

Sul Ross State University
Student Syllabus
Fall 2021

Course Name/ Number: CJ 5314: Seminar in Corrections (ONLINE)

Instructor Name: Dr. Lisa Quibodeaux (Ph.D.Walden University; M.S. University of Alabama;
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Office Hours: Please send an email anytime.

Catalog Description: This is a course on the evolution and current state of corrections and management. Theories of punishment will be addressed and management techniques will be covered. This course will go beyond concepts of institutionalized corrections to explore modern correctional alternatives as well as special topics relevant t corrections.

Required Text: Stohr, M.K., Walsh, A., & Hemmens, C. (2019). *Corrections: A Text/Reader* (3rd. ed.). Sage. **ISBN: 978-1-5443-3922-1**

Suggested Text: American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.

Criminal Justice Graduate Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

CJ SLO 1. The student will be able to analyze the function and decision making of the court systems of the United States, including the ability to assess the impact the impact of court rulings, in particular those of the Supreme Court.

CJ SLO 2. The student will be able to identify and apply criminological theories and competing theory arguments.

CJ SLO 3. The student will be able to develop a working knowledge of the process and application of the methods of scientific research, including the ability to critique a piece of research based on its methodology and develop the ability to apply research to Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Policy.

Marketable Skills:

This course is also designed to help the students for building various marketable skills to use in their Criminal Justice related careers and professions. Specifically, in this course, the following marketable skills, which are some of the most important skills for such careers, will be emphasized during this course:

MS 1- Verbal and Written Communication Skills

MS 2- Critical Thinking & Observation

MS 3 - Multicultural Understanding

MS 4- Accessing Resources with Crime Data and the Most Current Updates of Legal Codes and Procedures

MS 5- Teamwork and Working Collaboratively

MS 6 – Analyzing the Factors Contributing to Crime

Grading Criteria: Grades will be determined by the following in this course:

Students will be assessed in this course by the following methods: writing assignments, discussion boards, and individual research projects. (12 discussion boards @ 25 pts each; 1 research paper overview/literature review @ 100 pts; 1 research paper @ 200 pts; Five reading reflection papers @ 100 pts each; 1 Article Review @ 100 pts; and 1 Social Media paper @ 100 pts)

Grading Scale:	100 - 90 = A	1300 -1170 = A
	89 - 80 = B	1169 -1039 = B
	79 - 70 = C	1038 - 908 = C
	69 - 60 = D	907 - 777 = D
	59 - 0 = F	776 - 0 = F

Discussion boards: Each week there will be a discussion question posted per each Unit. Please post your original response to the boards by Wednesdays of each week. This response needs to contribute in a significant way to the topics and can include information from the readings as well as personal experience and knowledge from other courses, academic sources, and employment.

Original posts should be at least 200 words in length. After the original post is made, students are required to post to at least **one** other person per week for credit. This response must be at least a paragraph and should not consist of an, "I agree." When any source is used for collaboration, it must be cited and the source listed at the end of the post in APA format.

Writing Assignments: Online writing assignments are to be in 7th edition APA format. They are to be typed, **adhere to each length per assignment**, double spaced, 1 inch margin, 11 Times New Roman font, include internal citations, title page, and reference page as per APA format. Upload before midnight of the due date. **NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER MIDNIGHT DUE DATES.**

Research project: There will be a major research paper in this class. It will be typed, **adhere to specific length per assignment**, double-spaced, 1-inch margin, 11 Times New Roman font, include internal citations, title page, and reference page as per 7th edition APA format.

Make-Up Work and Exams: It is the student's responsibility to make up any work. Please email me should any work need to be made up. I will allow work to be made up only in emergencies (instructor discretion). No exams will be made up. All missed exams will result in a 0 for a grade

ADA Statement: SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SUI Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

Library: The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine. Offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LobolD and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login.

Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

Academic Integrity: Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

Classroom Climate of Respect: Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Diversity Statement: "I aim to create a learning environment for my students that support a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honor your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events, could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Family. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to email me. I want to be a resource for you and help you be successful in your educational pursuits!"

Course Expectations:

- Remember that this is an upper level course, therefore, upper level work will be expected which includes proper APA format (7th ed), proper grammar, sentence structure, and organizational structure
- Review the syllabus so that you may be aware of assignments and papers; Email for any clarifications
- Review the feedback provided for all assignments for ways to improve work (I always provide feedback for assignments)
- Read the textbook in order to complete and submit each assessment; although you may also use outside sources, the majority of the information should be obtained from your textbook

- Per Academic Ethics, when you offer a direct quote, or use information from a source and paraphrase the material, it must be cited and referenced per APA format (7th ed)
- Review any announcements for significant information

