COURSE TITLE: Legal Issues in Corrections
COURSE NUMBER: CRJS0210
CREDIT HOURS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE LOCATION: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE HOURS: Departmental Syllabus
TELEPHONE: Departmental Syllabus
EMAIL: KCKCC- “issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.”

PREREQUISITE(S): None

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstores.com/, for the required texts for your particular class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will investigate the origin, development and classification of criminal law as it applies to the correctional officer. It will review the rules of evidence of particular importance at the operational level, procedures in use of force, and search and seizure law. Additionally, it will discuss the applied correctional law of prisoner rights, legal responsibilities and liabilities of correctional personnel at the local, state, and federal level including juvenile offenders, probation and parole, and female offenders.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on the content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE:
I. Introduction to the Law and to Legal Aspects of Corrections Management
   A. The Law
   B. Historic Origins
   C. The Court System

II. Corrections and the Criminal Justice System
   A. The Police
   B. Arrest
   C. Prosecution
D. The Courts
E. Sentencing
F. Corrections

III. Habeas, Torts and Section 1983
   A. Habeas Corpus
   B. Torts
   C. Section 1983

IV. Going to Court
   A. Summons
   B. Trial
   C. Appeal

V. Prisoners Rights under the Constitution
   A. Nature of Prisons
   B. Section 1983 and the Constitution
   C. Defenses
   D. Prison Litigation Reform Act
   E. Prisoners Rights

VI. Access to Courts
   A. Ex Parte Hull
   B. Johnson v. Avery
   C. Other Prominent Cases
   D. Frivolous Complaints

VII. First Amendment – Inmate Mail
   A. Mail
   B. Background Cases
   C. Foreign Languages
   D. Inmate Postage

VIII. First Amendment – Association Rights and Visiting
   A. Freedom of Association
   B. News Media
   C. Inmate Visits
   D. Conjugal Visits

IX. First Amendment - Religion
   A. Establishing Religion
   B. Faith-based Initiatives
   C. Religious Freedom
   D. Unusual Religious Group

X. Fourth Amendment – Search and Seizure
   A. Searches in Prison
XI. Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment – Due Process
   A. 5th and 14th Amendments
   B. Inmate Discipline
   C. Confidential Informants
   D. Prohibited Acts
   E. Personal Injury
   F. Property Loss
   G. Use of Force
   H. Equal Protection
   I. Racial Discrimination

XII. Eighth Amendment - Punishment
    A. Sentencing
    B. Death Penalty
    C. Death Row
    D. Cruel & Unusual Punishment
    E. Prison Conditions
    F. Crowding in Prisons

XIII. Probation, Parole and Community Corrections
      A. Probation/Parole
      B. Case Law
      C. Use of Force
      D. Community Correction Issues

XIV. Statutory and Admin Law
     A. Federal Bureau of Prisons
     B. State and Local Laws
     C. Accreditation
     D. Employment Law
     E. Tort Claims
     F. Disabilities Act

XV. Jails
    A. Adult Offenders
    B. Juvenile Offenders
    C. Boot Camps
    D. Prisoners Rights

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES

A. The student will be able to discuss the history of the US Court and Corrections System.
B. The student will be able to describe the Constitutional Safeguards afforded prisoners to include substantive and procedural law.

C. The student will be able to discuss the procedures, practices and processes used to conduct a legal search and seizure of contraband in a correctional facility.

D. The student will be able to discuss the use of force, crimes committee in a facility, and ethics, integrity and professionalism of guard personnel.

E. The student will be able to discuss evidence based practices, verbal and written documentation and the general rules concerning legal procedures within the organizational management of the corrections agency.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The student will be able to discuss the history of the US Court and Corrections System.

1. The student will be able to discuss the history of the US court system.
2. The student will be able to explain the purpose of the prison corrections system.
3. The student will be able to describe the difference in commitment, rehabilitation and treatment.
4. The student will be able to outline the relationship between the court and the corrections system.
5. The student will be able to indicate the trends and changes that have occurred in the law as it related to correctional facilities and housing of inmates.
6. The student will be able to discuss changes in the law as it relates to regulations, rules and requirements placed on the corrections system by legislation.

The student will be able to understand and describe the constitutional safeguards afforded prisoners.

7. The student will be able to discuss general terminology and definitions of constitutional law.
8. The student will be able to explain the types, limitations, exclusions and elements of lawsuits that inmates may file.
9. The student will be able to explain against whom and for what the inmate may file a lawsuit.
10. The student will be able to describe inmate rights and institutional interests that may affect constitutional safeguards afforded prisoners.
11. The student will be able to outline procedures to file grievances by inmates.
12. The student will be able to discuss litigation and mitigation as it may affect outcomes for inmates.
13. The student will be able to describe inmate’s rights under the first and 14th Amendments of the constitution.
14. The student will be able to discuss the limitations of due process and search and seizure within the institution.

The student will be able to discuss the procedures used to conduct a legal search and seizure of contraband in a correctional facility.

15. The student will be able to describe the protections afforded an inmate by the fourth amendment while in a correctional facility.
16. The student will be able to explain the search and seizure requirements for contraband.
17. The student will be able to explain the search and seizure requirements for evidence.
18. The student will be able to discuss legal requirements for conducting searches of inmate’s personal property, his person and his living quarters.
19. The student will be able to outline correctional rules, regulations and procedures concerning legal searches.
20. The student will be able to describe procedures for an inmate to turn in found contraband.
21. The student will be able to distinguish between contraband and evidence.
22. The student will be able to explain common area searches and the result of found illegal items.

The student will be able to discuss the use of force, crimes committed inside the facility and special limitations placed on guard personnel.

23. The student will be able to discuss when force is authorized to remove an inmate from his cell or move him to another area of the facility.
24. The student will be able to explain the procedures to “move” an inmate who is cooperative.
25. The student will be able to explain the procedures to “move” an inmate who is uncooperative.
26. The student will be able to describe the procedures to investigate crimes committed in the facility.
27. The student will be able to discuss investigative rules followed by guards to obtain legal evidence after a crime has been committed in the facility.
28. The student will be able to describe limitations placed the institution in charging, lengthening sentences, trail procedures, and isolation of inmates.
29. The student will be able to discuss the purpose and role of the corrections review board.
30. The student will be able to describe the implications of the eighth and fourteenth amendments on prisoners’ rights.

The student will be able to discuss the general rules and issues concerning the legal process and procedures, and proportionality of sentences.

31. The student will be able to discuss the rules and policies on cruel and unusual punishment.
32. The student will be able to discuss “due process” as it relates to legal right of an inmate.
33. The student will be able to describe how an inmate’s sentence may increase.
34. The student will be able to describe how an inmate’s sentence may be reduced.
35. The student will be able to outline how “good time, behavior and parole hearings” decrease length of sentences.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:
Student progress is evaluated by means that include, but are not limited to, exams, written assignments, and class participation.

SPECIAL NOTES:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

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religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

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