

**CRIJ 2313 Corrections Systems and Practices**  
**Spring 2020 (CRN# 26890)**  
**8-week ONLINE: January 21 to March 13, 2020**

**Professor:** Dr. Leanne Alarid, Department of Criminal Justice

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**Landline Phone: 915-747-7087** This landline number cannot receive texts- if there is no answer, leave a voice message with your name, student ID, call back telephone number, and specific question—*your call will be returned Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm*

**CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A tracing of the evolution and the philosophical underpinnings of institutional and community-based correctional practices.

**ONLINE COURSE OVERVIEW**

Distance education provides students with flexibility to work and study at times that fit each person's schedule during the day or night, and not have to attend class F2F. However, all students must still meet weekly course deadlines, be engaged online 3-4 times EVERY WEEK so that they complete the readings, the discussion questions, respond to their peers in a timely fashion, and take weekly exams in a timely fashion.

This 8-week course consists of 8 modules that open and close on specific dates listed on p. 6 below. All modules will **open/post in Blackboard on Monday, January 20 at 12:30 am** Mountain time (all times posted are on Mountain time zone), and each **module will close/disappear one at a time in numerical order every Friday evening at 11:59 pm**. You may work ahead if you'd like, but if you get behind or miss some components before it closes, you will NOT be able to go back and finish later/make up the discussion questions, module content, or tests. This course is fast-paced. We cover two chapters per week, except for Weeks 1 and 8 where only one chapter is covered.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

1. Understand the history and philosophy behind the corrections system.
2. Explain what jail/prison is like and the challenges prisoners face while incarcerated.
3. Identify various post-sentencing, treatment, and correctional supervision options.
4. Become knowledgeable about correctional topics such as the death penalty, juveniles, legal issues in prison conditions, and release from prison.

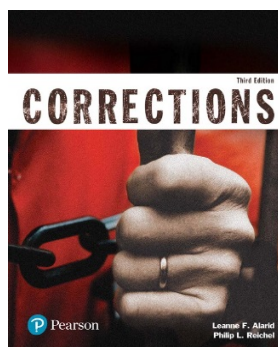
**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Alarid, Leanne F. and Philip L. Reichel (2018). *Corrections*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Boston: Pearson.

Print copy and digital e-text are identical

To order:

<http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/corrections-justice-series-9780134548678?xid=PSED>



## Details of Course Requirements

### **I. WEEKLY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (DQ)- See pp. 7-9 for due dates and times**

There are a total of 14 sets of discussion questions—one per chapter. Each discussion question set is composed of 2 posts and each set of DQ's (A and B together) are worth 10 points:

**A) One Original 300-word minimum post in response to the instructor's initial question(s)- 8 points**

Your own post must answer the instructor's question(s) posted on the Blackboard Discussion Board page with a 300-word minimum response (no maximum), being sure to back up your opinion with something you learned from the textbook. **You must cite a page number from the textbook at least once per original response, either by stating a fact found in the textbook or a viewpoint in the book that is similar to or different from your own opinion. Use APA format to cite the textbook: (Alarid & Reichel, 2018, p. 23)-- (Author's last names, year, and page number)..** More information on APA format can be found online by visiting: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/08/>

You will be able to view other student's posts once you first complete your own original post.

**B) At least one Reaction post to another student's post- 2 points**

The reaction post must be a minimum of 100 words, but has no maximum word count where students are expected to explain why you may agree or disagree with another person's ideas/response—no points will be given for pasting the same words from your original response. Citations are not required for reaction posts, unless you are making a factual point that differs or is in opposition to the other student's original post.

Standards for all Discussion Posts (Original and Reaction):

1. Respect your fellow students even if your views differ from theirs
2. Stick to the idea and do not verbally attack the individual. Disrespectful and/or inappropriate responses will receive no points.
3. All posts may be made earlier than the deadline.
4. You are free to respond to more than one post if you'd like, but additional points will not be given for extra posts.
5. Discussion Posts made after the deadline will earn -0- points.

Discussion Question posts will be graded based on response quality, and that an in-text citation is provided for each original response. Please use complete sentences in English, and proper spelling and grammar. Avoid text message language and casual speech. All posts (both original and reaction) in the discussion board should contribute in at least one of the following ways:

- Integrate various main ideas from the book
- Thoughtfully describe what the concept and/or issues mean to you
- Synthesize ideas from multiple posts
- Agree and Elaborate in more detail on a viewpoint
- Disagree, and create a new perspective or ask a new question
- Evaluate/Analyze the reasonableness or quality of ideas
- Identify hidden assumptions, fallacies, or things taken for granted
- Apply the principles or concepts from the book to your own or someone's else's life

## II. **TIMED ONLINE EXAMS**

- There are six exams, worth 50 points each (SEE schedule for exam dates and times)
- The first 5 exams **open/post Fridays at 12:30 am and close by Monday at 11:59 pm**
- All exams will be timed at 65 minutes from the time the exam is started.
- Exams will be structured with 50 multiple choice questions.
- Log in using your UTEP name and password and never as a “guest” (“guest” sessions end automatically after 15-20 minutes, and your test gets submitted—you can’t go back in and finish).
- Exams are open book, and students can use class materials (book, notes, power points, etc.) to aid in completing the exam.
- However, the exam must be taken alone. You may not collaborate with any person (fellow student or other person) when taking the test. Test collaboration is considered a form of academic dishonesty/cheating.

### **Figuring Your Grade at the Semester’s End:**

The letter grade for the class is determined by the number of points you accumulate during the semester, so every point counts. Your points will be recorded in the “My grades” section of Blackboard. Every assignment a grade **will be recorded by the point values**—not percentages. If you want to know what the point value means on an individual assignment, divide your score into the total number possible for that assignment. So, for example, if you score a “36” on Test 1,  $36 \text{ divided by } 50 = 72\%$  or a “C”. Each point value will be added together at the very end.

	<u>My Points</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
Exam #1	_____	50 Points
Exam #2	_____	50 Points
Exam #3	_____	50 Points
Exam #4	_____	50 Points
Exam #5	_____	50 Points
Exam #6	_____	50 Points
Syllabi Quiz/Introduce Yourself	_____	10 Points
14 Discussion Question Sets	_____	140 Points
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MY TOTAL:	_____	450 points total

Simply add up the number of points *you earn* for every exam and discussion questions and then refer to the final grading scale below

### **GRADING SCALE AT THE END: 450 points possible**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total Point Range</u>
A	405-450
B	360-404
C	315-359
D	270-314
F	0 – 269

**NOTE: Grades are assigned according to the total points earned; there is no rounding or curving or moving a person to the next letter grade if they are one point away.**

## Technology Policies

### **TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS/QUESTIONS**

For all technological, hardware, software problems, lost files, and/or questions with Blackboard, as well as difficulties you are having during an exam, contact **Technology Support Help Desk 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**. Tech support is set up to specifically address technical questions and problems about Blackboard. Professors are not technical support staff.

Phone: 915.747.4357 or toll free: 1-877-382-0491

E-mail: [helpdesk@utep.edu](mailto:helpdesk@utep.edu)

Website: <http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=74092>

In Person: UTEP Library, Room 300

### **Check Your Technology**

1. Computer with a reliable internet connection

Mobile devices are *not* reliable to take exams or to use the discussion board.

2. Blackboard (BB) Learning Management System

The entire course is run through UTEP's BB system, so students must activate and use their BB accounts regularly. Always log in using your UTEP name and password, and never as a "guest". (the guest option will kick you out after 15-20 minutes, which is problematic when taking a test because you will not be able to finish your test). All students are responsible for regularly logging in and checking for posted announcements, submitting assignments, participating in discussion boards, and taking tests through BB. Contact UTEP tech support for any questions or concerns regarding navigating in BB or learning how to do something in BB.

