COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
CJUS 4460
FALL 2015

Instructor: Jessica Craig, Ph.D.
Term: Fall 2015
Class meeting: TR 2 – 3:20 PM
Classroom: ENV 190

INSTRUCTOR’S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office location: Chilton Hall, Office 273L
E-mail (preferred): Jessica.Craig@unt.edu
Phone: 940-565-3464
Office hours: 12:30-2 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 4460) in the subject line of the mail. Only emails sent through your Eagle Connect email account (username@unt.edu) will receive a response. You can expect to receive a response within 48 hours during the week and 72 hours on the weekend. If you have not received a response within that time, please email me back as it may have gotten lost.

Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Examines the concept of community corrections from various perspectives. Also examines contemporary practices and trends in probation, parole, and other forms of community corrections. (Prerequisite(s): CJUS 2100 or the equivalent)

COURSE GOALS
The objective of this course is to expose the student to the various community-based methods of corrections outlined in laws and procedures from both state and federal jurisdictions. Upon successful completion of the course the student will:

• Be able to identify the differences between probation and parole while mastering the structures of intermediate sanctions and mandatory release.
• Explore the historical, philosophical, social and legal contexts of corrections within the community.
• Develop a comprehensive, up-to-date knowledge of the procedures, practices and personnel that comprise the organizational structures of probation, release from prison, and other community-based alternatives.
• Develop an understanding of community corrections agencies, their strategies, failures and successes.

REQUIRED READINGS
The assigned text listed below is required for all students enrolled in this course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the Calendar. The readings will serve as a foundation for the discussion of the issues in class as well as test material.


NOTE: If a student chooses to purchase anything other than the current edition of the assigned course text, it is their responsibility to ensure access to and familiarity with the most up-to-date course materials.

Additional readings may be assigned and may require a visit to the university library.

**Course Notes and Recommendations**

*Before you email Dr. Craig with a question, make sure to review this syllabus. Most questions are answered in this document.*

The announcement board in Blackboard, and email, will be used for primary communication to the class as a whole. I advise you check the announcements section frequently.

**Important:** It is your responsibility to utilize a computer system that works and is compatible with the UNT online system/Blackboard Learn.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

Your final grade will be determined based on your performance on four exams, a 4-6 page research paper, and classroom participation. There are a total of 600 points that can be earned in this class.

Exams: 4 @ 100 points each  
Research paper: 150 points  
Participation: 50 points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>540 – 600</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>480 – 539</td>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>420 – 479</td>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>360 – 419</td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>359 or fewer</td>
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<td>F</td>
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**Exams:** There will be four in-class exams each worth 100 points of the overall course grade. These may consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer questions, and/or essay. Students will be required to bring a blue book and a black or blue pen to each scheduled exam (if additional materials are required, students will be notified before the scheduled exam date). Exams will be completed during class as scheduled in the syllabus; please make note of these dates at the beginning of the semester. Cell phone use is prohibited during exams. Students are also prohibited from wearing headphones or hats with brims.
**Research paper:** Students will complete a 4-6 page written assignment on a community corrections-related topic. This assignment is worth 25% of the overall course grade. Assignment details will be discussed in class.

**Discussion and participation:** Each student is responsible for discussing course materials through participation in class discussion and class activities. This requirement is worth 50 points of the overall course grade. Students are expected to come to each class having read the assigned materials and be ready to discuss each week’s topic. Part of this grade may be composed of in-class writing assignments or other activities. If necessary, pop quizzes will comprise this portion of the course grade which would be completed during class and will not be subject to a make-up unless you have a valid excuse from the University. Students must be present to earn discussion/participation credit.

**Extra credit:** If an opportunity for extra credit presents itself, it will be discussed in class and available to the entire class at the discretion of the instructor. There will be no individual opportunities for extra credit.

**Make-up exams:** If a student misses an exam, they must contact the instructor prior to the scheduled exam date. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of a university approved absence due to extreme circumstances, with documentation, at the discretion of the instructor. (Work, work travel, vacation, etc. do not constitute an emergency and are not excuses warranting the issuance of a make-up). In the event that the instructor approves the make-up exam, students will complete the make-up exam within one week of the original scheduled exam date—if one week passes and the make-up exam has not been completed, there will be no further opportunities to replace this grade. Make-up exams may be given in an alternate essay format.

**CLASS POLICIES**

**Attendance Policy**
Students are expected to attend each scheduled class meeting having completed the assigned readings and prepared for discussion. In the event of an absence, students are responsible for the material covered during each class session. I do not repeat class lectures. Pop quizzes and graded in-class assignments cannot be made up; students must be present to receive credit for these assignments. Frequent absences will make it very difficult to obtain an acceptable grade in this course.

Students that have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of “F.” Last day to withdraw with a grade of “W” is November 2, 2015.

**Make-Up Policy**
There will be no opportunities to make up any missed coursework with the exception of authorized absences according to University policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations. I reserve the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Students
should notify me prior to missing an assignment, if possible. Those in athletics, those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed to make up assignments if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. I must have written documentation in advance that you will be away from class for the absence to be excused.

**Student Behavior and Participation**
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr)

To be successful at learning and understanding the material in this class, it is essential that you read and complete the assigned material and engage in thoughtful discussions. The classroom is a place to express ideas, opinions, and engage in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times or their status in the course will be examined. In sum, simply be appropriate during interactions. Each student brings unique insight and perspectives, and that can make for a very interesting and lively discussion forum, but just please be appropriate and respectful of others. Please review the undergraduate catalog concerning conduct which adversely affects the university community.

