



## **CJ 568.01W Seminar in Corrections**

**COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer II**

**July 6, 2026 – August 6, 2026**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor:	Dr. Willie Edwards, Professor
Office Location:	Ferguson Hall, Social Science Bldg. Rm 217
Office Hours:	Please Make an Appointment
Office Phone:	(903)886-5331
Office Fax:	(903) 886-5330
University Email Address:	willie.edwards@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	Email – willie.edwards@etamu.edu
Communication Response Time:	(within twenty-four hours during the weekday)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### **Textbook Required:**

Mary K. Stohr & Anthony Walsh, Corrections: From Research, To Policy, To Practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. CA:Sage. ISBN: 9781544375496

#### **Supplementary Readings:**

Farabee, D. (2002). Reexamining Martinson's critique: A cautionary note for evaluators. *Crime & Delinquency*, 48(1), 189-192.

Felson, R. B., & Krajewski, A., T. (2020). Did mass incarceration lead to the disproportionate admission of minorities and marginal offenders? *Criminology & Public Policy*, 19(4), 1209 – 1229.

Pfaff, J. F. (2012). The micro and macro causes of prison growth. *Georgia State University Law Review*, 1237, 1237 – 1272.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A study of popular issues in community-based and institutional corrections with emphasis on organizational goal setting and achievement, program evaluation, client supervision, agency

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administration, and problem solving. An analysis of current research and its applicability to the criminal justice system and society will be performed.

**Prerequisites: None**

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, students who fully participate in all aspects of the course should be able to:

1. Read, interpret, and critique empirical research articles primarily related to the effectiveness of correctional programs policies, and procedures
2. Discuss the results of empirical research articles with peers
3. Combine and summarize multiple empirical research articles around common themes
4. Summarize and describe specific trends in correctional programs, policies, and procedures related to Deterrence; causes and consequences of incarceration; correctional options; and re-entry and recidivism

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED**

Because this course is held online, you will need to have regular access to a computer and reliable high-speed internet. If you do not have access at home, you may be able to use a public library or come to campus to use computers in the library or one of the student computer labs. Make sure that you will have access several hours per week (accessing the course online is the equivalent of attending the class). You must be able to use internet search tools access Brightspace, use email, and know how to download and upload documents.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS**

This course is held completely online through Brightspace. This course is fully asynchronous, which means that not everyone is participating at the same time. You can access the course any time, day or night, from anywhere that you have an internet connection You should login to the course on Brightspace on a regular basis to keep up with class assignments.

### **Course Requirements & Assignments**

#### **1. Presentation of Self (10 pts)**

Every student must introduce him- or herself by the second day (no later than 11:59pm, July 7, 2026) of class during Week One. This information will be entered as a discussion. Each student should provide the information below at the site of the assignment in Week One. Each student's presentation should cover the following information:

- Name
- Occupation/career and length of time
- Share how this course is expected to help or aid your career, separate

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from the entire degree

- Discuss whether you now have or have had a position in which you managed, supervised, or had to evaluate subordinates
- Describe how you expect this degree to enhance your career

## 2. Assigned Chapter Readings

Each student is required to read the following chapters for enlightenment, new Knowledge, and information about how the correctional system operation at various levels and units. Students are encouraged to read each chapter because there will be an essay final exam. Students should have thoughts and ideas to contribute after their reading of these chapters. Chapters from the textbook students are required to read:

Week One: Chapter 1 Philosophical & Ideological Underpinning of Corrections  
Chapter 3 Correctional History: Early Prisons to Corrections Today

Week Two: Chapter 5 Sentencing: The Application of Punishment  
Chapter 8 Community Corrections: Probation & Intermediary Sanctions  
Chapter 12 Parole & Prisoner Reentry

Week Three: Chapter 13 Correctional Organizations and Their Management

Week Four: Chapter 15 Women and Corrections  
Chapter 16 Minorities and Corrections  
Chapter 17 Juvenile and Corrections

Week Five: Chapter 18 Legal Issues in Corrections  
Chapter 20 Comparative Corrections: Punishment in Other Countries

## 3. Research Article Reading

Students are to read each of the supplementary research articles (back on page 1 of this class syllabus) and respond to a question pertaining to the article during each designated week. Students will be emailed copies of the three research articles before the beginning of the class. There is no word count or required number of pages, but each student is expected to develop a response that is of graduate quality, and well thought-out. Each answer will be worth 20 points. Brevity will not earn any student maximum points. Due deadlines must be met; no excuse will be acceptable. Start early if you think you may have a distraction or emergency that would prevent you from submitting your assignment on time. **Each response to the research articles is due by 11:59pm on the below designated date.**

**Week One (Research Article Response due 7/12/2026)** Farabee, D. (2002). Reexamining Martinson's critique: A cautionary note for evaluators. *Crime & Delinquency*, 48(1), 189-192.

