



Course Number & Title – CRJ202 Corrections and Punishment

Department – Arts & Sciences

Contacting Your Professor – To contact your professor, in Canvas, select "Inbox" from the global navigation bar on the left-hand side of your screen. After selecting inbox, click the pencil in the top right of your screen to begin your message. Type in your professor's name and your message before sending.

Delivery – Online

Course Description – This course will give an overview of the history of punishment of crime in the United States, whether through community sanctions (such as probation or restitution) or through community removal (incarceration in jails, prison, or community corrections facilities). It will examine the theories of deterrence, behavior modification and recidivism rates. This course provides an in-depth introduction to the historical evolution and current state of incarceration and detention in the United States. Students will take a critical look at life in prison by exploring how incarceration affects the inmate and the potential consequences for society. Special emphasis is given to current controversies in jail and prison policy, such as family disruption, and physical and sexual violence. Finally, the course will address the causes which have led the United States to having the highest population of incarcerated persons in the world. (3 credits)

Course Prerequisites – None

Student Learning Outcomes – As a result of this course, the student will do the following:

1. Trace the history of corrections and punishment in the U.S. from colonial times until the present.
2. Identify the various models and theories of punishment that have been proposed.
3. Examine current theories and practices in prison policies to determine if they are having the desired outcome, especially through the lens of biblical principles.
4. Evaluate the current level of incarceration in the U.S. and investigate valid alternatives to current models of incarceration.
5. Articulate how faith and a biblical world view interact with modern correctional approaches.

Course Requirements

1. *Textbook*
 - a. Clear, Todd R., et al. *American Corrections in Brief*, 3rd ed., Cengage Learning, 2017.
2. *Materials*
 - a. All materials will be provided in the course website. A functioning webcam or smartphone with camera capabilities will be required for some activities in the course.

3. Assignments

- a. **Video Journals (20%)** – Each week, you will be provided with an opportunity to reflect on the concepts you have been learning. Here, you will respond to prompts in a three- to five-minute video response, allowing you to process the week's concepts or applications. Further details will be provided on the course website (SLOs 2–5).
- b. **Discussions & Reading Responses (25%)** – You will respond to the reading in a variety of ways throughout the course. These responses require depth of thought and reflection that indicate not only a thorough understanding of the text but critical reflection as well. Examples may include graphic organizers and journal entries. Such activities may also include discussion forums, which provide opportunities for collaborative thinking and working through complex concepts as a learning community. Specific requirements will be provided on the course website (SLOs 1–5).
- c. **Debates (10%)** – You will be assigned one side of a debate issue, and throughout the course, will collaborate with others in your group to prepare for a debate with the entire class. This debate will center around an issue assigned by the professor, and each side must represent a well-researched and reasoned representation of the assigned position on the issue. You will undertake two debates in this course. Further details will be provided on the course website (SLOs 3–4).
- d. **Current Events (20%)** – Each week, your professor will guide a discussion around current events in criminal justice. These conversations will allow us to think deeply about specific topics throughout the course (SLOs 1–5).
- e. **Corrections Program Proposal (20%)** – Together with an assigned team of classmates, you will propose the implementation of a new program that will address a need in the corrections industry. The proposed idea can address activities needed in an **institutional** setting, as a **parole** initiative, or to assist with the **transition** back into the community after incarceration. Each team will be allowed to present a seven- to nine-minute presentation for proposing your idea to the rest of the class. Further details will be provided on the course website (SLOs 1–5).
- f. **Meeting Participation Reports (5%)** – Each week, you will participate in a live meeting led by your instructor to discuss course topics, ask questions, and reflect on what you're learning. These meetings will be conducted online, and you are required to participate either through live attendance or by watching the recording and completing a reflective activity. Further details will be provided by your instructor.

4. Exams and Quizzes

- a. None

5. Extra Credit

- a. None

Course Procedures

1. *Course Practices* – This online course uses discussions, readings, videos, and other resources and activities to aid and measure the learning of its objectives. Work through the weeks in sequential order, completing the learning explorations and assignments. Please take these opportunities to interact with the instructor and fellow students about the course content, the learning experience, and the relationships between the material and one's experience.

2. *Grading Policy, Rating Scale, Use of Rubrics, etc.*

<i>Excellent</i>	A	=	94–100		B-	=	80–83		D+	=	67–69
	A-	=	90–93		C+	=	77–79	<i>Passing</i>	D	=	64–66
	B+	=	87–89	<i>Average</i>	C	=	74–76		D-	=	60–63
<i>Good</i>	B	=	84–86		C-	=	70–73	<i>Failure</i>	F	=	0–59

The weight of each assignment in relation to your final grade is allocated in this way:

Video Journals	20%
Discussions & Reading Responses	25%
Debates	10%
Current Events	20%
Corrections Program Proposal	20%
Meeting Participation Reports	5%

3. This course adheres to [LBC | Capital's Global undergraduate policies and services](#). These include:
- Attendance Policy
 - Late Assignment Policy
 - Make-up Policy
 - Ally Center Statement
 - Accessibility Services
 - Writing Services
 - Academic Mentoring Services
 - Academic Integrity Statement
 - Statement on Self-Care

Course Resources

- Technology Difficulties* – The Help Desk is available to help you with computer and technology problems and questions. Call 717.560.8200 ext. 4357 (HELP), email help@lbc.edu, or visit lbc.edu/helpdesk.
- Library Resources* – The library subscribes to numerous databases to provide access to scholarly and peer-reviewed journal articles, eBooks, newspapers, magazines, and much more. Online resources are accessible anywhere on campus or remotely 24/7 using your LBC username and password. To access these resources, go to lbc.edu/library. The library website also includes links for students to request research assistance:
 - CHAT NOW is for immediate assistance – usually from a non-LBC librarian.-
 - ASK US is for information from an LBC librarian within 24 hours (Monday–Friday).
 - SCHEDULE A MEETING is for arranging an appointment with a librarian, either in-person or online.
- Program/Content Coordinator* – artsci@lbc.edu
- Bibliography* – None
- Extra Resources* – None