SOCIOLOGY 3564-10
Locked Up! Criminal Courts and Corrections
Fall 2011
Thursdays: 6.00-8.45 p.m.
3 Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR Iqbal Hossain, Ph.D.
Phone: 801.755.6080
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OFFICE HOURS Before/after class or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of criminal courts and corrections; two very integral components of the criminal justice system. The course will focus on the history, structure, and function of each of the components as well as their essential relationships to the criminal justice system. Litigation that has had a major impact on the functions of courts and corrections will be examined within the framework of the due process rights as outlined in the U.S. Constitution. The course will also examine the challenges and special issues that our courts and corrections are faced with.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

• Understand the historical and philosophical background of American systems of courts and corrections.
• Comprehend the structure and function of American court system.
• Know the constitutional parameters within which courts and corrections operate.
• Understand the operation of the court system including the various courtroom entities, stages of the judicial process, and the progression of cases through the criminal justice system.
• Comprehend the role of corrections in the criminal justice system and the various aspects of corrections such as jails, prisons, probation and parole, and community corrections.

CLASS FORMAT
Lectures, discussions, and a short group project will be used to convey ideas and concepts. Class attendance is strongly encouraged as the lectures will also involve information that is not covered in the text.
TEXT
Corrections: An Introduction

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Weekly readings: Weekly readings are of critical importance. The readings will facilitate a better understanding of lectures and class discussion. This will also prepare students for the tests on an incremental basis.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams that will constitute 70% of the final grade. The exams will be multiple-choice in format and will not be comprehensive. An exam guide will be provided to students a week before each exam.

Group project: Students are required to participate in a group project related to the material discussed in class. The details of this assignment are outlined in a separate hand-out provided to students. This project will constitute 25% of the final grade.

Classroom discussion: Several critical thinking discussions will be initiated to encourage students to apply critical thinking skills to various topics related to courts and corrections in America. Participation in these discussions will earn students up to 5% of the final grade.

GRADING SCALE
The final grade will be based upon grading policies set by the University of Utah.

A  100 – 93%
A- 92 – 90%
B+ 89 – 87%
B  86 – 84%
B- 83 – 80%
C+ 79 – 77%
C  76 – 74%
C- 73 – 70%
D+ 69 – 67%
D  66 – 64%
D- 63 – 60%
E  <60%

CLASS POLICIES
Students and faculty are obligated to behave in accordance with the policies of the University of Utah. The University of Utah Policies and Regulations can be found at:
ADA ACCOMODATION
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the CDS.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DISCUSSION TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08/25</td>
<td>Introduction, class outline, basic concepts in courts and corrections</td>
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<td><strong>GROUPS SELECTED</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09/01</td>
<td>Group Work (no lecture)</td>
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<td>09/08</td>
<td>Structure and functions of American courts</td>
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<td><strong>GROUP PROJECT TOPICS SUBMITTED</strong></td>
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<td>09/15</td>
<td>Stakeholders of the courtroom (Prosecution, defense attorney, judge, Jury)</td>
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<td>09/22</td>
<td>The U.S. Constitution and due process</td>
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<td>09/29</td>
<td>Court processes</td>
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<td>10/06</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM I</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>History and philosophy of penology</td>
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<td>10/27</td>
<td>History and philosophy of penology, contd.</td>
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<td>11/03</td>
<td>Probation and intermediate sentence</td>
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<td>11/10</td>
<td>Corrections and prison life</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>Parole and community corrections</td>
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<td>12/01</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
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<td><strong>GROUP PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/08</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM II</strong></td>
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