

**Department of Social Science
Jackson College
Jackson, Michigan**

SYLLABUS

**CRJ 127.H-81
CORRECTIONS LAW**

**Winter Semester 2018
Tuesday Nights
6:00 P.M. TO 9:35 PM
Main Campus, Room 115**

**Instructor: Susan G. Murphy
Attorney/Referee
Phone: 517-768-6528**

E-Mail: murphysusang@jccmi.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course deals with the law as it applies to the correctional system. Applicable court cases and legislation will be reviewed. Topics will include: The Sources of Corrections Law, The Criminal Justice System, Rights of Prisoners, Civil Lawsuits of Prisoners, How the Law Affects Correctional Employees, and Recent Developments in Michigan Corrections. There will be a special emphasis on Michigan Law.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To offer the student an overview of constitutional law including a survey of the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 14th Amendments.
2. To provide an overview of the Criminal Justice System.
3. To examine the court process including arrest, arraignment, preliminary hearings, trial, sentencing, and appeals.
4. To survey the Federal and State court structure and the concept of jurisdiction.
5. To study major cases impacting corrections.
6. To study Prisoners' rights and institutional due process.
7. To survey Section 42, 1983 concerns including staff negligence and prisoner law suits.
8. To examine the Rules of Testimonial Evidence and the role of the correctional officer in preparing to testify.
9. To examine current topics in corrections including: Aids, Ethics and Conduct, Boot Camp, Sexual Harassment, and Job Discrimination.
10. To provide students with active learning opportunities in the areas of courts and corrections.

COURSE TEXT

LEGAL ASPECTS OF CORRECTIONS
(2000 Edition) by Harvey Wallace and Cliff Roberson. Copperhouse Publishing Co.

HANDOUT MATERIALS

There will also be select handout material which will be given to you in class during the semester. It is your responsibility to make sure you have all the materials.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

For your benefit and for the benefit of your classmates:

- At all times be considerate to your classmates and to your instructor.
- No food or beverage is allowed in any classroom.
- Come to class on time, ready to ask questions about previous subject material.
- Ask pertinent questions; contribute to discussions; avoid "private" conversations that distract the instructor and other students.
- Remember the professor ends the class - do not prepare to leave early.
- Cell phones must be turned completely off during class time.
- No texting or web browsing during class time.

KEYS TO SUCCESS:

- Have a positive attitude about learning and the class.
- Attend all class sessions and be punctual.
- Read the textbook and the handouts before the session and again after.
- Do your own lab projects or work with your "study partner when permitted." Ask for help when needed.
- Don't expect to understand every topic the first time it is presented; review often and spend as much time as necessary to master the material.
- Enjoy the class!

ATTENDANCE – 20 points

Attendance will be taken each night. Attendance at all classes is expected. It is your responsibility to read your assignments and be present in class. **SEE STUDENT HANDBOOK.**

Students earn 2 points per class towards attendance up to **20 points** ~ 1 point for being present and 1 point for active participation. Students who do not attend an entire class will receive partial credit.

Students who miss five (5) or more classes may be withdrawn from the class by the instructor.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS

The last day to withdraw from classes is _____. You must initiate a withdrawal in person at the main campus or one of the extension centers.

If the withdrawal from class is instructor-initiated, the student will be notified by letter by the Registrar's office after the withdrawal has been processed to allow an opportunity for the student to appeal the withdrawal from class.

If the withdrawal from class is student-initiated, it is necessary for an advisor or counselor to approve the schedule change. The student's official date of withdrawal will be the date received at the Registrar's office. A student is not considered withdrawn from class until the withdrawal form has been processed (add/drop form).

"I" (INCOMPLETE) GRADE

The incomplete grade is designed for students with extenuating circumstances to allow them to complete the course requirements after the semester or session has ended. Students may receive an "I" if, in the opinion of the instructor, their work is

sufficient in quality, but is lacking in quantity to meet the objectives specified in the course syllabus. The course objectives are to be satisfactorily completed during the next full-length semester or within a shorter period of time as determined to by the instructor. If the student does not complete the course within the designated time period, the Registrar will replace the "I" grade with the earned grade as assigned by the instructor.

