

Practice in Corrections

(English Instructed Course)

Fall 2025

Instructor: Edward Yung-lien Lai (賴擁連)

Class Hours: Wednesday 16:10 -18:00 p.m.

Classroom: Educational Building 601 R

Office: Educational Building 514 R

Office Hours: Wednesday 14:10 a.m. -16:00 p.m. (and by appointment)

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Course Description and Objectives

This class is designed to provide the students with a better understanding of correctional systems and practices including parole, incarceration, juvenile justice, and the death penalty. Also, the objective will be to analyze the current procedures and practices in the field of corrections, help the students to think critically and logically, and provide the ability to plan for the future of corrections. The overall course objective is to help students develop the ability to think critically about the logic of the evidence for effective correctional programs and policies, situated in the “what works” philosophy of action in corrections. Accordingly, the **course objectives** as follows:

1. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories concerning corrections.
2. Describe the history and background of corrections, specifically in Taiwan.
3. To increase understanding of the correctional environment and how it impacts our lives and society as a whole.
4. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view concerning corrections.
5. To learn different methodologies concerning handling security incidents in a correctional environment.

(continuous)

Reading materials:

Todd R. Clear, Michael D. Reisig, & George F. Cole. (2018). American Corrections (12th Ed.). Cengage.

林茂榮、楊士隆 (2021)。監獄學(第 10 版)。五南出版社。

Additional readings and supplemental materials will be assigned throughout the semester and distributed in class, or posted on the platform of E-course 2.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is expected and will be taken weekly. Each student enrolled in this class allows **3 times** of missed class time. I do not require any notification of why you will miss those classes. However, if you choose to miss a test date (including assigned presentations) without a viable excuse, you will receive a zero on the test. If you are sick, or have some sort of emergency or any other reasonable situation and need to miss a class, please contact me (if possible, please in advance). Please keep in mind, **no leaving class early without permission policy**. Furthermore, if a student wishes to dispute a grade on any exam, the student must provide the instructor with a typed description of the dispute within five school days of the date when you notice the grading scores. Aside from excused absences, those absences above the allowed three times will **be penalized 20%** of your grade that is allotted to participation. Also, class participation is expected and students must be prepared to discuss the reading assignments for each class. Students will be called upon to discuss the readings and share thoughts/ideas/experiences we cover in class.

Make-up Exam Policy:

There will be **NO** make-up exams (including extra assigned presentations) in the absence of an extreme documented medical or personal emergency. In the case of such an emergency, the instructor must be notified prior to the date of the exam. Early notification and/or proper documentation does not necessarily guarantee that a make-up exam will be granted. This decision will be at my discretion. In the event that a make-up is granted, there will be one cumulative exam administered during the last week of the semester.

Cell Phones, Laptop, and Tablet, Etc.:

All communication style or general noise-making devices should be off or on silent during class. If you have an emergency or if you are on call from a professional position, please let me know before class begins. If you must send or receive a call, for any reason, please leave the classroom to do so. This rule is in place to show respect for each student in the class, who may want to hear the lecture or discussion.

However, due to study, you can use those electronic devices to search, write, check, and confirm some information. No chatting with electronic devices in class.

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and abuse of resource materials.

Performance and Evaluation:

This course has two exams this semester: the midterm and the final exams. Both exams will be conducted in the same format, using **oral presentations**. During the class prior to the midterm by one week, the instructor will provide **ten key questions** of the midterm for students' preparation and practices after class. The **ten key questions** for the midterm will cover the materials we taught in classes before the midterm. Students can prepare answers for the ten key questions and practice the oral presentations at home. On the day of the midterm, each student will randomly choose one question from the ten key questions and present their answer orally in front of the students and instructor, with their oral performance determining their midterm grade. The format of the final exam will be the same as the midterm, aiming to strengthen students' professional English and oral presentation skills, fulfilling the course's objectives.

Grades:

Final grades will be weighed as follows:

Participation in discussion and attendance	20%
Midterm paper/presentation (in English)	40%
Term paper/presentation (in English)	40%
<u>Total</u>	<u>100%</u>

Course Schedule

Please note that this schedule is tentative as we may spend more or less time on certain subjects.

Week	Date	Assignment
1	9/10	No class.
2	9/17	Introduction and Course Overview/ The corrections system
3	9/24	The early history of correctional thought and practice
4	10/1	The current status and system corrections in Taiwan
5	10/8	The punishment of offenders
6	10/15	The law of corrections and inmates' rights
7	10/22	Guested speaker: Director Wen, Keelung Jail
8	10/29	Probation
9	11/5	Midterm presentation
10	11/12	Intermediate sanctions and community corrections
11	11/19	Incarceration
12	11/26	Field Trip: Yun-Lin 2nd Prison
13	12/3	The prison experience: inmates' subcultures
14	12/10	The treatment programs for specific offenders
15	12/17	Correctional management and custodial incidents
16	12/24	Final exam presentation