Correctional Practices and Programs (CJUS 5460.900/950) Syllabus
Fall 2018

**Instructor:** Dr. Mark Saber

**Office:** Chilton Hall 273G

**Phone:** (940)565-4593
**Email:** Mark.Saber@unt.edu (preferred)

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 5460) 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:**
The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the various correctional theories in criminal justice and how they relate to the field itself. This class is designed to familiarize you with the theories, issues, debates, and innovations about and in corrections. It is my hope that you will hone your critical thinking skills as we traverse the literature of this landscape. "Corrections" is a broad term that encompasses historical and contemporary methods of "dealing" with lawbreakers in society. This course examines the different ways of "correcting" people through time—from torture to corporal and capital punishments to penitentiaries and community-based programs. This course will also focus on the justification for corrections deterrence, incapacitation, punishment, rehabilitation, and reintegration and how those justifications have changed throughout history.

**Student Learning Objectives/ Outcomes:**
At the completion of this course, students should:
1. Explain the regional differences in American corrections throughout history. Discuss the philosophy and goals of corrections, which are sometimes competing.
2. Summarize of the legal evolution of correctional systems, including the role of the federal courts in changing conditions in prisons.
3. Discuss the differences between male and female incarceration experiences.
4. Describe the administration of prison organizations, including but not limited to staffing, security, inmate management, inmate programs, and health care.
5. Recognize the various special populations that reside within correctional settings, and how their incarceration experience differs from "regular" prisoners and the challenges they create for correctional organizations.
6. Identify population trends in incarceration over time, influences on correctional populations, and the demographic composition of today's prisons.
7. Outline why America is one of the leaders in incarceration worldwide, and what has contributed to this position.
8. Define the issues that prisoners face once they are released from incarceration.
**Course Notes and Recommendations:**
Please make sure to have your official UNT email forwarded to your preferred email address (if different) to receive important updates, class cancellations (if applicable), and generally, so I can reach you if necessary. The announcement board in Blackboard will be used for primary communication to the class as a whole. I advise you check the announcements section frequently
Do not email me through Blackboard.
Please see Blackboard Learn: Getting Started under the “Start Here” link for further information on system requirements. Utilizing a compatible computer system is especially critical during examination times. I would recommend that you take your exams on the UNT campus if possible. If that is not possible, I would recommend you avoid waiting until the last minute to take your exam in case problems arise.
For connection/browser issues or questions regarding how to work Blackboard, please contact the UNT Helpdesk at 940-565-2324 or http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/.

**Required Materials:**
The assigned texts listed below are required for all students enrolled in this class. Reading assignments are noted in the course calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the course calendar. The assigned readings will serve as a foundation for the discussion of issues in class as well as examination material.


Additional readings may be discussed/assigned during the class and may require a visit to the university library.

**Method of Evaluation**
**Quizzes:** Students will complete a total of 10 quizzes throughout the semester worth a total of 100 points or 10 points each. Quizzes can be accessed through the Quiz tab in Blackboard. Module quizzes will be available for 45 minutes upon opening the quiz and must be completed in one attempt – so make sure you have a reliable internet connection and are ready to complete the entire quiz when you open it. (Technical issues will only be considered in extreme circumstances, once per semester and can only be evaluated by the instructor. Note technical difficulties, such as losing internet connection on the night the quiz is due do not warrant a quiz reset or constitute an extreme emergency.) Quizzes will consist of 30 randomly selected questions from any chapter covered in the module. Questions that have not been answered at the end of 45 minutes will receive 0 points. Quizzes are individual assignments and should be completed in private and not in the company of any other student. Quizzes may consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer questions, and/or essay.
While course materials may be referenced during the quizzes, students should treat these quizzes as they would an in class exam and prepare accordingly. Quiz grades will be available following completion of the quiz – correct responses to quiz questions will be available after the quiz availability period has ended. **As such, questions regarding your quiz score should only be sent to the instructor after the correct responses have posted and you have had a chance to review them.**

Quizzes will be available for 1 week. They will open Monday morning at 12:01a and will close Sunday at 11:59p when they are due.

