



**CLJ 202:204 Section 02 Corrections
3 Credits
Spring, 2019**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:30AM – 12:50PM**

Instructor Information:

Instructor: *Christopher Chukwuedo*
Email: *Christopher.chukwuedo@rutgers.edu*
Room: *Hill Hall 115*
Office Hours: *Tuesdays and Thursday 8:00 – 11:00 am or by Appt.*

Course Overview:

This course aims to provide a general overview of the theory and practice of corrections in the United States. It documents the evolution of correctional institutions and correctional systems including interactions between corrections and other components of State/Federal criminal justice systems (i.e., Courts, Police, State legislatures). This course also explores theories on the various uses and functions of punishment, as well as approaches to prisoner management within and beyond prison walls (i.e., jails, parole, community corrections) with an emphasis on social, political and economic dilemmas associated with mass incarceration and prisoner reentry.

Prerequisite:

Criminal Justice Majors must take "Criminology" (202:102) and "Introduction to Criminal Justice" (202:103) before registering for this course. There are no prerequisites for non-CJ majors. Weekly course sessions will be based on instructor-led lectures as well as more open discussions on policy/substantive issues. On occasion, regular sessions will feature guest speakers or will be

supplemented with short documentaries or field visits to state agencies or community-based organizations.

B.S., Criminal Justice Program Learning Goals

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the structure, logic and long-standing issues associated with the operation of correctional systems/organizations at the local and national levels.
- Summarize current policy debates linked to sentencing/corrections dilemmas from various perspectives (theory, research, and policy).
- Demonstrate analytical and writing skills through the completion of course readings and assignments and participation in discussion questions.

Required Readings: Available at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore

Clear, T., M. Reisig, C. Petrosino, & G. Cole (2016) American Corrections IN BRIEF (Third Ed.). Wadsworth.

**** Again this book is available for purchase at the Rutgers-Newark bookstore****

**** You can buy this book new or used, or rent it via our bookstore or online retailers ****

Course Requirements:

All other assignments such as the exams, are based on the book, as well as, lectures, workbook, power point, scholarly articles and videos

Course Structure:

This schedule is tentative in nature and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of schedule changes via Blackboard and in class. Readings in addition to the required texts will be posted on Blackboard in the Course Documents folder.

The ultimate goals of this class are for you to understand the materials and do well on the midterm exam, group presentation, and project paper. In order to do well it is critical that you keep up with the readings and participate in class/online discussions. The distribution of points is as follows:

I. Course Schedule

II. Course Assessment and Grading

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midterm exam, group presentation, and project paper. In order to do well it is critical that you keep up with the readings and participate in class/online discussions. The distribution of points is as follows:

<i>Assignment Description</i>	<i>% of Course Grade</i>
<i>Exam</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Final Exam</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Group Presentation/Article Review</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Quizzes</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Class Participation</i>	<i>10%</i>

The grading scale is as follows:

90-100 =A 86-89.5=B+ 76-79.5=C+ 66-69.5 =D

80-85.5 =B 70-75.5=C < 65.5 =F

Session	Date	Topics and Required Readings	Reading Materials
1	01/22 – 01/24	Intro – Mapping the Corrections System	Pp. 1-27
The Correctional Foundations			
2	01/29 – 01/31	The History of Corrections	Pp. 30- 36, MF
3	02/05 – 02/07	The Punishment of Offenders	Pp. 37 - 54
4	02/12 – 02/14	The Correctional Client	TBA
Correctional Institutions			
5	02/19 – 02/21	Jails: Detention and short-term incarceration	Pp. 57 – 82
6	02/26 – 02/28	Probation and intermediate sanctions	Pp. 86 -108; 112 – 134
7	03/05 – 03/07	Incarceration	Pp. 140 – 188, TBA
8	03/12 – 03/14	No Class: Spring Break	
9	03/19 – 03/21	EXAM 1	
Corrections Management			

10	03/26 – 03/28	Prison Management/Institutional Programs	Pp. 192 – 214, TBA
11	04/02 – 04/04	Trends, race, ethnicity and immigration	Pp. 218 – 240, WF
12	04/09 – 04/11	Prisoner reentry/Isolation	Pp. 246 -303, TBA
13	04/16 – 04/18	Group Presentations	
14	04/23 – 04/25	Group Presentations/Review	
Final	TBA	Take Home Final	

Exam: The midterm exam will employ a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions as well as a short essay-type exercise. Questions will be based on the required readings, slides and in-class discussions. The test will take about 60-75 minutes to complete and it must be taken on the assigned day. If you have to miss the midterm due to a documented emergency, you must contact me prior to the test date. Make-ups will be essay-type format. You are NOT allowed to use your book and/or notes during the exams.

