Criminal Justice (CJA) 2133 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 Units) CSU
[formerly Criminal Justice Administration 33]

Advisory: Eligibility for English 1500 strongly recommended

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Catalog Description: This course provides students with an awareness of the historical framework, concepts, and precedents that guide correctional practice. Course material will broaden the individual's perspective of the corrections environment, the civil rights of prisoners and responsibilities and liabilities of correctional officials.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. Understand the responsibilities and liabilities applicable to corrections,
2. Improve decision making abilities in the job environment,
3. Understand the reasoning of the court mandates behind the management of confinement, and
4. Analyze the legal framework within which the incarceration process operates on a daily basis.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I Sources of corrections law
A. An introduction to the law and to the legal aspects of corrections management
B. Corrections and the criminal justice system
C. Habeas, torts, and section 1983
D. Going to court

Unit II Constitutional law of corrections
A. A general view of prisoners’ rights under the constitution
B. Access to courts
C. First amendment: inmate mail
D. First amendment: inmate association rights and visiting
E. First amendment: religion
F. Fourth amendment: search and seizure, and privacy
G. Fifth and fourteenth amendments: due process—-inmate discipline
H. Fifth and fourteenth amendments: due process—classification, transfers, personal injuries, and property loss
I. Fourteenth amendment: equal protection—female offenders and others
J. Eighth amendment: the death penalty and other sentencing issues
K. Eighth amendment: conditions of confinement—cruel and unusual punishment
L. Eighth amendment: health care
M. Probation and parole, community corrections, and fines

Unit III Statutory and administrative law, jails, juveniles, privatization, and other special issues in corrections
A. Statutory and administrative law
B. Federal statutes: equal employment, disabilities, and tort claims
C. jails
D. Juveniles and young offenders
E. Privatization issues in corrections
F. Loss of rights of convicted persons

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Studying Textbook(s)  
2. Completing required reading including case studies  
3. Completing required written exercises  
4. Library research  
5. Special projects/Internet Research

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lectures  
2. Class discussions  
3. Audio/visual presentations /Research and study materials  
4. Scenarios

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Writing assignments  
2. Exam essays  
3. Final exam
4. Skill demonstrations

Supplemental Data:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOP Code:</td>
<td>210510: Corrections</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAM Priority Code:</td>
<td>C: Clearly Occupational</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distance Education:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Agency:</td>
<td>Y: Not Applicable (funds not used)</td>
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<td>Program Status:</td>
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<td>Noncredit Category:</td>
<td>Y: Not Applicable, Credit Course</td>
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<td>Basic Skills Status:</td>
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<td>Prior to College Level:</td>
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<td>Cooperative Work Experience:</td>
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