*There are no makeup or late submissions of quizzes for any reason. Correct responses become available immediately after the quiz closes. A quiz not completed by the due date and time cannot be reset, made-up, extended for any reason.*
**Discussions**: During the dates specified in the course outline, students will participate in a Blackboard discussion 4 times during the semester. Discussions are worth a combined total of 100 points or 25 points each. Each student will then respond appropriately to the question or instruction statement provided, creating his/her own “original thread” (at least 1,000 words and not more than 1,500 words). After creating an original thread, students are required to respond to at least 2 of their fellow classmates’ original threads. To earn points, discussion and participation comments must be more than trivial and, in fact, substantial and substantive (think of these as the discussion you would engage in if we had an on campus class). Replies need to be at least 500 words and not more than 1,000 words (each). You will be required to comment and support your views from the research that is provided to you as well as appropriate outside academic references. Grammatical errors as well as weak and unsupported comments will be deducted in points. In text citations and a list of references should be included with each post, discussion and participation, in APA format. Students must respond to the discussion question in order to unlock that week’s discussion and enable the ability to respond to others’ posts. Discussion posts will be typed and submitted directly in the text box in Blackboard. Discussions submitted as attachments will not be accepted and will receive a score of 0. Discussions will be available for a minimum of one week, generally longer. Discussions will open consecutively. For example, discussion 1 will open with the course and close on the due date. The next day, discussion 2 will open and close on the due date.

**Final paper**: Students will complete a final paper due at the end of the semester. Specific instructions will be provided in Blackboard, but in general, it will give students an opportunity to communicate their ideas in writing and to synthesize the diverse concepts and positions presented in the various readings and outlines. The final paper is worth a total of 200 points. The final paper should be approximately 15-20 typed pages in length, double spaced, 12pt font and saved as a Microsoft word document. Students should keep up with their readings and take copious notes as they progress through the assigned course readings. The final paper will be submitted through the appropriate link in Blackboard—again, more detailed instructions will be provided when the final paper assignment is released.

There are no late submissions of any assignment so plan accordingly.

**Do not plagiarize** (from the internet or other source) – if you do you will automatically fail the assignment and possibly the course. Do not just quote sections from other researchers as your answer. The reaction discussions and final paper must be written in your own words and 100% original to this course. If you are going to cite someone, write the sentence in your words and cite them in APA format.

| Quizzes (10 @ 10 points each) | 100 pts |
| Discussions (4 @ 25 points each) | 100 pts |
| Final Paper | 200 pts |
| **Total** | **400 pts** |

Course grades will be calculated using the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>360 – 400 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>320 – 359 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>280 – 319 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>240 – 279 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>239 pts or below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There are no extra credit opportunities for this course*
**Grade related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Blackboard.**

*** Grades are only rounded to the nearest whole number, no additional rounding will occur.***

---

**Late Work**

Late work is not accepted. All late assignments will receive a zero. All due dates are listed in the syllabus and ample time is provided to complete the assignments.

**Makeup Policy**

There are no make-up tests/quizzes/assignments in this class 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. 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 make up 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 (e.g., traveling for a basketball game).

There is absolutely no make-up for assignments turned in late unless authorized as a result of university-related absence or through prior consultation and approval of myself. Assignments as a result of authorized absences must be turned in within 3 days of returning from the authorized absence.

**Attendance Policy**

As this is an online graduate course, students are expected to be checking Blackboard at least once a day. There are no excuses for missing assignment deadlines, if you have an issue you must bring it to my attention prior to the assignment due date.

**Readings:**

Students should follow the schedule of reading assignments found on the course calendar. The reading assignments need to be read before participating in discussions. This will not only facilitate peer discussion, but will also allow you time to formulate questions you may have regarding the material. In addition to the required texts, the course will utilize video presentations, additional handouts, etc. that concern issues pertinent to the study of ethical problems. Information from all sources (textbook, online discussions, video presentations, handouts) may be included on course examinations.

