



### Course Description

#### **CJC4311 | Contemporary Issues and Trends in Corrections | 3.00 credits**

Focuses on and analyzes major changes in incarceration philosophies and policies, prison populations, and operational costs.

### Course competencies:

**Competency 1:** The student will analyze changes in the roles and philosophies of prison operations by:

1. Describing the emergence and evolution of prisons
2. Discussing prison operations
3. Discussing the current status of prison populations

**Competency 2:** The student will evaluate prison operations by:

1. Discussing historical operational trends
2. Identifying and discussing legal decisions regarding operations
3. Discussing confinement trends
4. Identifying and discussing treatment, recreational, and educational programs

**Competency 3:** The student will explain the mission of a prison by:

1. Defining a mission statement
2. Comparing and contrasting state and federal prison missions
3. Discussing prisons with dual purpose missions
4. Analyzing the balance between security and treatment

**Competency 4:** The student will analyze the increase in the number of prisons since 1980 by:

1. Discussing crime rate statistics and community safety concerns
2. Discussing the media's impact
3. Outlining sentencing practices
4. Discussing the impact of parole and probation

**Competency 5:** The student will discuss new prison construction and its relationship to inmate population growth by:

1. Describing growth demands and new prison construction
2. Discussing construction costs
3. Comparing and contrasting renovation versus new construction

**Competency 6:** The student will analyze the management issues impacted by changing inmate demographics by:

1. Tracing the demographics of inmates
2. Reviewing and discussing various rules, regulations, policies, procedures laws that govern the management of correctional management policies and procedures

**Competency 7:** The student will describe the creation and development of the federal prison system by:

1. Discussing legislation
2. Outlining the evolution of the Federal Bureau of Prisons
3. Identifying various federal criminal statutes
4. Discussing the impact of federalization of crimes and immigration enforcement

**Competency 8:** The student will describe the Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities by:

1. Identifying and discussing the federal prison system
2. Discussing and categorizing federal prison security

Updated: Fall 2025

3. classification levels

**Competency 9:** The student will compare the state and federal prison systems by:

1. Reviewing and discussing the organization
2. Comparing inmate population statistics

**Competency 10:** The student will examine and discuss the private prison phenomenon by:

1. Tracing the emergence of private prisons
2. Analyzing reasons for prison alternatives
3. Identifying and describing private correctional companies contracting with state and federal governments
4. Analyzing statistics of state and federal prisoners in private prisons by security level and population

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society