Common Course Outline
CRJU 130
Introduction to Corrections
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

CRJU 130 – Introduction to Corrections is a course in which students study corrections as it relates to the criminal justice system. The history of corrections and the various forms of criminal sanctions imposed at local, state and federal levels are emphasized.

3 Credits

Prerequisites: ACLT 052 or ACLT 053 or (ESOL 052 and ESOL 054)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:
1. evaluate the components and processes involved in the criminal justice system;
2. define crime and criminality;
3. analyze the population serviced by corrections;
4. describe the historical development of corrections;
5. assess community-based alternatives;
6. compare jails, pretrial detention and short-term confinement to prison;
7. analyze the institutional procedures involved in custody and treatment of the inmate;
8. discuss the effects of institutional life on the inmate;
9. describe the transition of the offender from confinement to the community;
10. identify the special populations found in corrections;
11. evaluate components and procedures in juvenile corrections;
12. determine the desirable characteristics and abilities of staff in a corrections setting; and
13. summarize 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 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 and liability
    A. Legal issues
    B. Capital punishment

Course Requirements

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

Grading/exams
- A minimum of two exams
- The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignment such as:
  - Summaries of current events and their relation to course material
  - Research project (topics may include any subject related to the course); or
  - Analysis of a specific problem related to corrections in our society.

Written Assignments: Students are required to use the appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information
This course is a Criminal Justice Studies 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.

Date Revised: 12/04/2018