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 October 5, 2018.

**Acceptable Student Behavior in the Classroom**

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 Dean of Students 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.deanofstudents.unt.edu
Academic Integrity

Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies:

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

A. Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:
   1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
   2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
   3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
   4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
   5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B. Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:
   1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
   2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C. Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D. Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F. Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

Student Evaluation of Instructor (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

ADA Statement and Disabled Student Policy
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking 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 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, ODA 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 with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT’s Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

**Course Calendar and Topics**

Dates, topics, and exams are listed below. Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, any schedule changes as well as the assigned readings as we progress through the course. This is a tentative schedule and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester.

**Assignments & Academic Calendar:** (The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor)

**Week 1 (8/27 – 9/2)**
- **Topic:** Administrative Tasks, Introduction, Overview, and Review of Materials
- **Reading:** Begin week 2 readings and explore topics we’ll review throughout the semester
- **Assignments due:** Discussion Board Introduction and Zip Code Survey 9/2 11:59p
  - Note: These are not graded assignments but are required to progress in the course.

**Week 2 (9/3 – 9/9)**
- 9/3: Labor Day – University Closed
- **Topic:** History and Nature of Corrections
- **Reading:** Preface, Introduction and Sections I & II in Stohr, Walsh and Hemmens
- **Assignments due:** Quiz 1 due 9/9 11:59p

**Week 3 (9/10 – 9/16)**
- **Topic:** Jails and the Inmate Experience
- **Reading:** Sections III in Stohr et al.
- **Assignments due:** Quiz 2 due 9/16 11:59p

**Week 4 (9/17 – 9/23)**
- **Topic:** Sentencing: The Application of Punishment
- **Reading:** Sections IV in Stohr et al.
- **Assignments due:** Quiz 3 and Discussion 1 due 9/23 11:59p
Week 5 (9/24 – 9/30)
Topic: Probation and community corrections
Reading: Section V in Stohr et al.
Assignments due: Quiz 4 due 9/30 11:59p

Week 6 (10/1 – 10/7)
Topic: Prisons and the inmate experience
Reading: Section VI in Stohr et al.
Assignments due: Quiz 5 and Discussion 2 due 10/7 11:59p

Week 7 (10/8 – 10/14)
Topic: Parole and prisoner reentry
Reading: Section VII in Stohr et al. and Petersilia
Assignments due: No assignments due this week

Week 8 (10/15 – 10/21)
Topic: Parole and prisoner reentry cont.
Reading: Section VII in Stohr et al. and Petersilia
Assignments due: Quiz 6 due 10/21 11:59p

Week 9 (10/22 – 10/28)
Topic: Intermediate punishments
Reading: Morris and Tonry
Assignments due: No assignments due this week

Week 10 (10/29 – 11/4)
Topic: Correctional staff
Reading: Section VIII in Stohr et al.
Assignments due: Quiz 7 and Discussion 3 due 11/4 11:59p; Work on final paper

Week 11 (11/5 – 11/11)
Topic: Legal Issues
Reading: Section IX in Stohr et al.; Supplemental reading available in Blackboard Legal Cases in Corrections
Assignments due: Quiz 8 due 11/11 11:59p; Work on final paper

Week 12 (11/12 – 11/18)
Topic: Correctional Programming and Treatment
Reading: Section X in Stohr et al.
Assignments due: Quiz 9 due 11/18 11:59p; Work on final paper

Week 13 (11/19 – 11/25)
Topic: Thanksgiving – spend this week organizing your Literature Review and making sure you have collected all of your literature if you have not already done so
Reading: Week 14 assignments and readings are open and available so feel free to work ahead
Assignments due: No assignments are due this week – work on your final paper and week 14 assignments

Week 14 (11/26 – 12/2)
Topic: Special populations and corrections
Reading: Sections XI, XII, and XIII in Stohr et al.
Assignments due: Quiz 10 and Discussion 4 due 12/2 11:59p; Work on final paper

Week 15 (12/3 – 12/9)
Assignments due: Final paper due 12/9 11:59p