



AJ 121: INTRODUCTION TO CORRECTIONS

Proposer:

Name:	Email:
Sidney Hammond	sidneyh@cos.edu

Effective Term:

Fall 2025

Credit Status:

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject:

AJ - Administration of Justice

Course Number:

121

Discipline:

And/Or	(Discipline)
		Administration of Justice (Police science, corrections, law enforcement)	

Catalog Title

Introduction to Corrections

Catalog Description

This course provides a history of and critical analysis of punishment, the various types of punishment, alternatives to punishment, and the impact of punishment on the Criminal Justice System, corrections, a critical examination of the types of correctional institutions and the clients housed in each institution, and an examination of contemporary correctional issues.

Prerequisites

AJ 011 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C

Validation
Validation Type

Sequential - Same Discipline

Course

AJ 11

Complete the Prerequisite/Corequisite Objectives and provide sound quantitative research to document the need for the requisite.

Advisory on Recommended Preparation:

ENGL 261 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C or eligibility for ENGL 001 as determined by COS Placement Procedures

Method of Instruction:

Distance Education
Lecture and/or Discussion

Course Units/Hours:
Course Units Minimum:

3

**Lecture Hours Minimum (week)**

3

Lab Hours Minimum (week)

0

Activity Hours Minimum (week)

0

Total Contact Hours Minimum (semester)

52.5

Total Outside Hours Minimum (semester)

105

Total Student Learning Minimum Hours (semester)

157.5

Repeatability:

No

Open Entry/Exit:

No

Field Trips:

Not Required

Grade Mode:

Standard Letter

TOP Code:

210510 - * Corrections

SAM Code:

C - Clearly Occupational

Course Content**Methods of Assessment:**

Essay quizzes or exams
 Multiple choice tests
 Oral presentations
 Problem solving assignments or activities
 Problem solving quizzes or exams
 Short answer quizzes or exams
 Written essays or extended papers

Course Topics:

Course Topics	
1	Concept of Corrections as a Sub-system of the Criminal Justice System
2	Corrections as a Career Choice
3	Special Populations: Federal, State, and Local Levels
4	Innovative Programs: Federal, State and Local Levels
5	Institutionalization: Federal, State, and Local Levels
6	Types of Correctional Facilities: Federal, State, and Local
7	Alternatives to Incarceration: Probation or Parole and Treatment Facilities

8	Correctional Clients: Career Criminal, Criminal Gang Member, Accidental Criminal, and Elderly Criminal
9	Judicial Processes and Sentencing Practices

Course Objectives:

Course Objectives	
1	Identify the innovative programs designed for specific correctional institutions and describe their impact on the correction's client and society at large.
2	Identify and describe the evolving philosophy of punishment within the corrections sub-system of the criminal justice system.
3	Identify the alternatives to punishment and describe their impact on the criminal justice system and society at large.
4	Identify and differentiate clients in each of the types of correctional institutions, the issues and challenges each type of client presents to a correctional institution.

Course Outcomes:

Course Outcomes	
1	Define the purpose and goals of the correctional system in the United States
2	Define and explain the role of jails, prisons, and community corrections in the United States
3	Identify the clients in each of the types of correctional institutions, the issues and challenges each type of client presents to the correctional institution.
4	Identify the innovative programs designed for specific correctional institutions and describe their impact on the correction's client and society at large.
5	Students will analyze the issue of capital punishment in the United States and be able to debate the pros and cons

Assignments:

Assignment Type:	Details
Reading	Each week students will read an assigned chapter in the textbook and additional material related to the issue. Their thinking about the issue will be information by their reading and they will ultimately be assessed in an exam or essay.
Writing	Students will write 1,000 words either in one or two papers, using APA style, on a correctional issue, analyzing and explaining the issue. Papers will include accurate citations, spelling and grammar.
Homework	For a typical homework assignment students will read a chapter in the assigned textbook then answer essay, fill in the blank and multiple choice questions.

Textbooks or other support materials

Resource Type:	Details
Books	Corrections: An Introduction Seiter, Richard P. Pearson/ Prentice Hall 5th edition (2017) 978-0134164113
Books	Corrections: An Introduction Seiter, Richard P. Pearson/ Prentice Hall 6th edition 2020: 9780137540990

Equity Review:

Yes

Transferable to CSU

Yes - Approved

CSU General Education

Transferable to CSU

This course will also be proposed for UC transfer.

No

Other Degree Attributes

Degree Applicable



Not a Basic Skills Course

Distance Learning Addendum

121 DLA fall 2024.pdf

Banner Title:

Introduction to Corrections

Curriculum Committee Approval Date:

10/02/2024

Academic Senate Approval Date:

10/09/2024

District Governing Board Approval Date:

10/14/2024

Course Control Number:

CCC000182313

C-ID:

AJ200