

Technical College of the Lowcountry  
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**CRJ 242**  
**CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS**

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to aspects of the correctional function in criminal justice, including organization, process, procedure, and clients incarcerated and on conditional release.

Prerequisite: CRJ 101, RDG 100. 3 Cr (3 lect/pres, 0 lab, 0 other)

**Course Focus**

The student will be introduced to the functions and responsibilities of the correctional system.

**Text and References**

**Corrections** Plus New MyCJLab with Pearson eText – Access Card package. Leanne F. Alarid & Philip L. Reichel. ISBN: 10:0133024393

**Course Goals**

The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives.

1. Describe how corrections is part of the larger criminal justice system
2. Compare and contrast diversion and post sentencing options
3. Compare and contrast institutional and community-based corrections
4. Identify the key reasons for the rise in incarceration rates
5. Characterize the meaning of evidence-based practices
6. Name and describe the five primary punishment philosophies
7. Summarize the three key elements for effective deterrence.
8. Explain the key ways in which retribution differs from revenge
9. Describe restorative justice
10. Understand the history of corrections
11. Compare types of sentences
12. List three techniques used to reduce the length of a sentence
13. Explain how public opinion influences sentencing
14. Provide examples of evidence-based sentencing
15. Discuss community corrections
16. Elaborate on two types of pretrial release
17. Distinguish jails from prisons

18. Outline the development and organization of the prison system
19. Explain how prisoners are classified
20. Identify prison jobs and functions
21. Discuss private prisons
22. Describe characteristics of prisoners
23. Discuss inmates impact on economics
24. Summarize forms of violence in prisons/jails
25. Summarize treatment programs
26. Summarize the issues regarding sex offenders
27. Identify alternatives for pregnant mothers
28. Outline issues of aging and terminally ill prisoners
29. Discuss the reentry process
30. Contrast educational and vocational programs to recidivism
31. Explain the history of parole
32. List prisoners' rights
33. Identify inmate lawsuits
34. Describe how inmate litigation is limited
35. Outline history of capital punishment
36. Recap the characteristics of death-row prisoners
37. Debate pros and cons of death penalty
38. Outline the juvenile justice system
39. Explain age and offenses in the juvenile system
40. Describe juvenile court process
41. List steps for transferring juvenile offenders to adult court
42. Discuss community-based programs for juveniles
43. Describe residential facilities
44. Review issues in juvenile corrections

### **Student Contributions**

Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class. There will be a midterm examination, and a final examination. Each student will provide one research paper and complete all assignments in the Lab. The syllabus is subject to change. All changes will be discussed and students will be accountable for such changes.

### **Course Evaluation**

Your performance objective and exams will be translated to points and the points to grades. There are 100 possible points and grades will be earned as follows:

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69

### **Tests and Quizzes**

The midterm examination is a comprehensive examination from the chapters 1-6 and consists of 50 multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in the blank, and essay questions. It is valued at 20% of the final grade.

The final examination is a comprehensive examination from chapters 7-13 and consists of 50 multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in the blank, and essay questions. It is valued at 20% of the final grade.

**MyCJ Lab**

Each student is required to complete pretest, simulation, and posttest for each chapter. Pretest, simulation, and classroom lecture must be completed prior to taking the post test. Lab is valued at 40% of the final grade.

**Research**

Each student will provide a five page information paper comparing and contrasting a movie (identified by the instructor) and theories from the course. Paper must be in APA format. The research is valued at 20% of the final grade.

## **ADA STATEMENT**

The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

## **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student's responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the *TCL Student Handbook*, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.

## **ATTENDANCE**

The College's statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

- Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Students taking an online/internet class must sign in **and** communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.

■ In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student's responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.

■ When a student exceeds the allowed absences, the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdraw the student with a grade of "W", "WP", or "WF" depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student's progress up to the last date of attendance

*or*

under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.

- Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.
- A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
- A copy of TCL's **STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL)** is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

## **HAZARDOUS WEATHER**

In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVH 101.1, WSOK 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTOC TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. [www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp](http://www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp)

## **Emergency Text Message Alert**

Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. Participants receive immediate notification of emergency events and weather cancelations via text messaging on their cell phones. Participants can also opt in to receive non-emergency news and announcements. Go to [www.tcl.edu](http://www.tcl.edu). On the homepage, click on “emergency TextAlert at TCL” and fill out the form or go to [www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp](http://www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp)