

**CRIJ 2313 Corrections Systems and Practices**  
**FALL 2021 (CRN# 17951)**  
**15-weeks ONLINE: August 23 to December 8, 2021**

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

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I am also available remotely via Zoom or BB Collaborate by appointment—Email me with preferred days/times

**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 EVERY WEEK so that they complete the readings, discussion questions, respond to their peers, and take exams in a timely fashion.

This course consists of an Introductory module and 7 modules. Modules 1-7 will open/post for 2 weeks, and will close/disappear one at a time after the exam for that module has been taken. **You may work ahead if you'd like, but if you get behind or miss some components within each module that have specific due dates/times, you will NOT be able to go back and finish later/make up the discussion questions, module content, or tests.** Expect to read and study one chapter per week, complete one written DQ set including one peer response every week. There are 6 exams (one exam every other week).

**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.

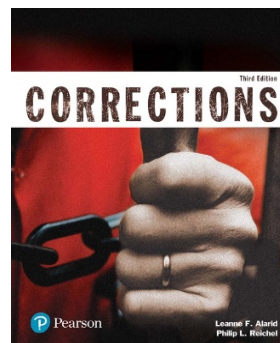
**REQUIRED TEXT:**

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 BOARD- See pp. 7-9 for due dates DUE EVERY THURSDAY by 11:30 pm--**

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)..** You must cite within your answer and not just at the end. 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) 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. 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 timed exams, worth 50 points each (**See p. 7-9 for exam dates and times**)
- There is a 4-day window to take each exam once it is posted. **Exams will automatically post at the dates/time listed on p. 7-9 of this syllabus** (every other Friday, and you have until Monday to take the exam). **Students should *not* wait to get a reminder email from the instructor—every student should schedule exams on their own calendar, phone or planner, as exams will not change from the dates/times listed.**
- Exams will be structured with 50 multiple choice questions. All exams, once started, must be completed in one sitting 65 minutes from the time the exam is first started.
- Log in using your UTEP name and password and never as a “guest” (“guest” sessions end automatically after 15-20 minutes, and you can’t go back in and finish).
- Students are still expected to read and study before exams. While students may use class materials/the book to look up 2-3 questions they may be unsure about, **answer all 50 questions on your own first** and only check the book at the very end if time permits. Once 65 minutes passes, the exam gets automatically submitted and you will never finish the exam in time if you start looking up too many answers too soon.
- Every exam must be taken alone. Students should never 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,  $36 \div 50 = 72\%$  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 **GRADING SCALE below: 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** and **Google Chrome** are the most compatible Browsers.

Do NOT Use Internet Explorer, as that has the most compatibility 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 includes: paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without fully and properly crediting the author with citations or reference; unacknowledged use of work/materials prepared by another person. 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. 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 from the University.

### Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)

UTEP students with a permanent or temporary disability can request an accommodation through Accessible Information Management system (AIM) by logging into: [cassportal.utep.edu](http://cassportal.utep.edu) using their UTEP credentials. CASS staff develop a plan to determine which accommodations will help you be successful at UTEP. 915-747-5148 or email [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu)

### FAQ's

*"Exams and DQ's close/disappear by 11:30 pm. Is that 11:30 and 00 seconds or 11:30 and 59 seconds? You MUST press the submit button prior to 11:30 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 waited until it was too late to submit.*

*"I didn't complete a DQ, and now it disappeared. Can I go back and finish it?"*

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.

*"What is your make up policies on exams?"*

If you get called in to work, electricity goes out, internet goes out, technological difficulties, or a family member gets sick etc., you must still find time to take the exam sometime during that 4-day window, as no make-up exam will be given for these reasons. My advice is **not to wait until Monday evening, so that if something unexpected does happen, you still have time.** I will allow a make-up exam if you are hospitalized during the 4-day exam window or have tested positive for COVID and provide me a copy of your test. **In all cases, students must provide written verification of the medical emergency to be eligible to make-up the exam,** and students must also contact the instructor within 72 hours after the exam due date to request rescheduling the exam. Forgetting to take the exam is not an acceptable excuse.

*"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 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 6 courses at any/all public colleges or Universities 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 failure to submit discussion questions/exams, 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.

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

### INTRODUCTORY MODULE

### Reading and Writing

**Syllabus Quiz Due FRI Aug 27 by 11:30 pm**

**Introductory DQ to class Due FRI Aug 27 by 11:30 pm**

### MODULE 1

#### Topic Coverage

#### Reading and Writing

Corrections as it fits within CJ  
Why do we Punish?

Read Ch. 1  
Read Ch. 2

**DQ #1 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#1 Due THURS Sept 2 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #2 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ2-- Due THURS Sept 9 before 11:30 pm**

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### MODULE 2

#### Topic Coverage

#### Reading and Writing

History of Men's & Women's Penitentiaries  
Big Houses, Correctional Institutions  
Sentencing Structures and Practices

Read Ch. 3  
Read Ch. 3  
Read Ch. 4

**DQ #3 (your response to instructor's posted questions) + 1 Reaction Post to Another  
Person's DQ#3-- Due THURS Sept 16 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #1 Chapters 1-3 Available between FRI Sept 17 to MON Sept 20 at 11:30 pm**  
Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:30 pm,  
whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

**DQ #4 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#4-- Due THURS Sept 23 by 11:30 pm**

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### MODULE 3

#### Topic Coverage

#### Reading and Writing

Community Supervision: Probation and Reparative  
Jails, Classification, Supermax

Read Ch 5  
Read Ch. 6

**DQ #5 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#5- Due THURS Sept 30 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #2 Chapters 4-5 Available FRI Oct 1 at 12:30 am to MON Oct 4 at 11:30 pm**  
Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:30 pm,  
whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

**DQ #6 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#6-- Due THURS Oct 7 by 11:30 pm**

## MODULE 4

### Topic Coverage

Prison Staff & Privatization  
Prison life, Gangs/Violence

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 7  
Read Ch. 8

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

**Exam #3 Chapters 6-7 Available FRI Oct 15 at 12:30 am to MON Oct 18 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:30 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

**DQ #8** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#8-- **Due THURS Oct 21 by 11:30 pm**

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## MODULE 5

### Topic Coverage

Special Needs offenders  
Community Reentry/Parole

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 9  
Read Ch. 10

**DQ #9** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#9- **Due THURS Oct 28 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #4 Chapters 8-9 Available FRI Oct 29 at 12:30 am to MON Nov 1 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:30 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

**DQ #10** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#10-- **Due THURS Nov 4 by 11:30 pm**

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## MODULE 6

### Topic Coverage

Legal Issues: Prisoner Right  
Capital Punishment

### Reading and Writing Assignment

Read Ch. 11  
Read Ch. 12

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

**Exam #5 Chapters 10-11 Available FRI Nov 12 at 12:30 am to MON Nov 15 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Monday at 11:30 pm, whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

**DQ #12** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#12-- **Due THURS Nov 18 by 11:30 pm**



**MODULE 7**

**Topic Coverage**

**Reading and Writing  
Assignment**

Juvenile Corrections  
Revisiting Evidence-Based Practices

Read Ch. 13  
Read Ch. 14

**DQ #13** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#13- **Due SAT Nov 27 by 11:30 pm**

**Note the Later deadline for DQ #13 because of Thanksgiving**

**DQ #14** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#14-- **Due THURS Dec 2 by 11:30 pm**

**FINALS WEEK Exam #6 Chapters 12-14 Available only between Sunday December 5 at  
12:30 am to Wednesday, December 8 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Wednesday at 11:30 pm,  
whichever comes first, the test gets submitted whether or not you are finished.

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