

**CJ386-01**  
**CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS/PRACTICES**  
**Fall Semester 2018**  
**Professor: Jiabo Liu, Ph.D.**  
**Department of Criminal Justice, MVSU, Mississippi, USA**

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Email: [jliu@mvsu.edu](mailto:jliu@mvsu.edu)  
Office Hours:  
Mondays 2:00 – 3:30pm  
Tuesdays 2:00 – 5:00pm  
Wednesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm; 2:00 – 3:30pm  
Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00pm  
or By Appointment at least 6 hours in Advance

**Catalog Course Description**

Starts with a survey of the history of corrections. Examines all relevant correctional practices such as security and control in prisons, treatment in prison classification systems, prison industries, prison congestion and remedies, the pros and cons of private prisons, and also an extensive examination of community based corrections, including probation and parole.

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes**

This course is designed to acquaint students with:

1. Identify the structures of the American corrections;
2. Provide the basic knowledge of the American corrections;
3. Discuss important issues on the American corrections.

**Core Objectives of Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program**

Upon completion of the undergraduate program the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the structure, functions and principles of the main components of the criminal justice system— law enforcement, courts, corrections, in addition to theories of crime and research methods.
2. Demonstrate ability to apply criminological principles to address “real life” criminal justice related problems.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of research methods appropriate at the baccalaureate level.

**Class Meeting Time and Place**

Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:50pm - 5:05pm, SSB-16.

## Required Textbook

Clear, Todd, Michael Reisig, George Cole, *American Corrections* 12<sup>th</sup> Ed (Wadsworth Publishing, 2019). ISBN-13: 9781337557658. ISBN-10: 133755765X.

Additional readings may be issued to you during the class.

## Grading Policy

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Total 100%: 90 – 100% = A, 80 – 89% = B, 70 – 79% = C, 60 – 69% = D, Below 60% = F.

### 1. Middle Semester Examination (30%)

An open-note and in-class examination as Middle Term Examination will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018. This examination will consist of many multiple-choice questions that test students' understanding of the contents in the required textbook. No share of any material in any media during the exam. Each of you will independently take this examination.

### 2. Final Examination (30%)

An open-note and in-class examination as Final Examination will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018. This examination will consist of many multiple-choice questions that test your understanding of the contents in the required textbook and class discussions. No share of any material in any media during the exam. Each of you will independently take this examination.

### 3. Class Presentation (5%)

A. Each of you is assigned to present your comments on the assigned materials in related chapter of the required textbook for at least 5 minutes on the scheduled day in the syllabus (2.5 points).

B. Each of you is required to write a five-page term paper and to submit the term paper to the professor at [jliu@mvsu.edu](mailto:jliu@mvsu.edu) on the date as indicated in the Guidelines. The requirements of the class paper will be issued separately (2.5%).

### 4. Class Participation (35%)

Class participation will be a combining product of reading textbook before class, attending class, raising substantial questions about the related issues, exercising practices, and submitting issued assignments during the class.

If you did something of non-class activities, violate classroom rules as stipulated in the syllabus, and/or received a warning from the professor, your participation scores would be reduced. If

your behaviors disrupt the class participation to any extent, the professor reserves the rights to ask you to leave the classroom temporarily.

### **Make-Up Policy**

Make up may be allowed, depending on the circumstances with an excuse. It is at the professor's discretion and with students' request before the deadlines of quizzers, exams, or assignments.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is a commitment to the values of honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, respect and responsibility in academia. Academic integrity is violated by any dishonest act that is committed in an academic context. Honesty and integrity are essential values of the Mississippi Valley State University's mission to pursue truth and knowledge. Academic excellence can be reached only with the cooperation and support of students. Students are expected therefore to accept responsibility for maintaining honesty and integrity in all acts inside and outside the classroom, studio or laboratory. (MVSU Student Handbook pg.59.)

### **Cheating & Plagiarism Policy**

Cheating in any fashion will not be tolerated, including but not limited to plagiarizing another's words, work or ideas on individual class assignments.

Plagiarism will result in at least a failing grade for the assignment(s) and/or course.