3. Browser Information (*See the left side of the menu on the main BB page for hardware, software, and browser checks*)

**Firefox** seems to consistently work the best, but other supported Browsers include Chrome, and Safari. Do NOT Use Internet Explorer, as that has the most problems with Blackboard

Be sure to "Allow pop-ups" for Blackboard

Clear your browser cache

4. Verify that you have the most updated version of "Java" <http://java.com>

5. Additional Software you may be Using

All word documents should be saved with a "docx" extension identifying it as a Microsoft Word file or compatible with MS Word

Windows Media Player

Quick Time

Adobe Reader

Adobe Flash Player

## Other Course-Related Policies

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Academic dishonesty includes cheating on an exam/not taking the test yourself, turning in someone else's assignment from a previous class, and/or plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as one or more of the following: "(1) use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without fully and properly crediting the author with citations or biographical reference; (2) unacknowledged use of work/materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials; (3) unacknowledged use of original work/material that has been produced through collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators." I take cases of alleged academic dishonesty seriously. For students who are found to have allegedly engaged in any form of academic dishonesty, the case will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR). While the case is being investigated by OSCCR, an "I" (Incomplete) will be assigned until the case is resolved. If the student is found by OSCCR to have engaged in misconduct, sanctions may include a failing grade on the assignment/exam in question, a failing grade in the course, suspension, or dismissal.

**FAQ's:** *"Exams and modules close/disappear by 11:59 pm. Is that 11:59 and 00 seconds or 11:59 and 59 seconds?"* You **MUST** press the submit button prior to 11:59 and 00 seconds Blackboard time, or you will receive an error message. My advice here is don't wait until the last minute—literally. If you get an error message, this is because you submitted too late.

*"I didn't complete a module. Can I go back and finish it later?"*

No, **if you accidentally miss completing something within a module, you will not be able to go back and finish later/make up the discussion questions or go back to the module content.** DQ's depend on student interactions and once the module disappears, it cannot be reenacted later.

*"I got called into work and couldn't take the test. Can I make up the test?"*

Even if something unexpected comes up with work, feeling ill, technological difficulties, etc., **you have a 4-day window to take each test-so you must find time to take all exams when they are available. I will not re-open an exam for you if you missed it, so don't wait until the last day.**

*"Can I do extra credit?" "Is There Anything Else I can do to Increase My Grade?"*

Please do not ask for more work or extra assignments. There is already enough work to do in this short period of time.

*"Why Can't You Just Change My Grade "I am one point from the next grade up"*

Point values are reconsidered only if they are unfair or inconsistent with how they were graded compared to others in the class. The burden is on the student to show the instructor that your grade was unfair or inconsistent compared to the effort with others in the class who showed similar effort. Points or grades will not be changed because you happen to be one point away—the line between grades has to be drawn somewhere.

### **UTEP COURSE DROP POLICY**

**If a course drop is necessary, students are responsible for initiating the drop** with the Records office and determining how dropping courses may affect financial aid. **Students are limited to dropping no more than 6 courses over their entire academic career of all courses taken at any public college or University in Texas.**

- a) Students who drop a course ***before the “official census date,”*** the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn’t count toward the 6-course drop limit.
- b) Dropping a course ***after the official census date, but before the “course drop date”*** will generate a “W” in the course—although the drop shows on your transcript, a “W” does not lower your GPA. However, a “W” counts against your 6 drop limit.
- c) If the course is dropped ***after the “course drop date”*** or if the student just stops participating, taking tests, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an “F” in the course that permanently remains on the transcript.
- d) UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of too many times the student fails to submit assignments, discussion questions, or because of disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP student email account. A “W” or an “F” will be issued. A “W” for these reasons counts against the 6 drop limit.

### **Open and Close Dates for Modules and Exams**

**A given module or test can be accessed only between the open and close dates/times  
Please note that the modules being tested over will not be accessible during the exam**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Open/Post Date and Time</b>	<b>Close/Disappear Date and Time</b>
Module 1	Tuesday January 20 12:30 am	Sunday, Jan 26, 11:59 pm <i>(Note the different end date)</i>
Module 2	Monday January 27 12:30 am	Friday, Jan 31, 11:59 pm
Exam 1 (Ch 1-3)	Friday, Jan 31 12:30 am	Monday Feb 3, 11:59 pm
Module 3	Monday Feb 3, 12:30 am	Friday, Feb 7, 11:59 pm
Exam 2 (Ch 4-5)	Friday, Feb 7, 12:30 am	Monday, Feb 10, 11:59 pm
Module 4	Monday Feb 10, 12:30 am	Friday, Feb 14, 11:59 pm
Exam 3 (Ch 6-7)	Friday, Feb 14, 12:30 am	Monday, Feb 17, 11:59 pm
Module 5	Monday Feb 17, 12:30 am	Friday, Feb 21, 11:59 pm
Exam 4 (Ch 8-9)	Friday, Feb 21, 12:30 am	Monday, Feb 24, 11:59 pm
Module 6	Monday Feb 24, 12:30 am	Friday, Feb 28, 11:59 pm
Exam 5 (Ch 10-11)	Friday, Feb 28, 12:30 am	Monday, March 2 11:59 pm
Module 7	Monday March 2, 12:30 am	Friday, March 6 11:59 pm
Module 8	Friday, March 6, 12:30 am	Wed, March 11 11:59 pm <i>(Note the different end date)</i>
Exam 6 (Ch 12-14)	Tuesday, March 10, 12:30 am <i>(Note different open day)</i>	Friday, March 13, 11:59 pm <i>(Note the different end date)</i>

