

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT  
EL PASO  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

**DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**Course #:** **CJ 2313:** Correctional Systems and Practices (3-0) Focuses on a tracing of the evolution and philosophical underpinnings of institutional and community-based correctional practices..

**Course Title:** **CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES**

**Course CRN:** 14908

**Term:** FALL 2016

**Course Meeting Time:** Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am – 10:20 pm

**Location:** LART Bldg 319

**Instructor:** Luis A. Arias, BA, JD

**Office Location:** LART Room 116

**Contact Info:** Phone # 915.747.7943  
Larias2@utep.edu  
Fax # 915.747.5751  
Emergency Contact 915.218.8103

**Office Hrs:** 10:30 am – 11:30 pm Tuesday and Thursday

**Textbook(s), Materials:** Hansar, Robert D., Introduction to Corrections. Second Edition. Los Angeles, CA: Sage, 2017. Available at UTEP Bookstores.

**Suggested:** Internet and current news articles

## Course Objectives (Learning Outcomes):

During the course of the class, the students will be able to identify, understand, articulate and apply the following concepts and/or models:

- a. The definition and history of punishment and corrections as community-based and institutional;
- b. The meaning of sentencing and sanctions, to include the following; pre-sentence investigation reports; indeterminate and determinate sentencing; sentencing practices: sentencing guidelines, mandatory sentencing, and aggravating and mitigating circumstances; probation and community supervision; jails and pre-trial release;
- c. The management of prisons and prisoners, including topics such as inmate classification, prison staff, private prisons, prison violence, special correctional populations, and re-entry programs and parole;
- d. The correctional issues and challenges in corrections, to include topics such as, legal issues in corrections, prisoner rights, capital punishment, and juvenile corrections; and,
- e. Current issues and the future of institutional and community-based correctional practices.

## Course Activities/Assignments:

Outside readings, group discussions, oral presentations with PowerPoint, and analytical papers as required by the Professor

## Assessment of Course Objectives:

Students will be required to read course materials assigned by the Professor and complete all individual and group activities as assigned. The course will be divided into a number of clusters or units together with sub-topics, which collectively comprise the subjects. Upon completion of the clusters or units, the student will be able to complete the objectives with a thorough comprehension, explanation, discussion and application thereof. The students will be administered objective and/or subjective examinations during the course of the class in order to assess the students' understanding of the subject matter/course material.

1. Students will be administered five to six written tests to measure their understanding of the course content. The examinations will be administered and proportionally spaced out throughout the semester. Examinations will be graded on the basis of class lectures, group discussions, assigned readings from the textbook(s), and/or outside readings. Written objective and/or subjective (essay) tests are valued at 100 points each. Blue Books are required for essay tests, and a scantron is required for each objective test. It is the students' responsibility to purchase both items.

2. Any student who has an "A" average going into the final examination will not be required to sit for the final examination and will receive an "A" for the course.

3. At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to submit a

research and/or analysis paper(s). The instructor will provide report requirements during the course of the class. Deductions will be made for each error: not following directions, proofreading, formatting, typographical problems including incorrect text, etc. A percentage grade will be assigned.

**Grading Policy:** All grading is at the professor's discretion and based on traditional academic guidelines:

90- Above - A  
80- 89 - B  
70-79 - C  
60 - 69 - D  
59 – Below- F

- All class assignments are due when scheduled
- Late submissions will result in grade reduction.
- All written assignments must be submitted in APA format and/or as directed by the Professor without exception.
- Any approved rewrites must be accompanied with the original document.
- There will be five to six class examinations, see supra.
- Students will be tested over all assigned textbook (s) reading assignments, outside reading assignments, class lectures, and/or group assignments.
- All examinations must be taken on the date and time scheduled. There are no make-up examinations, and the student will receive a score of "0" for any missed examinations.

**Attendance Policy:** Class and examination attendance is mandatory.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Reference UTEP's policy cited in <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785>

**Civility Statement:**

The Professor will endeavor to provide a classroom environment appropriate for academic knowledge, discourse, and debate. For this to occur, each and every student must be prepared with all the reading assignments and participate actively in class. We will respect what others have to say and avoid insults, interruptions and disrespect. We will avoid becoming politically charged when discussing sensitive topics.

Cell Phones will be turned off or set to vibrate during class. As a matter of courtesy and classroom policy, students must leave the classroom when accepting incoming calls.

Laptop and recording devices are permitted in classroom to facilitate note taking. No other computer use is approved during class time, to include, emailing and game playing. Using a laptop in the classroom is a privilege, which can be revoked by the instructor. The use of the aforementioned (cell phones and laptops) is NOT permitted during examinations. Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom during examinations.

**Disability Statement:**

If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DSS accommodation letters and instructions.

**Military Statement:** If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact Professor Arias immediately.

**Course Schedule:**

**Course Calendar/Assignments Fall 2016**

<b>Week One:</b>	<b>Aug 23 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Introduction; What is Justice; Critical Consciousness/Thinking; Pre-Test; Roundtable Discourse; Chapter 1</b>
<b>Week Two:</b>	<b>Aug 30 Sep 1</b>	<b>Chapters 2 an 3</b>
<b>Week Three:</b>	<b>Sep 6 &amp; 8</b>	<b>Chapter 3; Unit I Test</b>
<b>Week Four:</b>	<b>Sep 13 &amp; 15</b>	<b>Chapter 4</b>
<b>Week Five:</b>	<b>Sep 20 &amp; 22</b>	<b>Chapter 5</b>
<b>Week Six:</b>	<b>Sep 27 &amp; 29</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b>
<b>Week Seven:</b>	<b>Oct 4 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Chapter 6; Unit II Test</b>
<b>Week Eight</b>	<b>Oct 11 &amp; 13</b>	<b>Chapter 7</b>
<b>Week Nine:</b>	<b>Oct 18 &amp; 20</b>	<b>Chapter 8</b>
<b>Week Ten:</b>	<b>Oct 25 &amp; 27</b>	<b>Chapter 9</b>
<b>Week Eleven:</b>	<b>Nov 1 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Chapter 10</b>
<b>Week Twelve:</b>	<b>Nov 8 &amp; 10</b>	<b>Chapter 10; Unit III Test</b>
<b>Week Thirteen:</b>	<b>Nov 15 &amp; 17</b>	<b>Chapter 11</b>
<b>Week Fourteen:</b>	<b>Nov 22 &amp; 24</b>	<b>Chapter 12; Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
<b>Week Fifteen :</b>	<b>Nov 29 &amp; Dec 1</b>	<b>Chapter 13; Unit IV Test; Review</b>
<b>Week Sixteen:</b>	<b>Dec 6 12:45pm</b>	<b>Final Exam: Dec 6, 2016 @ 10:00 am -</b>