**Community-Based Corrections - CRMJ 4150**

**Spring 2020 Syllabus**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor: Eric Wodahl

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Office: 303 Arts & Sciences

Office Hours: Mon. 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Wed. 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Day/Time: MW – 3:10 – 4:25 pm

Room: CR 222

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: CRMJ 1001, CRMJ 2210, CRMJ/SOC 2400, and CRMJ 3350

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

While prisons and jails are often the most visible components of the U.S. correctional system, it is community-based correctional programs that carry the heaviest burden. This course is designed to explore the role of community-based punishments in the American criminal justice system. A number of topics will be covered throughout the course of the semester including the history of community corrections, structure and processes of community punishments, and the effectiveness of community supervision. In addition a number of special issues will be explored such as the incorporation of evidence based practices into the supervision of probationers and parolees, sex offenders in the community, and prisoner reentry. **Students are expected to have read assigned material before class.**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course students should possess the following:

* An understanding of the various goals of punishment and their relationship to community-based corrections.
* Familiarization with the various programs and activities that comprise community corrections in the U.S.
* An understanding of the effectiveness of community-based sanctions and the ability to discuss the difficulty associated with measuring the effectiveness of these punishments.
* Familiarization with key Supreme Court cases involving community-corrections.
* Knowledge of the treatment needs of offenders and the effectiveness of treatment programs.
* Familiarization with current research on “what works” and “best practices” in community supervision and correctional rehabilitation.
* An understanding of the challenges ex-prisoners face as they reenter society.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

Latessa, E. J., Listwan, S. J., & Koetzle, D. (2015). *What works (and doesn’t) in reducing recidivism*. New York: Routledge.

Various articles, book chapters, and Supreme Court opinions will be assigned throughout the course of the semester. Students will be able to access these materials through WyoCourses and other on-line sources.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **In-Class Quizzes** – There will be a minimum\* of 10 unannounced quizzes throughout the course of the semester. These quizzes will focus on the assigned readings for that day, and will include a variety of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Students who miss class on the day of the quiz will not be allowed to make-up the exam unless the absence is considered an excused absence as outlined in this syllabus. Each quiz will be worth a maximum of 10 points. Each student’s lowest 2 quiz scores will be dropped from the student’s grade at the end of the semester.  
     
   \*The main purpose of the in-class quizzes are to encourage and reward students for coming to class prepared by reading assigned materials. It is within the discretion of the instructor to add additional in-class quizzes if it is believed that students are not reading assigned materials.
2. **Take Home Quizzes** - There will be a total of 3 take home quizzes throughout the course of the semester. These quizzes will focus on the assigned readings and will be completed in essay style format. Each quiz will be worth 60 points. The questions for the quizzes will be made available at least two class periods before they are due. Quizzes must be turned in on WyoCourses unless previous arrangements have been made.
3. **Group Project** – Students will be assigned to groups in order to complete a collaborative project. More specific information regarding this project will be provided. Assignment is worth 50 points.

**Grading Scale**

In-Class Quizzes 80 points\*

Take Home Quizzes 180 points

Group Project 50 points

**Total 310 points\***

**\*In-Class Quiz and Total points will be adjusted if additional In-Class Quizzes are assigned.**

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| **Grade:**  A  B  C  D  F | **Percentage**:  90-100%  80-89.99%  70-79.99%  60-69.99%  less than 60% |

**MAKE-UP WORK & EXCUSED ABSENCE POLICY:**

Make-up work opportunities will only be granted for excused absences. Excused absences include:

1. Situations that qualify for an authorized absence from the Dean of Students Office. Students must provide the instructor or GA with official documentation for the authorized absence from the Dean of Student’s Office. For more information concerning authorized absences and how to obtain them please consult the following resources:
   1. <http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/studentassistance/authorized-absence.html>
   2. [UW Regulation 2-108 (Student Attendance Policy)](http://www.uwyo.edu/regs-policies/_files/docs/regulations-2018/uw_reg_2-108_approved_7-12-18.pdf)
2. Illness (documentation may be required by the instructor)
3. Special circumstances that have been approved **in advance** by the instructor

All make-up work must be completed during office hours within **ONE WEEK** of the original due date, unless other arrangement have been approved by the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to schedule and complete the make-up work. The instructor reserves the right to change the format of all make-up exams, quizzes, and other assignments.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Academic dishonesty in all its forms will not be tolerated in this class. Cases of academic dishonesty will be treated in accordance with UW Regulation 2-114. The penalties for academic dishonesty can include, at my discretion, an “F” on an exam, an “F” on the class component exercise, and/or an “F” in the entire course. Academic dishonesty means anything that represents someone else’s ideas as your own without attribution. It is intellectual theft – stealing - and includes (but is not limited to) unapproved assistance on examinations, plagiarism (use of any amount of another person’s writings, blog posts, publications, and other materials without attributing that material to that person with citations), or fabrication of referenced information. Facilitation of another person’s academic dishonesty is also considered academic dishonesty and will be treated identically.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Attendance is important to the successful completion of this course. Students are expected to have read assigned readings prior to class and be prepared to participate in class discussions. Students are also expected to check WyoCourses on a regular basis for information pertaining to this course.