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**Week Two (Research Article Response due 7/19/2026)** Felson, R. B., & Krajewski, A., T. (2020). Did mass incarceration lead to the disproportionate admission of minorities and marginal offenders? *Criminology & Public Policy*, 19(4), 1209 – 1229.

**Week Three (Research Article Response due 7/26/2026)** Pfaff, J. F. (2012). The micro and macro causes of prison growth. *Georgia State University Law Review*, 1237, 1237 – 1272.

#### 4. Research Article Summary Exercise

Students are provided with a format which must be used to summarize a research article selected by each individual student. (The articles here as supplementary readings cannot be used for this assignment.) Students are responsible for summarizing one research article during the summer session. The format for this assignment will be shared with the class using an email attachment. The research article must pertain to some area of corrections as studied in this class or presented in the textbook. The summary is due by 11:59pm on July 31, 2026. The assignment must be placed in the appropriate submission area marked “Student Selected Research Article Summary” in D2L. This assignment is worth 30 points. Please make sure you post the assignment on time since you are aware of the due date before the class even begins.

#### 5. Essay Final Exam

The essay exam will be posted by July 30, 2026 and it should be completed and submitted by August 3, 2026 by 11:59pm. There will be no time for being late or having any excuse of why the exam is not (was not) submitted on or before time. The exam will consist of at least five questions. There points worth will be posted along with the questions. The exam will be worth a total of 100 points. A cover page is not required but if one is not created then make sure your name is on the actual first page of the exam. I would prefer that books or notes not be used but since I am not there and the test is not being proctored, I can only say that if an answer reads too much like from the book or AI then points will be deducted.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES OR TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE**

Taking an online class is different than taking a face-to-face class. You will largely be teaching yourself using material the professor provides. So, as a result, there will be more writing than in fully face-to-face classes.

I pull the following comments from a prior syllabus, it is not meant to be harsh and by now since this is likely not for first graduate course in this program the statement or idea delivered hopefully is just a reminder, not something new. I am a facilitator, guide, coach, or resource, and I am responsible for creating an effective learning environment. Your job is to use the environment to learn, interact with the materials, construct and share information, manage your time effectively, and use that time for critical thinking, reflection, and application. You are in

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control and responsible for your own learning. I am here to support and help you, but it is up to you to ask for help when you need it.

These graduate online courses require a large amount of reading and individual concentration. Students ought to be very familiar with due dates so as not to miss them or be late submitting assignments. Accepting a late assignment will be the professor's choice.

## **GRADING**

Presentation of Self	= 10 pts.
Research Article Reading 20pts X 3	= 60 pts.
Research Article Summary Exercise	= 30 pts.
Essay Final Exam	= <u>100 pts.</u>
	<b>200 pts.</b>

### Grading Scale

200 – 180 = A

179 – 160 = B

159 – 140 = C

139 – 120 = D

119 - below = F

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **LMS**

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

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### **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

### **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your professor.

### **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE**

### **CWID AND PASSWORD**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

### **TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ISSUES**

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

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## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

### **MINIMAL TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED**

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

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## **LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS) – D2L**

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

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## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

### **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EMAILS WITH INSTRUCTOR:**

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Jackson)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

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## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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## **STUDENT CONDUCT**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

## **ETAMU ATTENDANCE**

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

## **USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources

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## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES-- ADA STATEMENT**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@etamu.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Services](#)

## **NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE**

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **EAST TEXAS A&M SUPPORTS STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH – COUNSELING SERVICES**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

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## **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code or go to [https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download\\_app](https://studentsupport.telushealth.com/us/about#download_app) to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **Course Outline/Calendar**

**Summer II – July 6, 2026 – August 3, 2026**

(All Assignments due by 11:59pm the day of)

Week One – July 6 - 12, 2026	By July 7, 2026, 11:59pm Presentation of Self  Due 7/12/2026 Research Article Response for Farabee’s Article “Reexamining Martinson’s critique”
Week Two – July 13 -19, 2026	Due 7/19/2026 Research Article Response for Felson & Krajewski’s Article “Did Mass Incarceration Lead to Disproportionate Admission”
Week Three – July 20 – 26, 2026 2026	Due 7/26/2016 Research Article Response for Pfaff’s “The Micro and Macro Causes”
Week Four – July 27 – August 2, 2026	Due 7/31/2026 Research Article Summary Exercise
Week Five – August 3-4, 2026	Due 8/3/2026 Essay Final Exam

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