

**CRIJ 2313 Corrections Systems and Practices**  
**Summer 2024 (CRN#32141)**  
**7-week, Term 1 CONNECT: May 13 to June 28, 2024**

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

**Preferred contact method: E-mail:** [LFAlarid@utep.edu](mailto:LFAlarid@utep.edu)

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

**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 course consists of an Introductory module and 7 regular modules. The first 3 modules will **open in Blackboard on Mon, May 13 at 12:30 am** (all times are on Mountain time), and each **module will close/disappear one at a time in numerical order every week, with a new module opening each Monday.** You may work ahead, 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 2 chapters per 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.

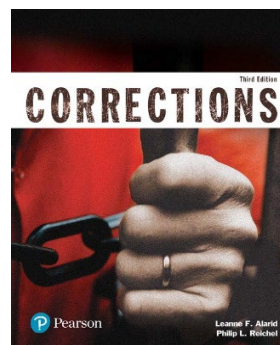
**REQUIRED TEXT:**

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>



Front cover of textbook 1

## 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) Original 300-word minimum post responding to instructor's question(s)- 8 points**

Your post must be fact-based with something you learned from the class textbook. While personal opinion may be asked as part of the question, the bulk of your answer should be interpreting what you are reading from the textbook. **Students must cite a page number from the textbook at least once per original response by stating a fact found in the textbook. Use APA format to cite the textbook: (Alarid & Reichel, 2018, p. 23)-- (Author's last names, year, and page number). IF YOU HAVE AN E-BOOK WITHOUT PAGE NUMBERS, please list the nearest main heading within the page (Alarid & Reichel, 2018, "Restoration")**

You will be able to view other student's posts once you submit 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. An in-text citation **MUST** be provided for each original response. Please use complete sentences, 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 principles/concepts from the book to your own or someone's else's experience

## 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. Students should *not* wait to get a reminder email from the instructor—students should make note of exam windows on their own calendar, phone or planner, as exam dates will not change.
- Students are required to use a computer with “Respondus Lockdown Browser” already installed to take exams. Exams cannot be taken on a cell phone or I-pad due to compatibility problems.
- Exams have 50 multiple choice questions. Once started, the exam 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).
- 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. All grades **will be earned 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> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Syllabi Quiz/Introduce Yourself | _____            | 10 Points              |
| Exam #1                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| Exam #2                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| Exam #3                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| Exam #4                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| Exam #5                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| Exam #6                         | _____            | 50 Points              |
| 14 Discussion Question Sets     | _____            | 140 Points             |
| <hr/>                           |                  |                        |
| 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 problems 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**. **Include your course name and CRN #**. Your Professor is not technical support staff, but you may copy her in your email to a tech support staff.

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

E-mail: [helpdesk@utep.edu](mailto:helpdesk@utep.edu) (you may copy Dr. Alarid on your email to the Helpdesk)

In Person: UTEP Library, Room 300

### Technological Requirements for this Course

1. Computer with a reliable internet connection and with “Respondus Lockdown Browser” installed to take exams. Cell phones and I-pads are *not* acceptable ways to take exams. To install Respondus Lockdown Browser on your computer, <https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=586140509> **Respondus Lockdown Browser does not work with International Wi-fi, so exams must be taken inside the U.S.** Please plan ahead if you plan to be in Juarez over the weekend. If you are permanently stationed/located outside the U.S., please notify Dr. Alarid immediately.

#### 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).

BB can also be accessed from the web at: <https://blackboardlearn.utep.edu/> and scroll down past the username and password to: “*Sign in with Third party account*” (UTEP CAM SSO) in order to properly sign in.

#### 3. Browser Information

**Firefox** and **Google Chrome** are the most compatible Browsers (Other browsers will cause compatibility problems)

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

Adobe Reader, Windows Media Player, Quick Time

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

## Other Course-Related Policies

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Academic dishonesty includes posting any course material on sites outside of UTEP, 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.

### Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) 915-747-5148

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, and then CASS communicates to instructors. or [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. 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.

