

LEN 227: Introduction to Corrections

3 lecture hours / 3 credits

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Prerequisite: Undergraduate level [RDG 099](#) Minimum Grade of P or Undergraduate level [RDG 055](#) Minimum Grade of B or Undergraduate level [RDG 033](#) Minimum Grade of A or Compass Reading 70 or Compass Reading Exemption 1 or Total Compass Exemption.

This course provides an overview of the correctional system in America and examines probation, parole, jails, prisons, and community-based programs. Included are the processes, organization and contemporary trends in these areas and a philosophical and theoretical consideration of the correct process.

TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXTS (Author, Title, Edition, Publisher)

To be determined by instructor

It is the **responsibility of the student** to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook and other materials required for their specific course and section.

Please see current textbook prices at www.rcgc.bncollege.com

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

Grading Distribution

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exams • Quizzes • Class Discussions • Film Analyses • Written Assignments • Attendance and Participation 	<p>Grading to be determined by individual instructors</p>
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Grading Scale Example

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

ROWAN COLLEGE AT GLOUCESTER COUNTY CORE COMPETENCIES
(Based on the NJCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011)

This comprehensive list reflects the *core* competencies that are essential for all RCGC graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

RCGC Core Competencies	
1	Written and Oral Communication Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2	Quantitative Knowledge and Skills Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.
3	Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4	Technological Competency Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.
5	Society and Human Behavior Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6	Humanistic Perspective Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7	Historical Perspective Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8	Global and Cultural Awareness Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9	Ethical Reasoning and Action Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10	Information Literacy Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information

LEN-227 CORE COMPETENCIES

This course focuses on one of RCGC's Core Competencies: It is:

- Oral & Written Communication

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

LEN 227 (Introduction to Corrections) students will be able to:	RCGC's Core Competencies	Evaluation/ Assessment
<p>1. Explain the early history of corrections from 2000 B.C. to 1800.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the early methods of seeking individual remedies for criminal wrongs. • Name and explain the provisions of the earliest criminal codes. • Discuss the changing view of crime as an offense against the state. • Compare and contrast the common forms of capital and corporal punishment. • Describe the uses and conditions of early prisons. • Identify European legal reformers who argued for change in punishment practices in the late 1700s. • Differentiate correctional practices and conditions that warranted reform. • Distinguish and identify institutions that made up the corrections system of eighteenth century England • Identify early leaders and institutions of correctional reform. 	Oral Communication Written Communication	Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric
<p>2. Explain the prisons from 1800 to the present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast the two contrasting models of American penitentiaries. • Discuss rules and discipline in early penitentiaries. • Review the development of alternatives to the penitentiary, including parole and the reformatory. • Evaluate the rise and fall of the industrial prison. • Describe the concept of how prisons changed after the end of the industrial prison. • Examine the pressures of the modern era in American prisons. 	Oral Communication Written Communication	Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric
<p>3. Explain past and present correctional ideologies and how the pendulum swings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare and contrast the most important ideologies, shaping public policies in corrections today. • Examine the reasons behind the punishment ideology. • Analyze the influence of the treatment model in corrections. • Describe the effects of ideological shifts on corrections policies. • Discuss restorative justice and contemporary ideologies. 	Oral Communication Written Communication	Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric

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<p><u>4. Explain sentencing and its critical phase in the criminal justice process.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss what place corrections has with the legal system. • Explain the reasons for recent changes in sentencing laws. • Identify the new sentencing practices that have developed in state and federal courts. • Compare and contrast the differences between judicial and administrative decision-makers in sentencing. • List and relate strategies state legislatures have followed in exerting more control over sentencing practices. • Describe the different alternative considered part of sentencing reform. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>5. Explain what Appellate review is and how it applies to the criminal justice system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagram the lengthy appeals process through state and federal courts. • Identify what actions the appeals court can take in reviewing trial court decisions. • Describe how state and federal appellate courts are structured. • List and explain how federal court orders and consent decrees have affected state prison administrations. • Identify and examine measures suggested to help control the volume of appeals flooding the federal courts. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>6. Explain how Jails and Detention facilities are the entry point into the correctional system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the jail's place in corrections history. • Define and discuss the legal status of jail inmates. • Review the changing nature of jails and jail design. • Describe the problems associated with jails overcrowding. • Identify and describe the characteristics of jail inmates. • Review the backgrounds of jail staff. • List and discuss the alternatives to jail. • Analyze the mental and physical health concerns of jails. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>7. Explain how Probation is the principal option to imprisonment used in American corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the predecessors of probation. • Examine the development of probation in America. • Illustrate how probation services are provided in the states. • Identify and examine what the workload of the probation officer consists of. • List and examine the conditions commonly imposed on probationers. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>

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<p>8. Explain how Diversion and Intermediate Sanctions fill the gap between prison and probation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List and explain the reasons for the move toward diversion. • Examine and explain the impetus for stricter controls over offenders supervised in the community. • Identify and describe the range of controls provided by intermediate sanctions. • List, examine and appraise the features of intermediate sanctions leaving the offender at home or in community-based residential centers. • Assess the use of accelerated or “shock” programs as intermediate sanctions. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>9. Explain imprisonment in a local, state, or federal prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and report the reasons for the growth of prison populations in recent years. • Examine and explain the use of classification for inmate management and treatment in prison. • Compare and contrast the differing environments of maximum, medium, and minimum security prisons. • Analyze and illustrate the consequences of emphasizing imprisonment as a public policy. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>10. Explain the State and Local Prison Systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define state institutions by security level. • List and describe the different types of state prisons. • Analyze, list and illustrate the background of offenders in state prisons and their offenses. • Describe the legal environment of contemporary state prison operations. • Illustrate how prisoners are classified and assigned. • Examine and evaluate staff training in state corrections. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>11. Explain the Federal Prison System.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the early history of federal prisons. • Describe the establishment of the Bureau of prisons. • Identify, list and explain the recent changes in federal prison policy. • List, examine and discuss the different types of federal prisons. • Review, analyze and explain the federal prison industries work program. • Review and analyze the changing nature of the federal prison population. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>