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR POLICY:**

Students are expected to abide by the following rules of conduct:

* + - 1. Texting or other cell phone use that disrupts the instruction or learning of students in this course is prohibited.
      2. Laptop use is restricted to class-related activities. In other words, no surfing the internet or watching YouTube videos during class.
      3. No sleeping or giving the appearance of sleeping
      4. Be respectful of others in all your comments and interactions.

Failure to abide by these rules can and likely will result in the student being dismissed from the class.

**CLASSROOM STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY:**

The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

**DUTY TO REPORT:**

UW faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University’s non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX, discrimination based upon sex and gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, the faculty member MUST report information you share about the incident to the university’s Title IX Coordinator (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are people who can meet with you. Faculty can help direct you or you may find info about UW policy and resources at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit>

You do not have to go through the experience alone. Assistance and resources are available, and you are not required to make a formal complaint or participate in an investigation to access them.

**DISABILITY SUPPORT:**

The University of Wyoming is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you have a disability, including but not limited to physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities, and would like to request accommodations in this course due to your disability, please register with and provide documentation of your disability as soon as possible to Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 128 Knight Hall. You may also contact DSS at (307) 766-3073 or [udss@uwyo.edu.](mailto:udss@uwyo.edu) It is in the student’s best interest to request accommodations within the first week of classes, understanding that accommodations are not retroactive. Visit the DSS website for more information at: [www.uwyo.edu/udss](http://www.uwyo.edu/udss)

**IMPORTANT STUDENT RESOURCES:**

* DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: [udss@uwyo.edu](mailto:udss@uwyo.edu), 766-3073, 128 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/udss](http://www.uwyo.edu/udss)
* COUNSELING CENTER: [uccstaff@uwyo.edu](mailto:uccstaff@uwyo.edu), 766-2187, 766-8989 (After hours), 341 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/ucc](http://www.uwyo.edu/ucc)
* ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: 766-4286, 312 Old Main, [www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs](http://www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs)
* DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE: [dos@uwyo.edu](mailto:dos@uwyo.edu), 766-3296, 128 Knight Hall, [www.uwyo.edu/dos](http://www.uwyo.edu/dos)
* UW POLICE DEPARTMENT: [uwpd@uwyo.edu](mailto:uwpd@uwyo.edu), 766-5179, 1426 E Flint St, [www.uwyo.edu/uwpd](http://www.uwyo.edu/uwpd)
* STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT WEBSITE: [www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct](http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct)

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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| **January 27:** | Introduction/Review Syllabus/Defining Community Corrections |
| **January 29:** | Goals of Punishment |
| **February 3:** | History of Community Corrections |
| **February 5:** | Probation in the U.S. |
| **February 10:** | Probation in the U.S. |
| **February 12:** | Parole in the U.S. |
| **February 17:** | The Parole Process |
| **February 19:** | Intermediate Sanctions |
| **February 24:** | Intermediate Sanctions |
| **February 26:** | Revocation of Community Supervision |
| **March 2:** | Revocation of Community Supervision – **Take-Home Quiz #1 Due** |
| **March 4:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapters 1&2) |
| **March 9:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapters 1&2) |
| **March 11:** | Group Project Work Day |
| **March 16:** | No Class – Spring Break |
| **March 18:** | No Class – Spring Break |
| **March 23:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 3) |
| **March 25:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 4) |
| **March 30:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 4) |
| **April 1:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 5) |
| **April 6:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 6) |
| **April 8:** | Reducing Recidivism (Chapter 6) - Motivational Interviewing – **Take-Home**  **Quiz #2 Due** |
| **April 13:** | Sex Offenders in the Community |
| **April 15:** | Mental Illness and Community Supervision |
| **April 20:** | Group Project Work Day |
| **April 22:** | What Works with Women |
| **April 27:** | Group Project Presentations |
| **April 29:** | Group Project Presentations |
| **May 4:** | Prisoner Reentry |
| **May 6:** | Prisoner Reentry |
| **May 13:** | **Take-Home Quiz #3 Due** |

**\*Note: This is a tentative class schedule which may be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances. The instructor will notify students at least one week in advance of any changes to the test schedule.**