Quizzes: You will have up to 6 unannounced in-class quizzes during the semester. The quizzes will be given at the beginning or end of class and will last approximately five to ten minutes. The questions will cover the assigned material for the session. For some quizzes you will be allowed to use reading notes, but you may not collaborate with anyone else or use your textbook. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped when calculating your overall grade for quizzes. There will be no make-up quizzes and quizzes must be turned in when time is announced; no additional time will be given to complete the assessment if you are late for class.

Group presentation: Groups of 3 to 4 students will work together throughout the semester to prepare a 7-slide power-point presentation describing key characteristics of a specific state correctional system in the US (organizations, budget, personnel, etc.), one current specific challenge (e.g., crowding, lawsuits, etc.) and one innovative policy/practice. Students will present their work the last day of regular classes (10 min. per presentation).

Class participation: Class participation includes your contributions to the “discussion board” questions posted on blackboard, as well as your regular attendance and participation in class discussions.

Discussion board: This course has a total of 12 learning modules (see class outline on page 5). For each module there is a corresponding reaction question to be posted in the course’s discussion board (Blackboard). You will be required to post a response to three of these questions throughout the semester in a way that demonstrates your understanding of the readings and your understanding of the question posed. You will also be required to provide

feedback or react to at least one of your classmates' contributions for the sessions for which you submitted an original contribution. All discussion board comments may be informal, although they are expected to include concrete references to the readings (cites, examples) and the problem or issue raised in the reaction questions. All submissions should be posted by Sunday 7:00 PM (every week). The instructor will also participate in these discussion sessions in order to redirect comments and to encourage further participation from students.

Attendance: You are expected to actively engage in class discussion by asking and answering questions. Therefore it is important that you do the readings, prepare questions ahead of time, and think critically. Attendance is mandatory: Attendance will be taken at the beginning or at the end of every class. A maximum of two unexcused absences will be allowed. Five points will be deducted from your overall participation grade for each missed class that has not been approved by me (request such approval before class by email). If you consistently leave class early, come-in late, or fall sleep, it will be duly noted and it will also affect your grade. If you are unable to attend a class, please contact another student for their notes on the material that you missed.

Field visits: The instructor will seek to schedule field visits to at least two different types of correctional institutions in the area (for ex. a prison and a probation agency). Attendance will be optional. To earn extra credit, students may write a 2-page paper documenting their experience and reaction to the visit. Alternative arrangements will be made for those unable to make it.

ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION (Will be taken every day):

This course is designed to involve extensive participation – class discussion, debates, (friendly) arguments. In order for you to succeed in this class, it is necessary for you to (1) come to class every day, (2) have read the assigned readings prior to class, (3) come to class prepared to engage in class discussion.

Each student is permitted one (1) unexcused absence without losing points. The second unexcused absence will result in 2 percentage points deducted from your overall grade, the third unexcused absence additional points, and so on. (3) unexcused absence will result in a forfeit of extra credit opportunities. If you are ten minutes late to class it will be counted as late.

Late or Missing Assignment Policy:

Make-up Exams and Late Assignments: Unless a student has a documented emergency (e.g., a medical emergency), a make-up exam will not be offered and missing the exam will result in a zero. Eligibility for the make-up exam will only be considered in extreme circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor. Late assignments will be docked by 3 points for that particular assignment each day it is late.

Extra Credit (At the instructor's discretion): For eligible students (i.e., students who have not missed more than three unexcused classes), an extra credit assignment will be offered, allowing students to improve their overall grade up to 3 points in some cases.

Classroom Rules

It is the intent of the instructor to establish a class environment that is conducive to the exchange of ideas in a mutually respectful manner. Due to the nature of the material that will be discussed throughout this course, it is expected that there will be a variety of perspectives on the general issues of crime and crime control, which is both welcomed and encouraged. However, in the course of discussion, students are expected to be respectful of others' opinions. Additionally, to ensure that topics for the day are adequately covered, if students wish to discuss an issue in greater detail than time constraints allow, an appointment should be made with the instructor.

- **Conditional** eating during class sessions.
- Please do not disturb the class with cell phones.
- If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to keep abreast with the class. Do not send an email for class update.
- If there are any situations/circumstances that might affect your attendance, please make an effort to discuss it with me.
- If you feel you are not doing as well as you had anticipated, feel free to make an appointment to discuss the issue.

Academic Integrity

As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university's policy will result in appropriate action.

Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or contact the

representative for the Newark Campus.

Allen Sheffield
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Newark, NJ 07102
Phone: 973.353.5300
Fax: 973.353.5666
E-mail: kate.torres@rutgers.edu
Website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Psychological and Counseling Services

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university's psychological and counseling service center (<http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)
- Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website <http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/>

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