Proposed Class Schedule

Week 1 (Aug 23)	Review Syllabus; Order book; Introduce Yourself per DB
Week 2 (Aug 30)	Review Chapter 1; DB 1
Week 3 (Sept 6)	Review Chapters 2 & 3; DB 2
Week 4 (Sept 13)	Review Chapter 4; DB 3
Week 5 (Sept 20)	Review Chapter 5; DB 4
Week 6 (Sept 27)	Review Chapters 7 & 10; DB 5
Week 7 (Oct 4)	Research paper overview and literature review
Week 8 (Oct 11)	Review Chapters 8 & 9; DB 6
Week 9 (Oct 18)	Review Chapters 11 & 12; DB 7
Week 10 (Oct 25)	Research Paper
Week 11 (Nov 1)	Review Chapter 14; DB 8
Week 12 (Nov 8)	Review Chapter 15; DB 9
Week 13 (Nov 15)	Review Chapter 16; DB 10
Week 14 (Nov 22)	Review Chapter 17
Week 15 (Nov 29)	Review Chapter 17; DB Conclusion

Assignment Due Dates

Reading Reflection Paper 1	Sept 12
Topic for paper	Sept 18
Reading Reflection Paper 2	Oct 3
Overview/Lit Review	Oct 10
Reading Reflection Paper 3	Oct 24
Research Paper	Oct 31
Reading Reflection Paper 4	Nov 7
Article Review	Nov 20
Reading Reflection Paper 5	Dec 3
Social Media paper	Dec 5

Reading Reflection Paper Writing Assignment Guidelines

A reflection paper is a personal reflection and reaction to the specific issues and questions raised per selected readings from the textbook. Please respond to the questions and include your own personal thoughts/insights related to the issues. These opinions can be based on personal knowledge, training, or experience. You must incorporate related information from at least one outside scholarly journal or article in addition to your textbook.

Your essay must be a minimum of **two** pages of content, and it should be formatted in APA style. It should include a title page, internal citations, and a reference page per APA format. At least **two scholarly sources** should be used (our textbook can be one of the two sources required; the other must be academic in nature – no WIKIPEDIA, ENCYCLOPEDIA, or any –PEDIA). Paper should be typed, double spaced, using 11-12 Times New Roman Font.

Research Paper Overview and Literature Review

The research paper for this class can cover any of the issues/subjects covered in sections 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 15 in the textbook that is relevant to the field of corrections.

For this assignment, you will submit part I of your research paper ONLY. This will include an overview of your selected topic and review of sources. Offer an overview of your topic, along with an evaluation of **four (4)** scholarly sources as the literature review, to include a description of the source, main points, and its importance to your paper. **Each source evaluation should be offered in its own paragraph.** Also, only use academic sources; refrain from sources such as Wikipedia, Encyclopedia, etc...

This overview/Literature review should be at least **two (2) pages** in length, not counting title and reference page. Include **headings of Overview and Literature Review.** Your paper must be in correct APA format, include a title page, reference page, and internal citations. Paper should be typed, double spaced, using 11-12 Times New Roman Font.

Final Research Paper

For the final paper, include the information from the overview and literature review.

Add the following information: discussion of the issue/ topic (this can include definitions, background, and case laws), examples, current status and research into this problem, relevance/impact of topic, possible solutions if appropriate, and your opinions. Paper **MUST INCLUDE Headings** as follows: overview; literature review; history/background; examples; status and/or research; impact to the field of corrections; recommendations/opinions – depending on the topic.

Remember that no more than 10-15% percent of a paper should be direct citations. You may not re-use a paper that you have previously submitted in another course. Also, only use academic sources; refrain from sources such as Wikipedia, Encyclopedia, etc...

The paper should be APA format, to include a title page, internal citations, and reference page. Total content of the paper should be at least 6-7 pages, to include the overview and literature review, but not to include the title or reference page. At least **two (2) additional** sources should be included in addition to the original four from the literature review, for a total of at least **six** sources for the entire paper. The paper should be typed, double-spaced, 11-12 Times New Roman Font.

Reading Reflection Papers: For these papers, please select **ONE** of the choices to review and report on in an essay. Your essay must be a minimum of **two** pages of content, and it should be formatted in APA style. It should include a title page, internal citations, and a reference page per APA format. At least **TWO scholarly sources** should be used, one of which can be your textbook.

(1) Reading Reflection Paper – Select **one** of the following readings and respond to the corresponding questions.

(A) Reading 2 (pg. 39)-- Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) What is the rehabilitative ideal according to the author? Do you agree or disagree with this ideal? Explain.
- (2) How do you think bio-criminology theories/explanations for crimes work against the rehabilitative ideal? Offer examples.

(B) Reading 4 (pg. 92)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) How do the factors of race, class, and gender affection or influence correctional operations today?
- (2) Per female inmates, what are some of the differences in their treatment while incarcerated when compared to male inmates – historically and today?

(2) Reading Reflection Paper – Select **one** of the following readings and respond to the corresponding questions.

