

**COURSE SPECIFICATION FORM**  
for new course proposals and course amendments

<b>Department/School:</b>	School of Law	<b>With effect from Academic Session:</b>	<b>Valid from Sept 2013</b>
<b>Course Title:</b>	Prisons	<b>Course Value:</b> (UG courses = unit value, PG courses = notional learning hours)	15 credits
<b>Course Code:</b>	CR3023	<b>Course JACS Code:</b> (Please contact Data Management for advice)	L311
<b>Availability:</b> (Please state which teaching terms)	Spring Term	<b>Status:</b> (i.e.: Core, Core PR, Compulsory, Optional)	Optional
<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	Year 1 Core Programme	<b>Co-requisites:</b>	
<b>Co-ordinator:</b>	Rosie Meek		
<b>Course Staff:</b>	Rosie Meek		
<b>Aims:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To explore key debates concerning the rationale for imprisonment.</li> <li>2. To provide insight into the nature of imprisonment and prison conditions through the use of research, government reports, prisoners' accounts and other relevant sources.</li> <li>3. To analyse recent policy initiatives concerning prisons.</li> </ol>		
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will have developed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An understanding of the role, function and operation of prisons in England and Wales.</li> <li>2. Critical thinking about the nature of imprisonment and the effectiveness of the prison system.</li> <li>3. Awareness of recent policy initiatives concerning prisons.</li> </ol>		
<b>Course Content:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction: exploring the purpose of imprisonment.</li> <li>2. The history of the modern prison.</li> <li>3. Privatisation of prisons.</li> <li>4. The prison population and prison staff: trends, characteristics and social relations.</li> <li>5. Prison conditions: cells, sanitisation and overcrowding.</li> <li>6. Imprisonment and mental and physical health.</li> <li>7. Preparing for life outside of prison.</li> <li>8. Does prison work?</li> <li>9. A comparative perspective.</li> <li>10. Course review.</li> </ol>		
<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Methods:</b>	<p>Lecture (1 per week) Seminar (1 per week)</p>		

<b>Details of teaching resources on Moodle:</b>	Course outline and handouts
<b>Key Bibliography:</b>	<p>Cavadino, M. and Dignan, J. (2007) <i>The Penal System</i>. Fourth Edition. London: Sage.</p> <p>*Coyle, A. (2005) <i>Understanding Prisons</i>. Buckingham: Open University Press.</p> <p>Halliday. J. (2001) <i>Making Punishments Work: A Review of the Sentencing Framework for England and Wales</i>. London: HMSO.</p> <p>James, E. (2003) <i>A Life Inside: A Prisoner's Notebook</i>. London: Guardian Books.</p> <p>*Jewkes, K. (2007) <i>Handbook on Prisons</i>; Cullompton: Willan.</p> <p>Social Exclusion Unit (2002) <i>Reducing Re-offending by Ex-prisoners</i>. London: Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <p>* Recommended for purchase.</p>
<b>Formative Assessment &amp; Feedback:</b>	<p>Written comments on summative essay.</p> <p>Informal feedback on seminar presentations.</p> <p>Course evaluation by anonymous self-completion questionnaire.</p>
<b>Summative Assessment:</b>	<p><b>Exam</b> (50%) (2 hours)</p> <p><b>Coursework</b> (50%) (summative essay) (2,500-3,000 word essay)</p> <p><b>Deadlines:</b> As outlined in the Student Handbook</p>

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The information contained in this course outline is correct at the time of publication, but may be subject to change as part of the Department's policy of continuous improvement and development. Every effort will be made to notify you of any such changes.