

CONTEMPORARY CORRECTIONAL ISSUES

Justice 350-001

Spring 2007

Class Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30-3:45 p.m.
Class Location: SSB 213
Instructor: Dr. John Riley
Office & Telephone: Rm. 310, CAS. 786-1879
E-mail: afjpr@uaa.alaska.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11:30 to 1:00, other times available by appointment.

Course Description.

A survey course designed to acquaint the student with policy formulation problems related to both traditional and modern concepts of correctional programming. The roles of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government in determining correctional policy will be examined. Policy issues in both pre-trial and post-conviction facilities will be covered and the trend toward privatization of correctional facilities will be discussed.

Required Texts.

Conover, Ted. 2000. New Jack: Guarding Sing Sing. New York: Random House.

Sykes, Gresham M. 1958. The Society of Captives: A Study of A Maximum Security Prison. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Hassine, Victor. 2004. Life Without Parole: Living in Prison Today. 3rd edition. Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury.

Mauer, Marc and Meda Chesney-Lind, editors. 2002. Invisible Punishment: The Collateral Consequences of Imprisonment. New York: The New Press.

Additional Required Readings.

These are available without cost to users of the Consortium Library. Ask your instructor if you do not know how to find them.

Pager, D. 2003. The Mark of a Criminal Record. *American Journal of Sociology*, 108:937-75.

Schlosser, Eric. 1998. The Prison Industrial Complex. *Atlantic Monthly*, 282:51-77.

Class Activities.

Class time will be devoted primarily to lecture and discussion, with a strong emphasis on discussion. Group presentations, occasional small group assignments, diagnostic tests, and review sessions will also play an important role in this class. Guest lecturers and films may be used in this course.

Course Requirements.

Students are required to complete all assigned readings, and take two quizzes, one mid-term examination, and a cumulative final examination. Please be sure you are available on the scheduled exam dates. If you are unable to take a scheduled examination due to circumstances that are clearly beyond your control, you should contact your instructor and request a make-up exam. Your understanding of what is beyond your control may differ from that of your instructor, so you should contact your instructor to discuss your situation as soon as you know you will be unable to attend class. There will be one alternative examination opportunity scheduled for this class. You should expect this to be scheduled near the end of the term (Possibly at 8:00 on a Friday morning). The date and time will be announced in class.

Academic honesty is a course requirement in this class. Any form of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will result in a failing grade for this class. Class participation is also mandatory. Electronic recording or communication devices may not be used in this class without the written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized use of electronic devices of any kind, including recorders, cameras, dictionaries, and text-messaging devices may constitute academic dishonesty and result in serious consequences, including failure of the course. Please discuss this policy with me and obtain written permission before using any electronic devices.

Attendance

Class participation is mandatory. Failure to attend class may result in a failing grade for this course. If you miss more than four hours of class I urge you to drop the course and repeat it when it is more convenient for you to meet your responsibilities as a student. Students are responsible for all information presented in class, including changes to the schedule. Please understand that this does not become somebody else's responsibility if they fail to adequately inform you about missed materials. If you miss class you are expected to get the notes from another student and to schedule an appointment during office hours to meet with your instructor. While this strategy should help you, there is no substitute for good attendance and participation.

Electronic Devices

Please turn off your telephone, alarm clock, and other potentially distracting electronic devices when you come to class. If a genuine family emergency makes it important that you leave your phone on during class please let me know in advance so that we can work out an accommodation that will be fair to the other students. This may be as simple as finding a seat by the door so please do not hesitate to discuss this issue with your instructor. The use of electronic devices to record or transmit class lectures, discussions, or other activities is prohibited in this class as it is in all of my classes. It is particularly important that you remember this during examinations. The class will involve an interactive approach that requires frequent student participation. Many students are uncomfortable when asked to speak in class and I find that the use of tape recorders significantly lowers both the quality and the quantity of student participation. Please feel free to visit with me at the Justice Center if you would like to discuss this policy.

Grading

Your final grade in this course will reflect your performance on two "pop" quizzes and two scheduled examinations. As the quizzes are, in part, intended to encourage good attendance, there will be no opportunity to make-up a missed quiz. In exceptional cases, particularly in cases where you might be a point or two away from another grade, your contribution to class discussions may play a

role in determining your final grade. Your final score will be calculated using the following guide:

Quiz 1-	15%
Quiz 2-	15%
Mid-term Examination-	35%
<u>Final Examination-</u>	<u>35%</u>
	100%

Your instructor reserves the right to raise or lower the final scores of those students who distinguish themselves through their class participation. If your class participation is either particularly good or particularly bad, your final grade may reflect this feature of your academic performance. Students who feel that they demonstrate extraordinary preparation and understanding of the assigned readings are invited to discuss this feature of the grading plan with the instructor.

Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is a basic principle that requires that students take credit only for ideas and efforts that are their own. The use of unauthorized assistance to prepare materials submitted as original work is defined as cheating. Academic dishonesty in this or any other form will not be tolerated. Any dishonest behavior associated with your participation in this class may result in a failing grade for the course. This includes but is not limited to cheating on a quiz or exam, plagiarism, or the unauthorized use of recording or communication devices. The use of electronic recording devices in this class without the written permission of the instructor is a form of academic dishonesty. The use of any electronic devices during test taking, including dictionaries or text messaging devices, is strictly prohibited. You are expected to remain in your seat during examinations until you have finished so please plan accordingly. Because information regarding your attendance may play a role in calculating your final grade, falsification of a signature on a daily attendance sheet will be treated as a form of academic dishonesty. Do not sign an attendance sheet for another student for any reason. If you arrive late or intend to leave class early, please make a note indicating this next to your signature on the attendance sheet.

You are invited to review the current catalog for further information on academic dishonesty and disciplinary procedures. I also invite you to visit the Justice Center during office hours if you have any questions about issues of academic honesty.

Campus Safety

We care about your safety on campus. While relatively safe, our campus is not a sanctuary from crime, and accidents still occur no matter how hard we try to prevent them. You are encouraged to be responsible for your own safety and to bring safety concerns to the attention of UAA faculty or staff. Please contact Campus Police at 786-1120 when you observe any behavior or situation that raises a concern about safety. In a genuine emergency, please consider calling 911 for assistance from the Anchorage Police Department. For your own safety, please take the time to locate the nearest exit and emergency telephone when you are in campus buildings.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading
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1/16	Introduction to the Class.	Overview.
1/18	A Classic on Corrections.	Sykes, Ch. 1-2.
1/23	Defects of Total Power.	Sykes, Ch. 3.
1/25	Pains of Imprisonment & Roles.	Sykes, Chs. 4, 5.
1/30	Understanding Sykes.	Sykes, Chs. 6, 7, & Appendices.
2/1	Hassine on Prison Life.	Hassine, Introductory sections & Part 1.
2/6	People in Prison.	Hassine, Part 2.
2/8	Prisons Today.	FILM. Time to catch up on your reading!
2/13	Hassine's Perspective.	Hassine, Part 3 & Appendices.
2/15	Conover: Occupational Culture.	Conover, Ch. 1
2/20	Becoming a Correctional Officer.	Conover, Ch. 2.
2/22	Up the River.	Conover, ch. 3.
2/27	NewJack.	Conover, ch. 4.
3/1	Origins of Sing Sing.	Conover, ch. 5.
3/6	Life in Sing Sing.	Conover, Ch. 6.
3/8	Conover's Perspective on Corrections.	Conover, Ch. 7.
3/13	Guest Speaker.	Careers in Corrections.
3/15		
3/20	SPRING BREAK	Why not begin the Maurer book during the break? You will be glad you did.
3/22	SPRING BREAK	
3/27	Review.	Pager. "The Mark of a Criminal Record."
3/29	Mid-Term Examination.	
4/3	Today's Correctional Institutions.	FILM.
4/5	Consequences of Imprisonment.	Mauer, Part I.
4/10	Consequences of Imprisonment.	Mauer, Part II.
4/12	Imprisonment: Families & Communities.	Mauer, Part III.

4/17	Imprisonment: Families & Communities.	Mauer, Part IV.
4/19	Imprisonment: Impact on Society.	Mauer, Part V.
4/24	The Prison Industrial Complex.	Schlosser, "Prison Industrial Complex."
4/26	Review and Summary.	
5/3	Final Exam- 1:00- 2:30 p.m.	NOTE TIME CHANGE!

***Check the date and time of all your finals in your Class Schedule!**

It is important that you be in class on time if you want to take your examinations. You may not talk with others, consult books or notes, or leave the room for any reason until you have turned in your exam. You may pick up your final exam in the Justice Center after your grades appear on Wolfline. Bring a photo "ID".

I will have office hours by appointment only during Final Exam Week. Please call and make an appointment if you need to see me. This is a very busy time and routine appointments for advising or degree status checks should be made well in advance of Final Exam Week.

Good Luck!