



# DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## SEMINAR: CONTEMPORARY CORRECTIONS MCJ6230

*"In God We Trust"*

Spring Semester, 2016

- Room: On-line
- Instructor: Bruce Bayley, Ph.D., CFLE  
 Office: SS206  
 Phone: 801-626-8134 (Office), 801-626-6146 (CJ Department)  
 E-mail: Contact me via my Weber account and ALWAYS place MCJ6230 in the subject line or I won't get your message (bbayley@weber.edu) - ALL class correspondence will be done through your "weber.edu" account.  
**DO NOT use the Canvas system to communicate with me – I don't check it.**
- Office Hours: M/W: 7:30-8:30 am, Tuesday: 11:00 am to Noon by appointment only via Google Hangouts – you must e-mail me at least 24 hours in advance to schedule your appointment – if you're unfamiliar with Hangouts, call 801-626-7777 for help.
- School Closure: In the event of a catastrophic event, such as an alien invasion, that closes WSU for an extended period of time, I will continue to provide instruction using the WSU Online Canvas course system and Chi Tester (unless, of course, I've been abducted, in which case you're on your own). Be sure to check Canvas and your university e-mail for updates and instructions.

**\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\***

This section of MCJ6230 will rely heavily on the use of technology. ALL students MUST have a Wildcat ID, access to WSU Online, and access to the Internet (either at home or on campus). ALL exams and quizzes will be taken via WSU Online and as such, the above requirements are MANDATORY. Please see the following locations for obtaining assistance with these requirements:

- 1) To obtain a Wildcat ID, go to: <https://portalapps.weber.edu/getwcid/>
- 2) To obtain access to WSU Online (you must have a Wildcat ID first), go to: <http://online.weber.edu/>
- 3) For a list of WSU computer labs, locations, and hours of operation, go to: <http://weber.edu/computerlabs/>

**Catalog Description:**

MCJ 6230. Contemporary Criminal Justice

Course provides an analysis of critical problems confronting contemporary adult corrections agencies. Course examines the problems of institutions, the affect of judicial intervention in corrections, alternatives to incarceration, and the political milieu in which this occurs.

Class format: On-line (Canvas & Chi Tester).

**Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Masters program.**

**Attendance:** I do not take attendance in this course.

**Required Readings:**

Hanser, R. D. (2013). *Introduction to Corrections*. Sage Publications: Washington, D.C.

Samenow, S.E. (2004) *Inside the Criminal Mind: Revised and Updated Edition*. Crown Publishers: New York, New York.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Compare and contrast the contemporary issues relevant to the current field of American corrections
2. Identify moderating and mitigating factors relevant to modern correctional paradigms
3. Analyze current research on a variety of contemporary issues relevant to the current field of American corrections

**Course Policies:**

Students will demonstrate proficiency with the course material through the completion of 5 exams and 3 Web Forums.

**Rules Written in Stone:**

- 1) Once an exam or assignment is late it CANNOT be made up. Due dates are due dates.....
- 2) If you cheat (even just a little), you fail the entire course (Final Grade = E).

**University Student Code:** The student code will be strictly enforced in this course and it is expected that each student is both aware of and familiar with its requirements and penalties. All aspects of your course work are covered by the University's student code and any violation(s) will be reported to the University. If you are unaware of the student code or need additional information, please use the following URL: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

**Physical Impairments:** If a student has any physical disability or other problems that will likely require some accommodation, these requirements must be made known to the instructor during the first week of the course. Any requests for special considerations relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking exams, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor as soon as possible. For more information concerning the University's services to students with disabilities, please go to the following website: <http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/>.

**Course Requirements:**

Instead of a mid-term and final, we will have a series of five (5) exams (50 questions – see the course outline at the back of this syllabus for the dates of each exam). Each exam will test your knowledge of the assigned readings and lectures. Exams are not cumulative, but will instead focus on the material given after the last exam (or in the case of the first exam, all material given prior to the first exam). Exams will be written to test your understanding of the material, as well as your ability to apply concepts. The structure of each exam will most often be a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions, however, a few may also contain short essay questions.

