

Common Course Outline

CRJU 130

Introduction to Corrections

3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Introduction to Corrections

Studies corrections as it relates to the criminal justice system; emphasizes the history of corrections and the various forms of criminal sanctions imposed at local, state and federal levels.

Prerequisites: ENGL 052 and RDNG 052 or ESOL 052

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- identify the components and process involved in the criminal justice system
- define crime and criminality
- analyze the population serviced by corrections
- describe the historical development of corrections
- discuss community-based alternatives
- compare jails, pretrial detention and short-term confinement to prison
- analyze the institutional procedures involved in custody and treatment of the inmate
- discuss the effects of institutional life on the inmate
- describe the transition of the offender from confinement to the community
- identify the special populations found in corrections
- recognize components and procedures in juvenile corrections
- determine the desirable characteristics and abilities of staff in a corrections setting
- define legal issues and liability in corrections

Major Topics

- I. The corrections framework
 - A. The correctional conglomerate and the criminal justice system
 - B. Government, society and corrections
 - C. Determining criminality and defining crime
- II. The correctional client
 - A. Nature of the correctional clientele
 - B. Approaches to criminal behavior
- III. The development of corrections
 - A. Primitive law and medieval practices
 - B. Early American corrections and emergence of the penitentiary
 - C. Corrections today
- IV. Community-based alternatives
 - A. Pretrial intervention
 - B. Home confinement and electronic monitoring
 - C. Probation services

- V. Jails and short-term confinement
 - A. Types of jails
 - B. Functions of the jail
 - C. Direct-supervision jails
 - D. Jail administration and operation
- VI. Prisons
 - A. Types of prisons and purpose
 - B. Security and classification
 - C. Prison population
 - D. Prison organization and administration
- VII. Institutional procedures: custody and treatment
 - A. Functions of custody and control procedures
 - B. Contraband, searches and equipment control
 - C. Rules, discipline, inmate management and classification
 - D. Religion, education, training, counseling and clinical services
- VIII. The effects of institutional life
 - A. Prisonization, adaptation and subculture
 - B. Prison violence
- IX. Transition from confinement to community
 - A. Parole procedures
 - B. Parole supervision
- X. Special populations
 - A. Female offenders
 - B. AIDS, substance abuse and mental illness
- XI. Juvenile corrections
 - A. Historical background
 - B. Juvenile justice process
 - C. Alternative approaches
- XII. Staff: the key ingredient
 - A. Personnel
 - B. Administration and management
 - C. Line and staff administration
- XIII. Legal issue sand liability
 - A. Legal issues
 - B. Capital punishment

Course Requirements

Grading/ Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- Written Assignments
- Tests/quizzes
- Attendance and participation

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments

Course Information

This course is a Criminal Justice elective. It is taught in the classroom using a variety of instructional techniques, which are intended to meet the varied learning styles of our diverse student population.

These strategies rely on positive interdependence on a cooperative learning environment. Individual accountability is a key outcome of these strategies.