COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This class will review: the historical development of corrections in America; the competing philosophies of corrections as institutional and community-based programs; the dynamics of prison life and inmate subculture; and the administrative, organizational and rehabilitative aspects of adult and juvenile probation and parole.

GOALS OF THIS COURSE:

To provide students with an accurate, detailed and up-to-date account of the development of correctional practices.

To show how historical events and social issues have helped to shape today’s correctional systems.

To describe objectively and in detail contemporary corrections in the United States in terms of its present structure, clients, management and personnel and programs.

To provide a historical perspective of prisoners’ rights and the current constitutional guarantees to which inmates are entitled.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Weekly quizzes 1/5 th of final grade
Class participation 1/5 th of final grade
Mid term 1/5 th of final grade
One paper 1/5 th of final grade
Final Exam 1/5 th of final grade

Tests and quizzes will be based on information gathered from required reading, lecture notes, class videos and guest speakers. Topics for your group projects will be assigned at a later date.
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Regular attendance is fully expected. It is understood that there are circumstances that would prevent a student from attending class (illness, family emergency). The student, in such a case, is expected to notify the instructor as soon as possible of the situation. Students should also check with the instructor regarding missed work or assignments.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Students should acquaint themselves with the college’s policy on Academic Honesty in the current Student Handbook. Any student found to have violated the college’s policy shall be dismissed from the course and assigned a grade of F. Students are urged to see the instructor if they have any questions regarding this matter.

COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS:
The instructor, with cooperation from the class, will make every effort to cover the following list of topics. This list, however, is subject to modification to best fit the needs of the class. Reading assignments will also be given on a weekly basis.

LIST OF TOPICS (as set forth in text book):
- The role of sentencing and the death penalty.
- The historical development of corrections from ancient times to the development of rehabilitative institutions and prisons.
- The history of the classification system and special category offenders, as well as incarcerated women and their adaptations to prison life.
- Issues relating to prison administration and management, including work environment, training, inmate groups and gangs and relations with inmates.
- The history of correctional law and inmates’ rights and the ways in which these factors impact the operation of today’s prisons.
- A review of the different programs and services that must be maintained by correctional institutions to provide for inmates’ needs and the problems associated with providing these services.
- An overview of prisons and the role they play in the correction process, probation programs, intermediate sanctions and parole.