



**MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS)**

COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**SCHOOL: ARTS, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES
DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL SCIENCES**

COURSE CODE: DCR 218

COURSE TITLE: PRISON AND PRISONER STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the complex and multifaceted field of prison and prisoner studies. Students will examine the historical, sociological, psychological, and legal dimensions of incarceration, as well as the impact of imprisonment on individuals and society. The course will also address contemporary issues within the criminal justice system and explore potential reforms.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

- **Understand the Historical Evolution of Prisons:**
 - Explore the development of prisons throughout history.
 - Identify key milestones and shifts in the purpose and design of prisons.
- **Examine Legal Foundations of Incarceration:**
 - Analyze the constitutional and legal frameworks governing imprisonment.
 - Understand sentencing laws, rights of prisoners, and the impact of legal decisions on the prison system.
- **Explore the Sociology of Imprisonment:**
 - Investigate the social factors contributing to incarceration.
 - Examine the demographics of the prison population and associated societal implications.
- **Study the Psychology of Imprisonment:**
 - Investigate the psychological effects of incarceration on inmates.
 - Explore coping mechanisms and mental health challenges faced by prisoners.

- **Evaluate Prisoner Rights and Advocacy:**
- Examine the rights of prisoners and the role of advocacy organizations.
- Analyze contemporary issues in prisoner rights and rehabilitation programs.
- **Understand Gender and Diversity in Prisons:**
- Investigate gender-specific issues in incarceration.
- Analyze racial, ethnic, and LGBTQ+ disparities within the prison system.
- **Explore Correctional Systems and Alternatives:**
- Compare different correctional systems and their effectiveness.
- Examine probation, parole, and community-based alternatives to incarceration.
- **Analyze Contemporary Issues and Reforms:**
- Evaluate the impact of mass incarceration and explore potential reforms.
- Examine the privatization of prisons and innovative approaches to reduce recidivism.
- **Address Ethical Considerations in Prisoner Studies:**
- Understand and navigate ethical challenges in researching prisons.
- Analyze the ethical implications of conducting studies on incarcerated populations.
- **Discuss Future Directions in Prison and Prisoner Studies:**
- Explore emerging trends in corrections and the criminal justice system.
- Evaluate potential reforms, policy changes, and the role of technology in shaping the future of imprisonment.

LECTURER NAME: MR. SIMON KITIYO TEL. 0740760138

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _12 .01. 2024

CLASS REP. NAME: _____ TEL. _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

WEEK	TOPIC
	Introduction to Prisons and Incarceration
1	Overview of the course and its objectives Historical evolution of prisons Types of prisons and correctional facilities Theories of punishment
2	Legal Foundations of Incarceration Constitutional aspects of imprisonment Sentencing laws and guidelines Rights of prisoners Prisoner litigation and landmark court cases
3	Week 3: Sociology of Imprisonment

	<p>Social factors leading to incarceration Demographics of the prison population Prison subcultures and social hierarchies The impact of incarceration on families and communities</p>
4	<p>Psychology of Imprisonment Effects of imprisonment on mental health Prisoner coping mechanisms Psychological challenges faced by inmates Rehabilitation and treatment programs</p>
5	<p>Prisoner Rights and Advocacy Prisoner advocacy organizations Current issues in prisoner rights Restorative justice approaches Rehabilitation and reentry programs</p>
6	<p>Gender and Diversity in Prisons Gender-specific issues in incarceration Racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system LGBTQ+ individuals in prison Intersectionality and its impact on imprisonment</p>
7	<p>Correctional Systems and Alternatives Comparative analysis of correctional systems Probation and parole Community-based alternatives to incarceration International perspectives on imprisonment</p>
8	<p>Contemporary Issues and Reforms Mass incarceration and its consequences Privatization of prisons Criminal justice reform movements Innovative approaches to reducing recidivism</p>
9	<p>Ethical Considerations in Prisoner Studies Ethical challenges in researching prisons Conducting ethical studies on incarcerated populations Balancing research and advocacy Case studies and ethical dilemmas</p>
10	<p>Future Directions in Prison and Prisoner Studies Emerging trends in corrections Potential reforms and policy changes The role of technology in shaping the future of imprisonment Final project presentations and discussion</p>

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ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

The course will be delivered mainly through lectures. The lectures will include interactive class discussions and group works which will be later complemented with individual presentations on relevant research topics chosen by students and approved by the lecturer. Relevant handouts will be given to complement the lectures. Tutorial problems will be given out and later solved and discussed in class for student's self-assessment. Take away assignments will assist students to do more individual or group research on topics relevant to the course.

REFERENCES:

Woodruff, L. (2010) *A Secondary Data Analysis of Staff Reaction to the Transition from a Linear Jail to a Direct Supervision Model in Kane County, Illinois*

Bekiempis, Victoria (August 4, 2015). "[What Philip Zimbardo and the Stanford Prison Experiment Tell Us About Abuse of Power](#)". Newsweek.

Le Texier, Thibault (August 5, 2019). "[Debunking the Stanford Prison Experiment](#)". *American Psychologist*. 74 (7): 823–839. doi:10.1037/amp0000401. ISSN 1935-990X. PMID 31380664. S2CID 199437070.

"[Intro to psychology textbooks gloss over criticisms of Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment](#)". September 7, 2014.

^a ^b Le Texier, Thibault (October 2019). "[Debunking the Stanford Prison Experiment](#)". *The American Psychologist*. 74 (7): 823–839. doi:10.1037/amp0000401. PMID 31380664. S2CID 199437070.

^a Resnick, Brian (June 13, 2018). "[The Stanford Prison Experiment was massively influential. We just learned it was a fraud](#)". Vox.

^a "[Slideshow on official site](#)". Prisonexp.org. p. Slide 4. Archived from [the original](#) on May 12, 2000.

9. HEAD OF DEPARTMENT-----SIGNATURE:-----
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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY
REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2021/ 2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER
SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES,
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND CREATIVE
INDUSTRIES

DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

COURSE CODE: DCR 218
COURSE TITLE: PRISON AND PRISONER
STUDIES

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions

This paper consists of TWO printed pages. Please turn over

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SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION (30 MARKS)

QUESTION ONE

1a) Explain the application of the following terms as used in the gender discourse

- i. Due Process
- ii. Punishment
- iii. Equal protection
- iv. Parole
- v. Confinement

(10 Marks)

b) Explain the rights of inmates in Kenya

(10 Marks)

c) Briefly explain the social factors leading to incarceration in Kenya presently.

(10 Marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION TWO

2a) Discuss the impact of overcrowding on the well-being and rehabilitation of prisoners.

(10 Marks)

b) outline strategies that can be implemented to address this issue.

(10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

3) Discuss the nature versus nurture debate in the context of prison and prisoner studies.

(20 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

4a) Discuss the psychological effects of incarceration on prisoners.

(10 Marks)

b) Identify how do these effects impact their behavior and ability to reintegrate into society.

(10 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE

5a) Discuss the ethical considerations involved in the use of punishment and rehabilitation in the criminal justice system.

b) explain do punishment and rehabilitation relate to the goals of prison and prisoner studies.

(10 Marks)

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