization</b>	<b>The document is clearly organized</b>	<b>The document is somewhat organized</b>	<b>The document is unorganized but can be read</b>	<b>This document is unorganized</b>	<b>Minimal or no effort in submitting assignment</b>

**Information Quiz:**

The information quiz will come from all the material inside the Your Professor Link, the Start Here Link, and the Course Information Link. The quiz will consist of 25 questions worth 2 points each for up to 50 points toward a student's final grade in the course. The quiz will be timed and you will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz.

**Discussion Board Postings:**

Each student will be required to post to (4) different discussion board postings during the semester. The discussion board topics will correspond with information from each selected chapter in the textbook. Each student will be required to post to the discussion question asked and then reply to (3) other student's posts. **Postings will be graded according to the Critical Thinking Value and Written Communication Value in each posting.** The (4) discussion board postings will count up to (25) points each (for a total of 0 – 100 total points) toward a student's final grade. A completion date will be posted on each discussion question located inside the Discussion Board link.

**Discussion Board Grading:** Discussion board activities and any other grading activities will be graded within 48 hours after the closing of each unit. Instructor will also respond to student Blackboard questions within 24 hours of student posting in the Blackboard's messaging tool.

**Discussion Board Grading:**

- 0 - 25 points for posting to each discussion question.
- 0 - 100 total points for the (4) discussion questions can be earned.
- 0 - 10 total points for posting to each discussion board question.
- 0 - 15 total points for posting to 3 other student's posts. (0-5 points each)

<b>Blackboard Posting Grading Rubric</b>			
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	<b>Level - 3</b>	<b>Level - 2</b>	<b>Level - 1</b>
	<b>Exceptional</b>	<b>Effective</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>
<b>Critical Thinking Value of the students posting will be considered.</b>	<b>25 points</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Written Communication Value of the students posting will be considered.</b>	<b>25 points</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>5 points</b>

## **University Policies and Procedures:**

### **ADA Compliance Statement**

**(Revised April 13, 2015)**

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit Section 504 Coordinator, Cynthia Suarez, at 972-338-1777 or email [cynthia.suarez@untdallas.edu](mailto:cynthia.suarez@untdallas.edu). (Meets QM Standard 7.2)

### **“Netiquette” For Online Courses:.**

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e. no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

### **Online Attendance and Participation in Online Courses:**

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom 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 the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e. posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to <http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar> for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

### **Inclement Weather and Online Classes:**

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or

**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:**

Any out of class assignments must be on required date if any or given.

**Exam Policy:**

*Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).*

**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-allas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/unt-allas/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.**

**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.*

**Optional Policies:**

- *Use of WebCT/Blackboard*
- *Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom*
- *Food & Drink in the Classroom*
- *Use of Laptops*
- *Grade of Incomplete, "I"*