### **University Attendance Policy**

When students must be absent from class, they are required to make arrangements satisfactory to the instructor with regard to work missed. When students know in advance that they will be absent from class, instructors should be notified and arrangements made to secure assignments. Students may obtain from the Vice President of Student Affairs an official excuse from class due to an emergency (illness, accident, jury duty, or death in the immediate family) or for attendance at officially-authorized functions and authorized field trips sponsored by the University. Official absences presented to the instructor within seven days from the date of the absence entitles the student to make up any work missed. Faculty members are required to submit absences and "never attended" reports at a designated time via the Banner System. Students who receive Financial Aid awards can only receive funds for "class attendance." The MVSU Attendance Policy for Financial Aid includes No Shows and Unofficial Course Withdrawals.

### **Class Attendance Policy**

Attendance, by policy, is required. With no attendance, at least, you would not earn your points from your participations unless, even if you face emergency, you have doctor's excuse and/or an excuse letter from the Office of Student Affairs that are the ONLY excuses, whenever provided before final exam, for earning your points from your participations when you are absent.

### General Course Policies

1. Be on time for all class activities. “Late” is greatly NOT encouraged. You do not have to be perfect but need to make perfect efforts.
2. Do not bring children to the classroom, turn off your cell-phone, pager and/or any other noising, sound or sound-video-recording electronic or mechanic devices during the class, and no noising, sound or sound-video-recording electronic or mechanic devices can appear on the surface during the class.
3. The professor reserves the right to modify assignments and/or any contents of this syllabus to meet the needs of the students enrolled and to adjust for unforeseen events, modifications or adjustments will be announced during class or via email, it is your responsibilities to pay attention to any modifications or adjustments.
4. Any with either learning or physical disabilities should consult the relevant office at the University and address your situation to the professor with official documents from the office.
5. The professor reserves the right to make photocopies of your completed assignments after grading before returning them to you.
6. You are expected to follow all university policies regarding students’ activities in class and in professor’s office. You take full responsibilities for all types of consequences of your violations of the policies/classroom rules stipulated in the syllabus and in Student Handbook.

### CJ386-01 Fall 2018 Schedule

Dates	Topics	Readings or Assignments
Aug 20 Monday	Introduction: Correctional Systems	Clear et al, Chapter 1.
Aug 22 Wednesday	Introduction: Correctional Systems	Clear et al, Chapter 1.
Aug 27 Mon	History: Thought & Practice	Clear et al, Chapter 2.
Aug 29 Wed	History: American Corrections	Clear et al, Chapter 3.
Sept 3 Mon	Labor Day Holiday (No Classes)	
Sep 5 Wednesday	Punishment	Clear et al, Chapter 4.
Sept 10 Monday	Law of Corrections	Clear et al, Chapter 5.
Sep 11 Wednesday	Correctional Clients	Clear et al, Chapter 6.
Sep 17 Monday	Jails	Clear et al, Chapter 7.
Sep 19 Wednesday	Jails	Clear et al, Chapter 7.
Sep 24	Probation	Clear et al, Chapter 8.

Monday		
Sep 26 Wednesday	Probation	Clear et al, Chapter 8.
Oct 1 Monday	Intermediate Sanctions & Community Corrections	Clear et al, Chapter 9.
Oct 3 Wednesday	Middle Semester Examination	
Oct 8 Monday	Intermediate Sanctions & Community Corrections	Clear et al, Chapter 9.
Oct 10 Wednesday	Incarceration	Clear et al, Chapter 10.
Oct 15 Monday	Incarceration	Clear et al, Chapter 10.
Oct 17 Wednesday	Prison	Clear et al, Chapter 11.
Oct 22 Monday	Prison	Clear et al, Chapter 11.
Oct 24 Wednesday	Institutional Programs	Clear et al, Chapter 14.
Oct 29 Monday	Institutional Programs	Clear et al, Chapter 14.
Oct 31 Wednesday	Supervision in Community	Clear et al, Chapter 16.
Nov 5 Monday	Supervision in Community	Clear et al, Chapter 16.
Nov 7 Wednesday	Community Justice	Clear et al, Chapter 21.
Nov 12 Monday	Community Justice	Clear et al, Chapter 21.
Nov 14 Wednesday	Incarceration Trends	Clear et al, Chapter 18.
Nov 19-20	Fall Break	
Nov 21-23	Thanksgiving Holidays	
Nov 26 Monday	Future of American Corrections	Clear et al, Chapter 22.
Nov 28 Wednesday	Course Review.	
Dec 3-7	Final Examination	