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<p>12. Explain the Private Sector System of Corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the early history of private enterprises in corrections. • Discuss treatment services often privately provided. • Describe recent expansion of private prisons. • Compare and contrast the arguments for and against private prisons. • Analyze and explain the evaluation of private prisons to date. • Examine and discuss the privately managed juvenile facility. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>13. Explain how maintaining secure custody of inmates is the most important function of a prison or jail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate, discuss and demonstrate the importance of custody in a bureaucratic prison. • Examine, analyze and describe the correctional officer's role in maintaining secure custody. • Identify, illustrate and explain the concepts of how the inmate social system affects security. • Identify, review and describe the reasons for conflict between custodial and treatment staff. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>14. Explain the Management and Treatment functions within a prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and demonstrate the important themes of correctional management. • Explain the problems of managing custody and treatment in prison. • Describe prison health care and medical services. • Identify and discuss religious services in prison. • List and describe prison academic education and job training programs. • Identify and discuss the application of treatment programs through the reintegration model. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>15. Explain the Female Offender in prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define and explain the crimes women commit. • Describe how the criminal justice system views women offenders. • Analyze the impact of the "war on drugs" on women. • List and describe the characteristics of women in jail and prison. • Identify and explain the typical problems of women in prison. • Examine and discuss the role of co-correctional facilities. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>

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<p>16. Explain the Male Offender in prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate and explain the effect of the baby boom on prison population. • Examine and describe the background of male prison inmates. • Review, examine and explain the concept of prisonization and the inmate subculture. • Identify and analyze the sexual behavior among men in prison. • Describe aging of the prison population. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>17. Explain the Juvenile Offender within the correctional system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and describe the common law origins of juvenile courts. • Examine and explain the extent of juvenile crime and violence. • Identify, examine and describe violent victimization of juveniles. • List and explain the legal categories within the juvenile court. • Identify, examine and explain the legal rights of juveniles. • List, define and describe the institutions for juvenile offenders. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>18. Explain the Special Category Offenders and the extra care needed for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, analyze and explain the mentally ill offender. • Describe the mentally retarded or developmentally challenged offender. • Define and describe the sex offender. • Describe the HIV/AIDS inmate. • Describe the geriatric inmate. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>19. Explain Inmate and Ex-Offender Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the historical legal status of the convicted felon. • Identify and explain the principle issues in prisoner's rights, including contact with the outside world, religion, access to courts, and medical care. • Cite, examine and interpret inmate lawsuits challenging conditions of confinement. • Describe the collateral consequences of a conviction. • List, examine and explain the civil rights commonly denied felons. • Define, examine and describe the procedures for reregistering ex-offenders. • Identify and explain the methods of erasing criminal records and restoring offender's rights. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>

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<p>20. Explain the use of the death penalty in the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List and describe the methods used to impose the death penalty. • Examine and explain how the death penalty is carried out in the United States today. • Cite, review and describe the legal principles related to the use of the death penalty. • Cite, describe and evaluate the important legal cases in the recent history of the death penalty. • Compare and contrast the arguments for and against the death penalty. • Analyze and explain the practical impact of capital punishment on the legal system. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>21. Explain the role of Parole and Reentry in the history of corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, examine Describe the early development of parole. • Discuss and explain the parole administration in the states. • Review, evaluate and describe the reentry process. • Discuss and explain the parole selection process. • Identify and explain the types of community correctional centers. • Describe the parole revocation process. • Identify and describe the recent changes in parole. • List and describe the forms of executive clemency. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>22. Explain the future of corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and evaluate the place of the prison in American Society. • Compare and contrast the balance between imprisonment and community corrections. • Analyze and describe the problems in defining the mission of corrections. • Describe how the corrections system might be improved in the future. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>
<p>23. Demonstrate and develop an appreciation for the use of computer-based technology in the study of Corrections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use search engines to locate specific criminal justice agency web sites. • Search criminal justice agency web sites for designated information. • Download, organize, and combine information gathered through web searches. • Incorporate, rewrite and debate information gleaned from computerized databases in course discussion or assigned papers. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>

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<p>24. Use appropriate written and oral communication skills. Satisfy other related course requirements as depicted in learning objectives below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate information orally in a logical and grammatical manner. • Present written information using standard MLA/APA style. • Be responsible for accepting and completing on time all required assignments, quizzes, take home tests, or other assignments on time. Failure to submit those documents can result in an "F" grade. • Complete all reading assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussion or other related activities. • Prepare, complete, and make an oral presentation. Failure to complete the presentation can result in an "F" grade. • Be responsible for completing all outside required reading and/or assignments and be prepared to discuss those assignments during class. Failure to complete this responsibility can result in an "F" grade. • Manage and complete their own required work. They will refrain from cheating and/or plagiarism. • Take the responsibility to bring any and all related materials, assigned text, handouts, flyers, copy, the course syllabus, other papers to class and be prepared to reference, follow, or discuss that source during class. 	<p>Oral Communication Written Communication</p>	<p>Work book assignment. Take-home essay. Film, analysis and discussions. Class participation and Attendance Rubric. Essay Rubric Teamwork Rubric</p>