The grade of "I" is not awarded to students who did not attend, or seldom attended, or to those who simply are not pleased with their final grades. Students receiving an "I" submit only the remaining work that had not been completed at the end of the semester. Students do not redo work that had already been graded.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requiring special assistance (including those affected by the Americans with Disabilities Act) should contact the Center for Student Success. This is the first step in acquiring the appropriate accommodations to facilitate your learning.

TUTORS

Tutors, both peer and on-line for writing classes, (plus additional services for academic success) can be accessed by calling 796-8415 or by stopping by the Center for Student Success.

OFFICE HOURS

All office hours are by appointment only. Contact me at my main office line 517-768-6528.

TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS

Three (3) tests will be given covering the sections of your textbook, handouts, lecture, and media material. Each test will be worth

40 points and will be in one or more of the following forms: True/False, Multiple Choice, Fill-in, Matching, or Short Answer.

Make-up Tests will be permitted "**only**" for "**Good Cause Shown**." That means you must show and document an emergency situation. All make-up exams must be taken within five (5) days of the regularly scheduled test. Failure to appear on a test date will result in a zero grade for that test.

ACTIVE LEARNING – 20 points

During the semester, students are required to engage in 9 hours of active learning and to complete a journal detailing the active learning experience.

Students are required to complete one of the following activities and enter in their journals detailed summaries of their active learning experience.

ACTIVE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 1) Courtroom visits to observe any of the following: Criminal trials, Probation Violation Hearings, Arraignments, Guilty Pleas, Preliminary Hearings in District Court, and Sentencings
- 2) Job shadow or interview one or more of the following: Corrections officer or Corrections official (e.g. Deputy Warden or Warden), Parole or Probation officer, Prosecutor, Defense attorney, Juvenile case worker, Sheriff or Undersheriff. Interview should cover the job responsibilities and daily activities particularly as they relate to the correctional system.
- 3) Volunteer work (5 hours or more) in any Criminal Justice Agency including but not limited to Juvenile Court, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Community Corrections Agencies, or Victims Assistance Agencies.

4) Tour Cell Block 7 ~ contact information 517-745-6813. Open Friday through Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Effective March 1, 2018, hours extend to Wednesday through Sunday 10 to 5.

The journal must chronologically summarize the activities, the length of time for each activity, and report in detail what was done and learned from each activity.

Journals can be turned in anytime during the semester but **no later than 6:00 p.m. on April 17th**. Students will present a 5-7-minute summary of what they learned during these activities during the last night of class.

NOTE: Active Learning is a mandatory requirement of this class and accounts for 20% of your final grade. Students who fail to turn in their journal on time will receive a zero.

Active learning may take place **anytime** during the semester and involves **9** hours of active learning, (including the journaling process).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

PASSING GRADE POLICY

A 2.0 or “C” is a passing grade. Only courses with passing grades count toward graduation. Other colleges transfer in only courses with passing grades. Many financial aid sources, including most employers, require passing grades. Additionally, earning less than a 2.0 in a class results in not being able to participate in the next level of courses in a discipline which requires this course as a pre-requisite. If you attempt to register for the next course sequence and have not passed the pre-requisite course, you will be dropped from that class.

GRADE SCALE

Points	=	Grade
180 – 200	=	4.0
170 – 179	=	3.5
160 – 169	=	3.0
150 – 159	=	2.5
140 – 149	=	2.0
130 – 139	=	1.5
120 – 129	=	1.0
110 – 119	=	0.5
Below 110	=	0.0

Students who do not officially withdraw from this course, have a score that falls in the unacceptable range, or do not take the final exam will receive a final grade of 0.0.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

Test 1	40 points
Test 2	40 points
Test 3	40 points
Journal	20 points
Attendance	20 points
Homework Assignments	20 points
Quizzes	<u>20 points</u>
Total Available Points	200 points
Complete Survey	10 extra points

ASSOCIATE DEGREE OUTCOMES (ADO's)

This class will stress the following essential skills, knowledge and abilities expected of college-educated people.