(A) Reading 7 (pg. 163)-- Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) What impact have the disparate penalties for crack and powder cocaine had on the criminal justice system?
- (2) Are the penalties for crimes involving crack and powder cocaine the same or different in your jurisdiction? What are the differences or similarities?
- (3) In your own opinion, what are some reasons for such differences in penalties for these two types of crimes, both involving some form of cocaine?

(B) Reading 12 (pg. 252)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) According to this article, how can social distance reduce recidivism? Do you agree or not – explain your opinion.
- (2) Do you feel that the public’s perception of sex offenders affect how their probation officers treat them? Explain.
- (3) Much research indicates that there is no “cure” for sex offenders. What are your thoughts on this and do you feel sex offenders should receive a life without parole penalty? Explain your opinions.

(C) Reading 17 (pg. 374) – Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) According to this study, what factors have the greatest impact to recidivism? Do you agree or not? Explain.
- (2) Do you think that gender has an impact on recidivism? Explain your opinion.
- (3) In your opinion, what type of program(s) do you feel would reduce the likelihood of inmates returning to prison (generically or specifically; male or female)

(3) Reading Reflection Paper – Select **one** of the following readings and respond to the corresponding questions.

(A) Reading 13 (pg. 290)-- Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) What background characteristics influenced women’s and men’s odds of misconduct? Do you agree or disagree with the authors’ explanations explaining this finding? Explain.
- (2) Due to the size of the data set used in this study, are you more or less likely to trust the findings? Explain.

(B) Reading 15 (pg. 332)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) According to this study, what are the primary causes of role stress? Why do you think these factors would cause role stress?
- (2) If you were a prison administrator using the findings from this study, what/how would you improve the work environment to help reduce role stress among your correctional staff?

(C) Reading 19 (pg. 417)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) Why do you think that programs for incarcerated mothers and their children have received little scholarly attention?
- (2) What are your thoughts on allowing female inmates, who give birth while incarcerated, the ability to keep her baby inside the prison with her (in a separate area of the institution – such as a nursery/private room) for the first 6 months of life? What about for the first year of life? Pros? Cons?

(4) Reading Reflection Paper – Select **one** of the following readings and respond to the corresponding questions.

(A) Reading 21 (pg. 455)-- Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) Why is it unconstitutional to racially segregate inmates if doing so would make prisons a safer place for both inmates and staff?
- (2) What impact would the requirement that states desegregate their prisons have on corrections in your state?

(B) Reading 26 (pg. 546)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) What are some of the unique issues that transgender inmates present for corrections staff?
- (2) In what areas are state guidelines lacking in regard to transgender inmates?
- (3) In your opinion, how should inmates be incarcerated – according to their birth gender or their gender identity -- if no sexual reassignment surgeries have been performed? Explain your thoughts.

(5) Reading Reflection Paper – Select **one** of the following readings and respond to the corresponding questions.

(A) Reading 30 (pg. 632)-- Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) What constitutional issues are raised by executions, including but not limited to those conducted by lethal injection that result in unintended pain for the person being executed?
- (2) If executions cannot be conducted without causing pain to the person being executed, should they be stopped? Why or why not?

(B) Reading 32 (pg. 674)—Review this article and respond to the following questions:

- (1) Per the article, what are some causes of the increase in mass incarceration in the US during the latter part of the 20th century? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
- (2) What are your thoughts on the issue of decarceration? Should we begin abolishing correctional facilities? Explain.

(5) Article Review (This CANNOT be a Wikipedia, encyclopedia, murderpedia source.)

Locate a recent article (3 years) regarding one of the following correctional issue:

- (A) Mass Incarceration
- (B) Decarceration (abolishment of correctional facilities)
- (C) Privatization of prisons
- (D) Early release due to COVID-19

Read, review, and summarize this article. Address the following questions:

1. Summarize the main points of the article.
2. What is the specific goal of the article?
3. What problem does this article address, as well as the change/solution offered?
4. Do you agree with the solution/recommendation of the issue presented? Why or why not?
5. Per the changes/reforms/issues offered, in your opinion, how would the public be impacted?

This paper should be at least two pages in length (does not include references), maximum 12- point font, 1-inch margins, include your name, and utilize proper 7th edition APA citation format. You only need to cite the article internally and on the reference page.

(6) Social Media Video Review

Locate a recent (last 3 years) video (YouTube, agency/program web sites) providing information on prisoner reentry program(s). Watch the video and address the following questions:

1. What agency/program did you view? (Include the link/web address)
2. What was the goal/mission of this program?
3. What are the requirements/guidelines of the program? Who and how are services offered?
4. Do you feel this program would work in your community? Why or why not?
5. Do you feel this program is effective for rehabilitating inmates and reducing recidivism?

Explain your thoughts.

This paper should be at least two pages in length (does not include references), maximum 12- point font, 1-inch margins, include your name, and utilize proper 7th edition APA citation format. You only need to cite the web page internally and on the reference page.

****Syllabus is subject to change****