Additionally, disruptive behaviors such as arriving late, having a conversation while someone else is talking, profanity, sleeping, text messaging, using laptops/tablets for anything other than course related activities, cell phones going off during class, etc. are not acceptable. Students repeatedly engaging in any of these behaviors may be asked to leave the classroom.

**Additional policies:**
- Recording devices are not allowed in the classroom unless specifically approved by the instructor.
- Tobacco products of any kind (including e-cigs) are not allowed in the classroom.
- Cell phones, pagers, or any other electronic device that makes noise should be turned off before class.
- Due to liability concerns and the content of course discussions, children are not permitted in the classroom at any time.
- Laptops and similar devices can be used during class as long as they are used for taking notes and/or other related classroom functions. If used for surfing the web, instant messaging, sending emails or otherwise, they will not be allowed in the classroom.

**Authorized Absences**
Absences are authorized only in cases of participation in school sponsored activities and/or religious holidays. For an excused absence due to a school sponsored activity, students must be approved in advance by the department chair and academic dean. Within three days after the
absence, students must obtain authorized absence cards from the Dean of Students for presentation to instructor. Students who wish to request an excused absence for religious holidays can do so and will be excused from class as long as they make a request within the required time frame set by the University (see the most recent undergraduate catalog). Notification must be in writing so that I may have it for my records. You must arrange to make up any work missed during the excused religious absence or school sponsored activity.

**Academic Dishonesty/Integrity**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

**Office of Disability Accommodation**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable 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.

Students can access resources and information regarding disability accommodations in the Academic Support tab in Blackboard Learn. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Student Evaluation of Instruction**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will
be made available at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught.

**Syllabus Changes**
I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that the syllabus must be modified. In the case that the syllabus needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student’s responsibility to check announcements/email so that any and all syllabus changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements does not constitute a defense against missed assignments, test dates, and other applicable changes.

**Succeed at UNT**
UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grown. And, as a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here’s how to succeed at UNT: Show up. Find Support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go success.unt.edu/.

**Emergency Notification & Procedures**
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at my.unt.edu. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas in the buildings where your classes are held, 2) determine how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and 3) identify where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Retention of Student Records**
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates at the following link: essc.unt.edu/registrar/ferpa.html

**Miscellaneous:**
The material posted online is my personal intellectual property or that of the University of North Texas. You may not utilize the material for other than class purposes. A variety of resources services are available to students in the Academic Support tab in Blackboard Learn.
# Academic Calendar

*NOTE: Read the chapter assigned for each day prior to coming to class*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic and Reading Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/25</td>
<td>Topic: Course Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: None</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Topic: An Overview of Community Corrections: Goals and Evidence-Based Practices</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td>Topic: An Overview of Community Corrections: Goals and Evidence-Based Practices</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/1</td>
<td>Topic: How Probation Developed: Chronicling Its Past and Present</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Topic: History of Parole and Mandatory Release</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Topic: Probation and Parole Case Studies &amp; Exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 2- Case Study Exercise (pg. 40) and Ch. 3- Case Study Exercises (pg. 56)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 1- CHAPTERS 1-3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Topic: Pretrial Supervision, Sentencing, and the Presentence Investigation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Topic: Classification and Supervision</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/22</td>
<td>Topic: Classification and Supervision</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>Topic: Community Supervision for Offenders with Special Needs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Topic: Community Supervision for Offenders with Special Needs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 6- Case Study Exercises (pg. 158-159)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>Topic: Community Supervision Modification and Revocation</td>
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<td>Readings: Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Topic: Community Supervision Modification and Revocation and Exam</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>Guest Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 2- CHAPTERS 4-7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10/20  Topic: Residential Community Supervision Programs
       Readings: Ch. 8

10/22  Topic: Nonresidential Graduated Sanctions
       Readings: Ch. 9

10/27  Topic: Economic and Restorative Justice Reparations
       Readings: Ch. 10

10/29  Topic: Case Studies & Test Review
       Readings: Ch. 9- Case Study Exercises (pg. 221) and Ch. 10- Case Study Exercises (pg. 245)

11/3   EXAM 3- CHAPTERS 8-10

11/5   Release
       Readings: Ch. 11

11/10  Topic: Prisoner Reentry: Collateral Consequences, Parole, and Mandatory Release
       Readings: Ch. 11

11/12  Topic: Career Pathways in Community Corrections
       Readings: Ch. 12

11/17  Topic: Juvenile Justice, Probation, and Parole
       Readings: Ch. 13

11/19  NO CLASS- ASC ANNUAL CONFERENCE- WORK ON YOUR PAPER

11/24  Topic: Juvenile Justice, Probation, and Parole
       Readings: Ch. 13- Case Study Exercise (pg. 323)

11/26  NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING

12/1   Topic: Bringing It All Together: Practical Solutions for Community-Based Corrections
       Readings: Ch. 14

12/3   RESEARCH PAPER DUE
       Topic: Bringing It All Together: Practical Solutions for Community-Based Corrections and Exam Review
       Readings: Ch. 14- Case Study Exercise (pg. 340)

12/10  EXAM 4- CHAPTERS 11-14
       NOTE TIME CHANGE: 1:30-3:30