<u>ADO7</u> Think Critically	Application of the criminal process including the Criminal Justice System, prisoner’s rights & protections and constitutional issues.
<u>ADO9</u> Working Productively with Others	Group work & discussions regarding correctional cases and prisoners’ rights.

NOTE: This class is based on a lecture format with discussion of relevant correctional issues and group exercises. Lecture material will supplement and expand upon the textbook. It is important to take good notes during lecture since a substantial portion of the material presented will be in addition to that contained in the textbook.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit assignments, if granted, will be announced in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what assignments were given in class. Late extra credit assignments will not be accepted.

REFUND OR "W" REMOVAL CRITERIA

1. The following criteria must be met for exceptions to Jackson Community College's refund or "W" removal policy. Supporting 3rd party documentation (medical, employer, military) must be attached, for example:

- a. Death of an immediate family member
 - b. Return to work/change in working hours
 - c. Call to active military duty
 - d. Medical
2. A request for a "W" exception, refund or balance forgiven that meets the above criteria must be before the last day to withdraw for full semester courses as indicated in each semester's course schedule book. For shorter length courses, it is the student's responsibility to check with the registrar's office for the last date to withdraw.
3. All requests must be submitted in writing, from the student, with the required supporting 3rd party documentation to:
Jackson Community College
Tuition Review Committee
2111 Emmons Road, Jackson, MI 49201
4. Academic issues such as grade disputes or issues with instructors should be directed to the appropriate department chair and follow the Academic Complaint Procedure.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT CLASS!

COURSE SCHEDULE

NOTE TO STUDENTS: The basic topics in this course must be covered but may be accomplished using a modified version of the schedule listed below.

Session	Date	Topics	Assessments	Assignments	Due Date
1	02/06/ 18	Corrections Law: An Introduction What is Law: Civil-vs-Criminal What is the purpose of the Law? The Sources of Corrections Law: Judicial, Legislative, Executive Branches		Chapter 1 & 2 Reading Active Learning Journal	04/17
2	02/16/ 18	The Court System: State and Federal Corrections: Its place in the Criminal Justice System		Chapter 3 Reading	
3	02/20/ 18	The Criminal Justice System The Stages of the Criminal Justice Process Including Sentencing		Chapter 4 & 5 Reading	
4	02/27/ 18	Defendants' Rights and Protections: The Rights of Prisoners: The 1 st Amendment		Chapter 6 & 7 Reading	
5	03/06/ 18	The Rights of Prisoners: The 4 th Amendment	EXAM Chapters 1-5		
6	03/13/ 18	MID SEMESTER BREAK – NO CLASSES		Chapter 9 Reading	
7	03/20/ 18	The Rights of Prisoners: The 4 th Amendment ~ continued		Chapter 8 Reading	
8	03/27/ 18	The Rights of Prisoners: The 8 th Amendment		Chapter 10 Reading	

9	04/03/ 18	Civil Actions & Stages of Lawsuits Types of Lawsuits/Sovereign Immunity How the Law Affects the Corrections Employee: Common Suits and Liability How the Law Affects the Corrections Employee: Preparation for Legal Proceeding How the Law Affects the Corrections Employee: Appearing in Court	EXAM Chapters 6-9	Chapter 11 Reading	
10	04/10/ 18	Rights and Liabilities of Correctional Personnel Aids – Practical and Legal Considerations Ethics and Conduct for Correctional Officers Boot Camp: A New Concept in Corrections Juvenile Corrections: Charging youths as Adults Sexual Harassment and Job Discrimination Public Safety Officers ACT Summary of Corrections Law		Active Learning Journal due next class	
11	04/17/ 18	Prison Reform and Recent Developments in Michigan Corrections: Michigan and Federal Court Rulings/The 1984 Consent Decree	Active Learning Journal due at 6:00 p.m.		
12	04/24/ 18	Probation, Parole, and Release	EXAM Chapters 8, 10 and 11		
13	05/01/ 18	Presentations			

There are 9 hours of this class attributable are to your Active Learning assignments and journaling. This will be made up by shorting classes on test days. **Journals are due on April 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**