

University of Georgia - Department of Sociology  
**Criminal Punishment and Society**  
Sociology 3150-07608, Fall Semester, 2009  
Period 8, M,W,F 3:35p.m. - 4:25p.m.; SLC 248

Instructor - Todd M. Krohn  
Office: Baldwin 403  
Office hours: M,W,F, 2:30p.m. - 3:30p.m. and by appointment  
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**Required Texts:** Welch, Michael. 2004. **Corrections: A Critical Approach (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)**. New York: McGraw-Hill Company.

Muraskin, Rosalyn (ed). 2010. **Key Correctional Issues (2<sup>nd</sup> ed)**. Upper Saddle River, NJ.: Prentice Hall.

These texts are required and are available from the University Bookstore.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course focuses on the study of criminal punishment and society, and is designed to introduce a broad social framework from which one can critically explore prisons, jails, the death penalty, and various correctional strategies, all from a sociological analysis. Briefly, some of the major purposes are:

1. to survey historical and major contemporary rationales and theories for criminal punishment,
2. to survey the legal developments in correctional policy,
3. to focus attention on the death penalty and the continuing controversy about its appropriateness,
4. to examine imprisonment issues concerning women, minorities and juveniles, and
5. to examine current and future correctional policy trends, and the variety of social and political factors which influence them.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are responsible for learning the material covered in the readings and classroom lectures/discussions. You are responsible for the assigned material in the textbook whether or not it is discussed in class. Evaluation and grades will be based upon three examinations. Each exam **may** consist of multiple-choice, short-answer and essay questions and will carry an equal weight (33.3%) in determining the final grade. Each exam counts for 100 points. The total is divided by 3 and grades will be assigned on the

basis of the following Plus/Minus scale: 93.667-100=A, 89.667-93=A-, 86.667-89=B+, 83.667-86=B, 79.667-83=B-, 76.667-79=C+, 73.667-76=C, 69.667-73=C-, 60-69=D, 0-59=F. **Note: For sociology or criminal justice majors, a grade of C- or less will NOT count towards major course work.** Franklin College requires students to earn a grade of "C" or better in major required courses. Please be aware of your gpa throughout the semester. For more on Plus/Minus grading consult the UGA main page.

The exams will be based on both the text and class lectures/discussions. The final exam (third test) is NOT comprehensive. Make-up exams will not be automatically given for persons who do not show up for scheduled exams unless arrangements have been made with me in advance. **All makeup exams are essay in format.** If you miss an exam without an acceptable excuse, your grade will be "0". Plagiarism or any other form of cheating will not be tolerated. The giving or receiving of any help on any examinations during the test will result in an "F" for that activity. For other statements concerning academic dishonesty, please consult the University of Georgia Vice President for Academic Affairs web page at [www.uga.edu/vpaa](http://www.uga.edu/vpaa)

A student who officially withdraws for any reason by the **mid-point of the semester (October 22, 2009)** will receive a grade of "W". Withdrawals after mid-point are not permitted without penalty "WF". There are no instructor-initiated withdrawals for students who never show up or who drop out soon after the semester starts. However, should you choose to drop the course at any time during the semester, it is primarily **your responsibility** to ensure that the proper paper work is completed in the registrar's office.

Incompletes "I" are assigned only when the student is unable to complete some aspect of required work, and the student has a passing grade at that point. Also, the "I" grade must be completed during the following semester or it will convert to a grade of "F". Incompletes and any "Hardship Withdrawals" require approval from the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Alan Campbell, and the head of the Sociology Department, Dr. William Finlay.

### ATTENDANCE & CLASS PARTICIPATION

Attendance is required and will be taken at the instructor's discretion. You can earn an additional two (2) points towards your final grade point average (all three test grades and the term paper averaged) with regular attendance. Experience has shown that students who do not attend regularly receive a lower final grade in the course. Conversely, you can have points deducted for non-attendance. Attendance will be taken by sign-up sheets; **those who are tardy or leave early will be counted as absent; students found signing for other students (a serious and punishable violation of University of Georgia rules)**, will be disciplined accordingly. Since this is a bonus policy (at the instructor's discretion) there are **no excused absences, and only University-related excuses will be accepted.** Points will be added/deducted according to the following schedule:

3 or more absences	= 0 points towards final gpa
1-2 absences	= 1 point towards final gpa
0 absences	= 2 points towards final gpa
Failure to attend 50% of classes	= 5 points deducted from final gpa

