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SOCI 423.01: Sociology of Corrections

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SOCIOLOGY OF CORRECTIONS (Sociology 423- 3 credits)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Telephone: 243-5281 (Sociology Department Office)
e-mail: Keith.pereira@mso.umt.edu
Office Hours: Contact via Moodle email and set up appointment

REQUIRED BOOK:

Cullen, Francis T. and Cheryl Lero Jonson. 2012. *Correctional Theory: Context and Consequences*. Los Angeles: Sage
Clear, Todd R.; Reisig, Michael D.; Petrosino, Carolyn; Cole, George F. 2015 *American Corrections in Brief*. Cengage Learning

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will examine the philosophies, purposes, structures, and procedures of penal sanctioning and the institutional systems of corrections, including community-based programs, probation, prisons, and parole. Such examination promotes understanding of historical development and current trends and issues.
2. Student learning will move beyond description to the analysis of the major assumptions, issues, dilemmas, and problems of corrections. Learning will be measured through student performance on chapter quizzes, discussion boards and unit tests.
3. Students will develop writing skills as measured through weekly discussion boards and unit papers. Writing skills include organization, development, and writing style (clarity, grammar, mechanics, and punctuation).

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Attendance and class participation:** Class participation and attendance is calculated by participation in weekly discussion board threads. In order to obtain credit for the course, you must participate in and submit at least 85% of the discussion boards for this particular course. For this 16 week course this means if you miss more than 2 weekly discussion board threads you cannot receive credit. Submitting an assignment after the deadline does NOT give you credit. If during the semester there is an unavoidable conflict with meeting these mandates please contact me immediately to discuss possible withdrawal options. When the observance of a student's religious holiday(s) interferes with class work assignments, examinations, or class activities, the student must notify the instructor in writing within the first week of class. Students are held responsible for material covered during their absence and are expected to meet the class requirements for those days without undue delay. This is an upper level SOCIOLOGY class, if you want points engage and contribute in the course.
2. **Assigned readings:** You should start each scheduled week having read the assigned readings. The reading assignments are indicated clearly on the class schedule. Reading the assignments before you take the chapter quiz and post in the Discussion Board will allow you to more fully understand the material.
3. **Moodle:** You will be required to access and utilize Moodle for the course and check course Announcements weekly. Important course notices will be posted in Moodle. In Moodle under there is a **Course Resources Module** which contains: Syllabus, Class Schedule. Each weekly module consist of at least: 1) Lesson Objectives that outline the key concepts you should understand within the chapter 2) Chapter Discussion Board (DB) thread on an assignment such as a reading, video viewing, or some other project. 3) Chapter PowerPoints- to help you understand key topics within each chapter. 4) Chapter Quizzes . There is also a **Course Writing Resources Folder** which contains specific instructions on the writing assignments and model papers, discussion board guidelines, APA Reference/citation guide other helpful documents. There is also a drop box where you will deposit your writings assignment. Utilize the email link within the MOODLE course to communicate with me if you have a question about the course or other concerns. I will get back to you as soon as possible: within 24

hours during the week and 48 hours during the weekend. Technical assistance can be accessed using this link [UM online Tech support](#)

4. **Weekly Quizzes:** In Moodle there is a weekly online quiz for the readings of that week; these are open book, 20 question quizzes that have a 30-minute time limit. The quiz will be automatically submitted when the time expires. There is no study guide for the quizzes; if you read the assignments in earnest you will be able to answer the questions. All quizzes will be open to take at the start of the semester and will close on the last day of that week – as outlined in the class schedule. If you feel your answer to a quiz questions was incorrectly marked wrong, take a screen shot of the result that shows your response marked wrong and tell me exactly where in the book that answer is (page number and paragraph). Don't tell me "question 3 from chapter 5 quiz" as questions are randomly drawn and mixed up for each quiz. Email me that request and I will review your request and make a determination of awarding you credit. There is also Syllabus quiz and a Writing guidelines/Discussion Board quiz which is a 20 question test with no time limit. The quizzes will open on the first day scheduled for that week's topic and close on the last day scheduled for that week's topic; usually 7 days. See Moodle and class schedule for opening and closing of weekly topics. All Quizzes close at 11:59pm. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.
5. **Writing Assignments:** Your writing assignments consist of your Discussion Boards and your 5 unit exams. Each unit exam will be a response paper based on questions from that unit. You will also participate and write in weekly graded discussion boards (DB's) throughout the semester. These discussion boards are 10 points each. Please follow the DB guidelines outlined in the Course Writing Folder and ensure each DB is deposited by the end of the assigned week. No make-ups are accepted
6. **Discussion Boards:** You will be required to make submissions into the Discussion Board (DB) on a weekly basis. The assignment will open on Monday of that week and you will have until next Sunday at 11:59pm to complete the assignment (like the quiz schedule). If the assignment requires a response to another students to submission, your initial submission should be submitted before Friday 11:59pm in order to allow time for critical thought and response commentary from other students before the assignment closes on Sunday. Each discussion board assignment is worth 10 points. The Discussion Board is a vital part of communication in this course. If all participants follow a few principles of civility and professionalism, the discussion board will be a great opportunity to express opinions, share ideas, and receive feedback from the instructor and peers who are engaged in the same learning objectives. I expect college level thinking and responses to the questions...not 1 sentence responses; critically examine the issue at hand and fully explain your answers (See Discussion Board Guidelines in the Course Writing Guidelines folder for specifics)
7. **Exams:** There are 5 Exams. Each exam will consist of a written paper that answers questions about that unit's main themes. Questions will be based on the readings, power points, quizzes and discussion boards from each unit. The final exam given during finals week will be Unit V exam and test only material covered in Unit V. All exams are worth 50 points each.
8. **Grades :** Your grade for the course will be based on the total number of points earned throughout the semester. There are 550 total points possible: 250 points from exams (5 unit exams 50 pts ea), 160 quiz points (14 weekly quizzes ; syllabus and writing guidelines quiz 10 pts each); 140 discussion board points (14 weekly DB's 10 pts each) Your grade will be calculated on a straight percentage basis, using pluses and minuses.

> 495 pts = A 494 - 440 pts = B 439 - 385 pts = C 384 - 330 pts = D < 300 pts = F

9. **Academic Misconduct:** Students must practice academic honesty which includes conduct aimed at making false representations with respect to a student's academic performance. Examples of academic dishonesty include cheating, plagiarism, collaborating with others if contrary to the assignment rules, and presenting another person's words, ideas, works as your own. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. If it is determined that persons other than the student are completing a student's work in the Moodle classroom, the student will be removed from the class and receive a final grade of "F." While students may have provided written consent for a third party to receive information regarding their educational records, that consent does not permit any other person besides the student to complete or access coursework within the classroom or online setting. For more information on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), please navigate to the College's FERPA page. " What else is considered "academic misconduct"? What are the consequences? See the Student Conduct Code: http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

10. **Intent to Accommodate Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. ‘Reasonable’ means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications.” For more information, visit the Disability Services for Students (<http://www.umt.edu/dss>) and contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243.