COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 211 – Diagnostic Evaluation of Offenders

Prepared By: Dr. Brian Harte
A. **TITLE:** Diagnostic Evaluation of Offenders

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 211

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** NO

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 Weeks

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 hours per week

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course introduces the student to diagnostic report writing with particular emphasis on the pre-sentence investigation report conducted by probation/parole officers. Students are guided through a series of graduated steps toward production of a comprehensive assessment of offenders. Additionally, alternatives to incarceration and their applicable use(s) with a variety of offender populations will be explored. Student will also receive instruction in the preparing of criminal justice reports to include resume and cover letter construction.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:** Pre-requisite: JUST 101, Introduction to Criminal Justice or permission of instructor

J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

   By the end of this course, the student will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objective</th>
<th>Institutional SLO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate thoroughness and correctness in personal writing skills and abilities.</td>
<td>1. Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Discuss the various aspects and purposes of a pre-sentence investigation report (PSI) and its use in promoting safety and social order within society.</td>
<td>1. Communication 2. Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Discuss interview techniques used to conduct a thorough presentence investigation report (PSI) and the importance of the use of PSIs within the court system.</td>
<td>1. Communication 2. Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Discuss offender treatment options available that promote prosocial offender behavior and alternatives to incarceration to reduce offender recidivism.</td>
<td>1. Communication 2. Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Identify resources available to assist offenders to obtain lawful employment.</td>
<td>2. Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Select intervention techniques appropriate for use with offenders with anger management, mental health, substance abuse, sex offending issues.</td>
<td>2. Critical Thinking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
K. **TEXT(S):** No required textbook. Written material provided by the instructor.

L. **REFERENCES:** All necessary materials will be provided by the instructor.

M. **EQUIPMENT:** Technology Enhanced Classroom

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A - F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**
   - Quizzes
   - Writing assignments;
   - Interviews

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

   I. Preparing for Writing Excellence  
   II. Criminal Justice Report Writing  
   III. Employment Cover Letter and Resume Writing  
   IV. Offender Substance Abuse Treatment Programs  
   V. Offender Anger Management Programs  
   VI. Sex Offender Treatment Programs  
   VII. Offenders with Mental Illnesses  
   VIII. Educational Opportunities for Offenders  
   IX. Workforce Development Programs for Offenders  
   X. Effective Use of Alternatives to Incarceration  
   XI. Interviewing Strategies  
   XII. PSI Offender Scenario Interviews  
   XIII. PSI Report Construction  
   XIV. Mock PSI Offender Interview  
   XV. Controlled Mock PSI Interview with Faculty/Staff

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** N/A