Sociology 432: Analysis in Corrections (Spring 2018, CRN 89363)
Professor of Sociology David T. Johnson, UH Manoa, Saunders Hall 217
Time: Mondays 2:30–5:00 PM; Classroom: BusAd D203
Office Hours: TBA; Tel: 808-956-8462; Email: davidjoh@hawaii.edu

Overview

This course focuses on the institutions and practices of criminal punishment. There will be an exam after each of the two units in the course. Unit 1 explores the nature of criminal punishment – what it is, why it is used, and how it helps and hurts people. Unit 2 considers the causes and consequences of mass incarceration and of miscarriages of justice. Students are expected to participate in class discussions, do all of the assigned readings, and watch several documentary films.

Learning Objectives: to help students develop the ability to think clearly and independently about criminal punishment and the capacity to live confidently, courageously, and hopefully.

Grades

Grades will be based on how many points are earned out of 100: 90-100 is an A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, and 59 points or fewer is an F. Points are distributed as follows: Attendance & Participation (30 points), Exam 1 (30 points), and Exam 2 (40 points).

Academic Honesty

Our definition of plagiarism comes from the UH Manoa Student Conduct Code: “Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or ‘drylabbing,’ which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.” It is each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules or saying “I forgot” or “I made a mistake” are not valid excuses. Note: Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will result in an F for the course. See here for further explanation of rules on academic honesty: https://www.hawaii.edu/eli/useful-information-for-students/academic-honesty.
Kokua

Students who need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability are invited to contact me privately. Please do so during the first week of the semester. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations to your situation. KOKUA can be reached at 808-956-7511/7612. The KOKUA office is Room 013 of the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services.

Books


4. Other readings will be made available in class, by email, or at Laulima.
UNIT 1 – The Nature of Criminal Punishment (weeks 1-7)

1. Monday January 8 – Introduction to class & video of floggings in Malaysia, at http://www.corpun.com/vidju.htm (2 videos, 22 minutes); also, read on judicial caning in Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei, at https://www.corpun.com/singfeat.htm

2. Monday January 15 – No class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)


6. Monday February 12 – Exam 1, 30 points (details TBA)

7. Monday February 19 – No class (Presidents’ Day)
UNIT 2 – Mass Incarceration and Miscarriages of Justice (weeks 8-17)


12. Monday March 26 – No class (Spring Break)


17. Monday April 30 – **Exam 2**, 40 points (last day of class).