**NEW POLICY: Laptops are no longer permissible in class.** Because of the wireless distraction to both the instructor and fellow classmates (plus, research showing students taking notes on laptops do worse in class), **laptops are no longer allowed** in this class. The nature of the topics we will be discussing should provoke lively debate, and all students are strongly encouraged to participate. Please be mindful of divergent opinions, all of which are welcome by the instructor, and please keep up with the readings. Please **TURN OFF ALL** cell phones, Blackberries, I-Pods, and any other device that will interrupt either you or the instructor. No one should leave the class early **FOR ANY REASON** without clearing it with the instructor before class starts. The instructor reserves the right to give quizzes, assign papers, etc., if it becomes obvious that students are excessively absent and the readings are not being done in a timely fashion.

The course syllabus below provides a general plan for the course; **deviation may be necessary.**

### COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

DATES	TOPICS	READINGS
Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction	
Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup> - 421	A Critical Approach to	Welch, Chapter 1; pp.414-416; 419-
Aug. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Corrections	Muraskin, Readings 1
Aug. 28 <sup>th</sup> - Sep. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Social History of Punishment	Welch, Chapters 2-3 Muraskin, Reading 3
Sep. 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Labor Day (no class)</b>	
Sep. 9 <sup>th</sup> - Sep. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Perspectives on Corrections	Welch, Chapter 4 Muraskin, Readings 2, 4
Sep. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FIRST EXAM</b>	
Sep. 18 <sup>th</sup> - Sep. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Social World of Imprisonment	Welch, Chapters 5-6; 13 Muraskin, Readings 5, 14
Sep. 28 <sup>th</sup> - Oct. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Juveniles in Prison	Welch, Chapter 8 Muraskin, Reading 21

Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup> - Oct. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Women & Minorities in Prison	Welch, Chapters 7, 9 Muraskin, Readings 19, 20, 22
Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup> - Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sex Offenders, HIV/AIDS and the Mentally Ill Inmate	Welch, pp.446-458. Muraskin, Readings, 6, 10-12
Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>S E C O N D E X A M</b>	
Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup> - Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Death Penalty	Welch, Chapter 14 Muraskin, Readings 16-18
Oct.30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FALL BREAK (Friday Only)</b>	
Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup> - Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Legal Considerations	Welch, Chapter 12
Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup> - Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Rioting and Rape: Inmate Violence & Social Control	Welch, Chapter 11 Latessa, Readings 22, 24, 30, 32
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK (Mon-Fri)</b>	
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> - Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	The Correctional Industry: Technocorrections, Privatization, Probation & Parole	Welch, Chapters 10, 15 Muraskin, Readings 15,
Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup> - Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Other Alternatives: Substance Abuse Counseling, Faith-Based Prison Programs, Net-Widening	Welch, Chapter 16 Muraskin, Readings 7-8, 13
December 14 <sup>th</sup> , Monday (3:30p.m.)	<b>F I N A L E X A M</b>	

## HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT

All students should know that the Department of Sociology has a Human Rights Committee for the resolution of student grievances. Any student registered for a sociology course at the University of Georgia who feels that he or she has not been treated in a fair or professional manner by an instructor is advised to follow these procedures:

(1) The student should discuss his or her problems with the instructor of the course, unless extenuating circumstances prohibit this.

(2) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance, the student should then discuss the problem with the Head of the Department of Sociology.

(3) If that discussion does not resolve the grievance to the satisfaction of the student, the student may request the activation of the Human Rights Committee by submitting a letter to the Chairman of the Human Rights Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia.

The Human Rights Committee will have the responsibility of investigating all charges in accordance with procedures on file in the Sociology office, copies of which are available to students. The Committee will also have the responsibility of making recommendations in writing to the Department Head, copies of which will be made available to the student complainant and the instructor involved. The Department Head will review the recommendations and make a decision in writing, with copies to the student complainant and the instructor or staff member involved. Any appeal of that decision must be to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

## Sociology 3150

### CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT AND SOCIETY

Fall 2009

Instructor: Todd M. Krohn

#### STUDENT PROFILE

(Please Print)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

M.I.

Cell/Text \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Major \_\_\_\_\_

Class Standing (1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Any Disabilities? (Hearing, Mobility, Etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

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#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, ADA STATEMENT

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Learning Disabilities Center (LDC). A LDC Counselor will coordinate those services. No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age or disability, be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the University of Georgia. The University of Georgia adheres to affirmative action policies designed to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that I have received the prospectus for this course. I have read it and the instructor has explained the requirements for this course. I have had the opportunity to ask questions to clarify matters not clear to me.

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Signature