GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE 140 - INMATE PSYCHOLOGY AND SUPERVISION

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

AOJ 140 Inmate Psychology 3 3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours

and Supervision 96-108 outside-of-class hours

144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None.

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None.

3. Catalog Description

This course is an overview of the psychological aspects of inmate supervision in local, state and federal correctional institutions as well as the techniques in counseling and interviewing. The student will learn confidence-building techniques and theories to properly assess and react to the institutional daily living and crisis situations. The course will emphasize the roles played by the inmate and the correctional worker.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Compare necessary skills involved in individual and group dynamics.

b. Analyze the abilities required to conduct an interview.

c. Evaluate various kinds of intervention/counseling techniques.

d. Appraise the development of roles and responsibilities of clients and staff in correctional counseling settings.

e. Assess the obstacles that complicate the task of conducting objective interviews and counseling.

f.Recognize dangerous institutional situations regarding facility security or staff manipulation.

g. Utilize crisis intervention strategies and various de-escalation techniques to control inmate populations before resorting to use of force, when appropriate.

h. Evaluate how a correctional officer’s own strengths and weaknesses can be exploited by inmates in a correctional setting.

i. Define appropriate boundaries for staff and inmate interactions.

j. Appraise the effects of violence and crowding on inmates and staff and inmate/staff relations.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

None.

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7. Course Content

a. Interviewing and effective communications.

b. Distinction between juvenile and adult interviewing.

c. Ethnic, gender, cultural, and special needs awareness.

d. Contemporary theories and modalities of counseling.

e. Techniques of individual, small and large group counseling.

f. Development of treatment plans and file reviews.

e. Laws affecting correctional institutions.

g. Crisis intervention.

h. Use of force.

8. Method of Instruction

1. Lecture
2. Discussion
3. Role-playing
4. Group activities and simulations
5. Guest speakers
6. Videos

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

1. Written exercises that measure the students’ ability to analyze various intervention and counseling techniques.
2. Case analysis and research assignments which measures students’ ability to assess the effects of violence and crowding on inmates and staff and inmate/staff relations.
3. Class exercises and role playing that demonstrate students’ ability to conduct an interview.
4. Quizzes that measure the student’s ability to apply principles related to crisis intervention strategies.
5. Exams including a comprehensive written final exam, which measure students’ ability to assess the best practices of inmate supervision.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Students will be required to read text and supplementary materials.

b. Written assignments will be a combination of:

(1) exercises which apply counseling techniques.

(2) the assessment of the effects of violence and crowding in an institutional setting.

(3) the analyses of crisis intervention.

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) Key, Sun. *Correctional Counseling: A Cognitive Growth Perspective*. Boston, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers, Inc., 2012.

(2) Hanser, Robert, and Mire, Scott. *Correctional Counseling*. Prentice Hall, Columbus, OH: 2016.

(3) Allen, Bud, and Bosta, Diana. *Games Criminals Play: How You Can Profit by Knowing Them*. Rae John Publishing Co., Roseville CA 2002

(4) Thompson, George. *Verbal Judo: The Gentle Art of Persuasion*. New York, NY: William Morrow Paperbacks, 2004.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None.

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Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Recognize criminological theories that are relevant to correctional counseling
2. Assess control techniques in crisis situations.
3. Identify factors related to being in a jail or prison that can be barriers to effective correctional counseling
4. Apply various types of communication techniques

Date approved by the Governing Board: December 13, 2019