**Specific Deadlines WITHIN each Module can be found on the Next Page**

## CRIJ 2313: Schedule of Assignments and Deadlines Within Each Module

**Note the Open and close dates of each module on Previous Page**

<b>MODULE 1</b>	<u>Topic Coverage</u>	<u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u>
	Syllabus Corrections as it fits within CJ	Syllabus Quiz Read Ch. 1

**Syllabus Quiz and Introduction DQ to class BOTH Due THURS Jan 23 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #1** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +

**1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#1 Due SUNDAY Jan 26 by 11:30 pm**

Students are provided with more time for this very first module only—all other DQ's will be due on Wed and Fri of each week for Modules 2-7

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<b>MODULE 2</b>	<u>Topic Coverage</u>	<u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u>
	Why do we Punish? History of Men's & Women's Penitentiaries Big Houses, Correctional Institutions	Read Ch. 2 Read Ch. 3 Read Ch. 3

**DQ #2** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +

**1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#2-- Due WED Jan 29 before 11:30 pm**

**DQ #3** (your response to instructor's posted questions) + **1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#3-- Due FRIDAY Jan 31 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #1 Chapters 1-3 Available only between Jan 31 at 12:30 am to Feb 3 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

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<b>MODULE 3</b>	<u>Topic Coverage</u>	<u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u>
	Sentencing Structures and Practices Community Supervision: Probation and Reparative	Read Ch. 4 Read Ch 5

**DQ #4** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +

**1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#4-- Due WED Feb 5 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #5** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +

**1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#5- Due FRIDAY Feb 7 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #2 Chapters 4-5 Available only between Feb 7 at 12:30 am to Feb 10 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

## MODULE 4

### Topic Coverage

Jails, Classification, Supermax  
Prison Staff & Privatization

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 6  
Read Ch. 7

**DQ #6** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#6-- **Due WED Feb 12 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #7** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#7- **Due FRIDAY Feb 14 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #3 Chapters 6-7 Available between Feb 14 at 12:30 am to Feb 17 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

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## MODULE 5

### Topic Coverage

Prison life, Gangs/Violence  
Special Needs offenders

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 8  
Read Ch. 9

**DQ #8** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#8-- **Due WED Feb 19 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #9** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#9- **Due FRIDAY Feb 21 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #4 Chapters 8-9 Available between Feb 21 at 12:30 am to Feb 24 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

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## MODULE 6

### Topic Coverage

Community Reentry/Parole  
Legal Issues: Prisoner Right

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 10  
Read Ch. 11

**DQ #10** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#10-- **Due WED Feb 26 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #11** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#11- **Due FRIDAY Feb 28 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #5 Chapters 10-11 Available between Feb 28 at 12:30 am to March 2 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.



**MODULE 7**

**Topic Coverage**

**Reading and Writing  
Assignment**

Capital Punishment  
Juvenile Corrections

Read Ch. 12  
Read Ch. 13

**DQ #12** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#12-- **Due WED March 4 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #13** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#13- **Due FRIDAY March 6 by 11:30 pm**

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**MODULE 8**

**Topic Coverage**

**Reading and Writing  
Assignment**

Revisiting Evidence-Based Practices

Read Ch. 14

**DQ #14** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#14-- **Due MON March 9 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #6 Chapters 12-14 Available only between TUESDAY, March 10 at 12:30 am to  
FRIDAY, March 13 at 11:59 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Friday at 11:59 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.