**All exams are given via Chi Tester and can be taken from any computer with Internet access. Once you start the exam, you'll have 75 minutes to complete the 50 questions. You may use your PowerPoint slides, hand written notes, and text.**

**Remember, exams are designed to assess what you've learned, not how fast you can find information.**

**Remember:**

- a. Once you start an exam, you cannot stop or pause the clock.
- b. All exams are individual assignments – in other words, you CANNOT take an exam with someone else.
- c. Copying or distributing any portion of an exam or quiz will result in a failing grade for the class and may lead to your termination from the graduate program.
- d. Please use the following numbers for Technical Assistance (do NOT contact me with technical problems)
  - \*Chi Tester Support: 801-626-6477
  - \*WSU On-line Help Desk: 801-626-7777
- e. It is HIGHLY recommended to take all exams/quizzes at a university computer lab (WSU, University of Utah, Utah State, etc...). If there is a problem with a university system/computer that interferes with the successful completion of the exam/quiz, you must have someone from the lab e-mail me within 12 hours of the problem to have the exam reset. If you have a problem with your own computer or Internet service, you must notify me immediately and provide official documentation of the problem to me within 24 hours of the problem. Without official documentation from a computer technician or Internet Service Provider, your exam/quiz will not be reset.
- f. Question Challenges: if you wish to challenge an exam question, you must do so within one week (7 days) of the exam deactivating (one (1) day for Exam 5 so I can submit Final Grades on time). To challenge an exam question, e-mail me the exam number, the question number, which answer you feel is correct, and where in the book (page and paragraph number) or slides (chapter and slide number) your supporting information can be found. Challenges cannot be submitted until the exam has deactivated. DO NOT COPY AND PASTE EXAM QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS INTO YOUR CHALLENGE – doing so the first time will nullify your challenge, a second offense will result in a failing grade (E).

1. **Exams** (70% of your final grade) Addresses course objectives 1 – 3 (5 exams, 100 points each, 500 points total). Five (5) exams will be given. Each exam will test your knowledge of the assigned readings and lectures.

**Exams will activated from 6 am on Monday of the week assigned until 11:55 pm on Sunday of the week they deactivate (see the Course Schedule at the end of the syllabus and the Exam Schedule in Canvas).**

**Note: Exam 5 ends at 11:55 pm on FRIDAY, April 22  
NOT Sunday, April 24.**

**Once you begin, you'll have 75 minutes  
to complete your exam.**

**When you submit your exam you will immediately know your score, but will not have access to the questions you missed until after the exam deactivates.**

2. **Web Forums** (30% of your final grade) Address course objectives 1 - 3 (3 assignments, 100 points each, 300 points total). Throughout the semester there will be three Web Forum assignments. Each of these assignments will cover a different topic and **CANNOT be made up if missed**. To complete each assignment, you should:
- Post an initial reply written in essay format (introduction, body, conclusion) to my comment/question (minimum of 1000 words, 70% of final score). Remember, these are to be based upon your Samenow text and must be written in essay format (you do not have to include empirically based studies in these replies). **All initial replies are due by 11:55 pm Wednesday of the week due.**
  - Post two (2) follow-up replies to two of your classmates' initial posts. Note: Your follow-up replies must critically analyze or critique your classmates' posts. Do not simply say something like "I agree" or "Good post." Both follow-up replies must be a minimum of 300 words each (30% of final score). Remember, these are to be a personal analysis of your classmates' content and must be written in essay format (you do not have to include empirically based studies in these replies). **All follow-up replies are due by 11:55 pm Sunday of the week due.**

As with all work, be sure to use proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. All posts should be written in essay format with a strong introduction stating your position, post body where you defend your position, and a strong conclusion. Remember, this is a graduate level course and as such, your posts must utilize expanded thought and detail.

**Note: Web Forum 5 initial replies are due on Wednesday, April 20 at 11:55 pm and your two follow-up responses are due on FRIDAY, April 22 by 11:55 pm.**

### **Lectures:**

Each chapter will have two files associated with it. First is the chapter "Lecture File" you are to view by simply clicking on the chapter link (For example, Chapter 1 Lecture). Second will be a PDF file of my PowerPoint slides with blanks in each slide that will be filled in as you view the Lecture File (For example, Chapter 1 Fill-in). Your completed PDF file will not be collected, but serve as your lecture notes for each chapter (Remember, exam questions will come from your readings and your lecture notes). To accommodate students with slow Internet speed, there is NO audio to the Lecture Files.

**Grading Scale: Be sure to review your Canvas gradebook on a regular basis. Any corrections to your gradebook must be made before Exam 5 deactivates – after that, any errors or omissions become permanent and will be used to calculate your final grade.**

A = 94 - 100	B+ = 87 - 89.9	C+ = 77 - 79.9	D+ = 67 - 69.9	F = 59.9 or less
A- = 90 - 93.9	B = 84 - 86.9	C = 74 - 76.9	D = 64 - 66.9	
	B- = 80 - 83.9	C- = 70 - 73.9	D- = 60 - 63.9	

**Rounding on the Final Grade:** If you have completed all course assignments and are less than one percentage point away from a higher grade, I will use the following rounding criteria to determine your final grade: 0.5% or higher will be rounded up, <0.5% will not (for example, 89.5 = A-; 89.4 = B+).

## Course Schedule

(Subject to change – Be sure to check Canvas at least 3 times per week and ALWAYS before class for any changes to this course or its requirements)

## Readings and Due Dates

### Course Materials

Week 1 – Canvas familiarization

**Syllabus Quiz** (you must receive 100% before you'll have access to the Course Page)

### **Exam Schedule (from your Hanser readings)**

#### **Exam 1**

Early History and Evolution of Punishment  
and Corrections

Chapter 1

The Development of Prisons in the United States

Chapter 2

Ideological and Theoretical Underpinnings to  
Corrections

Chapter 3

Correctional Law and Legal Liabilities

Chapter 4

**Exam 1: Hanser Chapters 1-4 (1/11 – 1/31)**

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#### **Exam 2**

Jail and Detention Facilities

Chapter 5

Probation

Chapter 6

Intermediate Sanctions

Chapter 7

Correctional Facilities

Chapter 8

**Exam 2: Hanser Chapters 5-8 (2/1 – 2/21)**

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**SPRING BREAK: 3/7 – 3/11**

**Exam 3**

Classification and Custody Levels	Chapter 9
Prison Subculture and Prison Gang Influence	Chapter 10
Female Offenders in Correctional Systems	Chapter 11
Specialized Inmate Populations	Chapter 12

**Exam 3: Hanser Chapters 9-12 (2/22 – 3/20)**

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**Exam 4**

Juvenile Correctional Systems	Chapter 13
Correctional Administration	Chapter 14
Prison Education, Work & Basic Services and Programming	Chapter 15
Therapeutic, Recreational, & Religious Programming	Chapter 16

**Exam 4: Hanser Chapters 13-16 (3/21 – 4/10)**

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**Exam 5**

Parole and Reintegration	Chapter 17
The Death Penalty	Chapter 18
Program Evaluation, Evidence Based Practices, and Future Trends in Corrections	Chapter 19

**Exam 5: Hanser Chapters 17-19 (4/10 – 4/22)**

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**Web Forum Schedule (from your Samenow readings)**

Web Forum 1	Chapters 1-6	(1/11 – 2/14)
Web Forum 2	Chapters 7-11	(2/15 – 3/20)
Web Forum 3	Chapters 12-16	(3/21 – 4/22)

**REMEMBER:**

**Canvas can only show ONE Web Forum due date and as such, only shows the due date for your follow-up replies (Sunday – except Web Forum 5), NOT the due date for your initial post (Wednesday).**

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