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

I will allow a make-up exam if, during the 4-day window the test is open, you: are hospitalized for a major condition, and/or if have tested positive for COVID and provide a copy of your test or doctor note (send a phone pic of results). once results are available. **In all cases (even in unexpected emergencies), you must email Dr. Alarid within 48 hours after the Exam due date has passed to be eligible to make-up the exam.**

If you get called in to work, electricity or 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. If your internet is interrupted, go to another location where internet is working. My advice is **not to wait until the last evening, so that if something unexpected does happen, you still have time.**

## FAQ's (continued)

*“My internet is spotty at my house.” “My internet does not work right now.” What do I do?”*  
If your internet is disrupted unexpectedly, find the nearest public library to your house. All public libraries in the U.S. offer free internet and some even have a free computer lab to take tests or submit assignments if need be. If not a public library, go to a coffeeshop that offers free Wi-fi. Do anything you can to take the test and submit on time. Do not sit at home when you have an assignment due and your internet goes out.

*“What do I need to do to pass this class?”*

While passing a class requires a “C” or above in some of our CJ courses, a “D” grade in this class is still considered “passing” without having to re-take it. This requires a student to earn at least 270 points by the semester’s end. I hope that your goal is set for a grade much higher than this, but a “D” is the minimum accepted for this particular class.

*“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 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” on your transcript, but a “W” does not lower your GPA. A “W” counts as part of 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.

## **UTEP on-campus COVID-19 Policy**

Given that this is an online course, most of you will not need to come to campus. I will not be holding F2F office hours, but will be available to talk to you via Zoom/MS Teams by appointment. However, I do want you to be aware of UTEP’s campus-wide policy just in case a need arises for you to come to campus for some reason. You must stay at home and report if you (a) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (b) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (c) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test.

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

| <b>MODULE 1</b> | <u>Topic Coverage</u>            | <u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                 | Syllabus                         | Syllabus Quiz                         |
|                 | Corrections as it fits within CJ | Read Ch. 1                            |
|                 | Why do we Punish?                | Read Ch. 2                            |

**Syllabus Quiz and Introductory DQ to class BOTH Due WED May 15 by 11:30 pm**

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

**DQ #2 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ2-- Due MON May 20 before 11:30 pm**

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| <b>MODULE 2</b> | <u>Topic Coverage</u>                     | <u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u> |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
|                 | History of Men's & Women's Penitentiaries | Read Ch. 3                            |
|                 | Big Houses, Correctional Institutions     | Read Ch. 3                            |
|                 | Sentencing Structures and Practices       | Read Ch. 4                            |

**DQ #3 (your response to instructor's posted questions) + 1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#3-- Due WED May 22 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #1 Chapters 1-3 Available between Wed May 22 to Sat May 25 at 11:30 pm**  
Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Saturday 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 MON May 27 by 11:30 pm**

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| <b>MODULE 3</b> | <u>Topic Coverage</u>                           | <u>Reading and Writing Assignment</u> |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
|                 | Community Supervision: Probation and Reparative | Read Ch 5                             |
|                 | Jails, Classification, Supermax                 | Read Ch. 6                            |

**DQ #5 (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#5- Due WED May 29 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #2 Chapters 4-5 Available Wed May 29 at 12:30 am to Sat June 1 at 11:30 pm**  
Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Saturday 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 MONDAY June 3 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 WED June 5 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #3 Chapters 6-7 Available Wed June 5 at 12:30 am to Sat June 8 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Saturday 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 MONDAY June 10 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 WED June 12 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #4 Chapters 8-9 Available Wed June 12 at 12:30 am to Sat June 15 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Saturday 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 MONDAY June 17 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 WED June 19 by 11:30 pm**

**Exam #5 Chapters 10-11 Available WED June 19 at 12:30 am to Sat June 22 at 11:30 pm**

Once the test is started, you have 65 minutes to complete. After 65 minutes or by Saturday 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 MONDAY June 24 by 11:30 pm**



**MODULE 7**

**Topic Coverage**

Juvenile Corrections  
Revisiting Evidence-Based Practices

**Reading and Writing  
Assignment**

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 WED June 26 by 11:30 pm**

**DQ #14** (your response to instructor's posted questions) +  
1 Reaction Post to Another Person's DQ#14--

Students who submitted ALL 13 DQ assignments since the beginning of the semester: do not have to complete DQ #14, they will automatically receive the full 10 points for this assignment

Students who missed submitting one or more DQ's for whatever reason: **MUST** complete DQ #14 **Due THURS June 27 by 11:30 pm** as a part of the final grade; assignment will still be graded the same as the other DQ's

**Exam #6 Chapters 12-14 Available only between WEDNESDAY, June 26 at 12:30 am to SATURDAY, June 29 at 11:30 pm**

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