

PROBATION, PAROLE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS JUSTICE 445

Time: Tuesday and Thursday
2:30 – 3:45
Location: ARTS 121
Instructor: Dr. Ronald S. Everett
Office: Library 213 M
Phone: 786-1820
Email: afse@uaa.alaska.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 – 11:00 am and 4:00 – 5:00 pm

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course investigates the general area of community corrections with a specific focus on parole, reintegration and desistance from crime. The related issues of rehabilitation, intermediate sanctions and sentencing reform are briefly reviewed as context for the primary examination of community corrections and parole in an era of mass incarceration. The historical development of parole is reviewed to emphasize the changing use of parole and its connection to economic and political changes in the larger society. The unprecedented expansion of the prison population over the past quarter century has created a critical problem that must be confronted over the next quarter century making parole and prisoner reentry perhaps the most pressing problem facing the criminal justice system in the 21st century.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Development comprehensive understanding of the history and evolution of community corrections, probation and parole.
2. Understand the social, political and economic forces that influence change.
3. Evaluate the relationship between criminal sentencing, changes in methods of punishment and the operation of parole
4. Define and assess the dimensions of the reentry problem
5. Assess the labor market consequences of incarceration
6. Evaluate models of desistance, reformation and the process of offender reintegration

III. REQUIRED TEXTS

Gibbons, Stephen G. and John D. Rosecrance, 2005. Probation, Parole, and Community Corrections in the United States. Pearson Publishing.

Gonnerman, Jennifer, 2004. Life on the Outside: The Prison Odyssey of Elaine Bartlett. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Pager, Devah, 2007. Marked: Race, Crime and Finding Work in an Era of Mass Incarceration. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Examinations

There are two examinations during the semester, a mid-term and a comprehensive final examination. Each examination will consist of multiple choice, short answer/definition questions and one or more essay questions.

B. Discussion and Critical Analysis Questions

During the semester students will be expected to answer questions analyzing issues from the books *Life on the Outside* and *Marked*. Periodically students will be required to provide written responses to selected questions and for all questions it is expected that students will be prepared to participate in class discussion. Supplemental reading assignments may be added from week to week throughout the semester.

C. Class Attendance and Participation

This course is designed to encourage discussion and debate on the critical issues and problems confronting community corrections generally and the emerging dilemma of prisoner reentry. Therefore, preparation prior to class coupled with class attendance and participation are necessary for the success of this course. The course will operate as a seminar and various in-class projects, including answering questions from the assigned reading material and group discussion activities will be completed throughout the semester.

D. Final Grade Calculation

Examination One	25%
Final Examination	35%
Critical Analysis	25%
Class Participation	15%

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Academic Honor Code

Academic integrity is a basic principle that requires students take credit for ideas and efforts that are their own. Cheating is defined as any means by which a student uses unauthorized assistance to prepare materials submitted as his/her own. Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please review the current catalog and student handbook for additional information on academic dishonesty and disciplinary procedures

B. Make-up Examinations

No make-up examinations will be given absent extraordinary and documented circumstances beyond the student's control. In such cases it is your responsibility to notify me within 12 hours of the scheduled examination time.

C. Campus Safety

Although 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, or to contact the Campus Police at 786-1120 when necessary.

D. Accommodations for Disabilities

I am happy to provide appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. If you require accommodations please contact Disability Support Services and then speak with me so we can make the necessary provisions.

VI. TOPIC AREAS AND REQUIRED READING

Week 1: January 15

Introduction and Overview: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapter 1

Week 2: January 22

History of Probation and Parole: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapters 2, 3

Week 3: January 29

The Presentence Investigation and the Decision to Grant Probation: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapters 4, 5

Week 4: February 5

Parole Selection and Supervision: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapter 6, 7

Week 5: February 12

Desistance:

Week 6: February 19

Mass Incarceration and Reentry: Pager, Introduction and chapter 1; Sentencing and Drugs: Gonnerman, pages 1-70

Week 7: February 26

Labor Market Consequences of Incarceration, Pager, chapter 2; Parole and Reentry: Gonnerman, pages 71-156

Week 8: March 4

Community Corrections and Parole Officers: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapters 8, 9; Measuring the Labor Market Consequences of Incarceration, Pager, chapter 3

Week 9: March 11

SPRING BREAK

Week 10: March 18

The Mark of a Criminal Record, Pager, chapter 4; Life on the Outside: Gonnerman, pages 159-269

Week 11: March 25

The Mark of Race, Pager, chapter 5; Innovative Programs and Intermediate Sanctions:
Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapter 10

Week 12: April 1

Two Strikes and You're Out: Pager, chapter 6; A Second Homecoming: Gonnerman,
pages 273-350

Week 13: April 8

But What If...: Pager, chapter 7; Community Corrections: Gibbons and Rosecrance,
chapter 11

Week 14: April 15

Missing the Mark: Pager chapter 8

Week 15: April 22

New Perspectives: Gibbons and Rosecrance, chapter 12

FINAL EXAMINATION THURSDAY MAY 1ST FROM 1:00 – 3:45 PM