WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NUMBER: MAJ 6618

COURSE TITLE: Contemporary Issues in Corrections

I. RATIONALE:

The evolution of correctional philosophy and contemporary issues in modern corrections affect every component of the criminal justice system. This course will help students understand the shifts in philosophy, identify the stakeholders, and successfully address issues as a policy maker and decision maker.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

Goal A:
The student will learn the current correctional issues which effect institutional and community corrections

Learning Outcomes: The student will
A-1 Assess and discuss the most important issues which influence the field of corrections
A-2 Examine and discuss the various pendulum swings of issues influencing correctional ideology
A-3 Evaluate the impact of correctional issues on the greater criminal justice system

Goal B:
The student will understand the policy and decision making process for corrections

Learning Outcomes: The student will
B-1 Demonstrate an understanding of the factors which must be assessed before making a decision that will have an impact on a correctional policy or procedure.
B-2 Examine and discuss the impact of policy and decision making on stakeholders in the field of corrections through the use of case studies.
B-3 Develop solutions to current problems in correctional practices and policies.
Goal C:
The student will learn, understand and be able to anticipate the philosophical shifts in corrections

Learning Outcomes: The student will
C-1 Compare the various correctional philosophies.
C-2 Track the historical forces that produce a change in correctional philosophies.
C-3 Examine and discuss the trends in correctional philosophies with the shift in governmental/community ideas
C-4 Evaluate the impact of current popular perceptions regarding corrections on the policy and decision making process.

Goal D:
The student will gain knowledge of the different stakeholders in Corrections and how each stakeholder effects the correctional decision making process

Learning Outcomes: The student will
D-1 Identify and discuss the different stakeholders in the field of corrections.
D-2 Consider how the perspectives and “motives” of each stakeholder impact the correctional decision making process
D-3 Develop strategies to successfully negotiate with different stakeholders in the field of corrections

Goal E:
The student will be able to approach and resolve issues by developing programs which address the different correctional philosophies

Learning Outcomes: The student will
E-1 Design an original correctional program which is effective for each type of Correctional Philosophy
E-2 Apply policy and decision making skills to real life correctional scenarios.
E-3 Analyze and develop a solution to current controversial correctional issues.

Goal F:
Use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
F-1 Utilize professional writing skills to analyze and cite appropriate sources (e.g. APA format) to express and convey empirical research.
F-2 Research, construct, and deliver professional presentations using a variety of communication tools and techniques.
IDEA OBJECTIVES: E = 3  I= 4