WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Therapeutic Strategies for Criminal Justice Offenders

COURSE NUMBER: MAJ 6615

II. RATIONALE:

Those criminal justice practitioners who are familiar with the programs in place for rehabilitation of offenders will be better prepared to deal with issues related to the correctional population.

III. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A: Students will develop an understanding of correctional counseling and intervention.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Distinguish the difference between rehabilitation and mental health treatment for mental health issues using clinical definitions.

A-2 Evaluate and discuss the challenges impacting criminal justice practitioners when providing counseling to sex offenders, juvenile offenders, mental health offenders and female offenders.

A-3 Evaluate and discuss the various criminal justice counseling environments.

A-4 Discuss the development of proper rehabilitative treatment programs for offenders.

A-5 Construct criteria of the qualifications and training for criminal justice counselors.

GOAL B: Students will research the specific legal issues that impact on the practice of counseling, treatment and intervention methods that are used with juvenile and adult offenders.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Research and evaluate landmark cases that deal with the origin of prisoner’s rights that have led to the practice of correctional treatment.

B-2 Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts associated with due process, cruel and unusual punishment, equal protection, liberty, the Bill of Rights and treatment rights as it relates to correctional treatment and rehabilitation.

Syllabus is sole property of Wilmington University
B-3 Analyze and discuss the Civil Rights Act of 1871, reasonableness test, criteria for civil commitment, right to rehabilitation in juvenile institutions.

B-4 Research and discuss appropriate judicial rulings that pertain to correctional treatment and rehabilitation.

B-5 Analyze and discuss client/offender rights to refuse mental health treatment.

GOAL C: Students will develop an understanding and appreciation for the variety of treatment theories that are used in the correctional settings.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
C-1 Examine and discuss cognitive behavior and therapy.
C-2 Analyze and discuss behavioral modification within the context of deviant, disruptive and violent behavior.
C-3 Discuss the application of social skills training.
C-4 Evaluate and critique the various treatment theories being utilized to help criminal offenders.
C-5 Examine and discuss the specific applications of individual and group counseling modalities.

GOAL D: Students will develop an understanding of the tools and skills involved in the screening, assessment, and diagnosis as used in the correctional treatment of offenders.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
D-1 Understand and demonstrate the basic concepts of criminal justice and motivational interviewing.
D-2 Analyze and discuss the use of the structured clinical interview (SCID) for DSM-V disorders.
D-3 Review the use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V).
D-4 Analyze and discuss critical issues in assessing and diagnosing criminal justice clients.

GOAL E: Students will face the challenge associated with the counseling and treatment process in the correctional setting.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
E-1 Role-play a counseling session that displays the use following traits of the helping relationship: empathy, respect and positive regard, genuineness, warmth, concreteness, immediacy, cultural and gender awareness.
E-2 Demonstrate an understanding of the six stages of counseling process.
E-3 Examine and discuss the protocols of the individual treatment process.
E-5 Examine and discuss the protocols of the group treatment process.
E-6 Evaluate and critique the researched programs and interventions for special offenders including: domestic violence, sex offenders, substance abuse, violent offenders, high risk probationers and depressed prisoners.

GOAL F: Students will use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
F-1. Research, construct, and deliver professional presentations using a variety of communication tools and techniques.
F-2 Utilize professional writing skills to analyze and cite appropriate sources (e.g. APA format) to express and convey empirical research.