**BCP 3105 Forensic and Prison Psychology**

**Course aim**:

The course aims at providing students with basic concepts, principles, theories and techniques of applying the knowledge of psychology to the criminal justice system**.** The course also intends to equip students with the knowledge and skills required for dealing with individuals confined in prisons

**Course Content:**

Topics include the following; definition of forensic psychology; psychology and the courts including evaluation of the confession made by a suspect, assessment of eyewitness testimony, involuntary and civil commitment, assessment of criminal responsibility, determination of insanity, assessment of competence to stand trial, psychology and police investigations, the psychologist as an expert witness, lie detection, prediction of future behavior of violent criminals; Psychology of criminal behavior including criminal behavior and how it develops, crime of rape, violence and aggression and the role of alcohol and in criminal behavior; Mental illness and crime including psychosis and offending and special conditions and unique defenses; Testifying in court; writing forensic reports and ethics of forensic psychology. Psychology and its role in prison; The Goals of imprisonment; The psychological effects of imprisonment; Understanding violence and aggression in prisons; Sex offenders in prisons; Prisoner and AIDS; Hostage taking in prison; Stress and working in prisons; Communication skills in prisons; Dealing with Offenders; Giving evidence in court.

**Reading List**

Bartel, C. & Bartol, A. (2004). Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Sage Publications. ISBN:

0761926062. Thousand Oaks, CA:

**Walker**, Lenore E.A., **Shapiro**, David (2003). Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Clinical and

Social Psychological Perspectives .ISBN: 0-306-47908-7

[Curt R. Bartol](http://btobsearch.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/results.asp?z=y&btob=Y&ath=Curt+R%2E+Bartol) , [Anne M. Bartol](http://btobsearch.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/results.asp?z=y&btob=Y&ath=Anne+M%2E+Bartol) (2005)Current Perspectives in Forensic Psychology and Criminal

Justice: SAGE Publications

Bruce A. Arrigo (2000) Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Issues and Controversies in Crime

and Justice. ISBN: 0120643502

[Philip Feldman](http://www.amazon.co.uk/exec/obidos/search-handle-url/index=books-uk&field-author=Feldman,%20Philip/203-8504409-4764712) (1993). The Psychology of Crime: A Social Science Textbook.  Cambridge

University Press. ISBN: 0521337321

Beck, A. J., Bonczar, P. M., Ditton, P.M., Gillard, D.K., Glaze, L. E., Harlow, C. W., Mumola, C.

J., Snell, T. L., Stephan, J. J., & Wilson, J. W. (2000). Correctional populations in the United

States, 1997. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Cornelius, G. F. (2001). The correctional officer: A practical guide. Durham, NC: Carolina

Academic Press.

Reichel, P. L. (2001). Corrections: Philosophies, practices, and procedures (2nd ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon

Boothby, J. L., & Clements, C. B. (2000). A national survey of correctional psychologists. Criminal Justice and Behavior

Hawk, K. M. (1997). Personal reflections on a career in correctional psychology. Professional Psychology: Research & Practice

Haney, C. (1997). Psychology and the limits to prison pain: Confronting the coming crisis in Eighth Amendment law. Psychology, Public Policy, & Law, 3, 499-588.

Ruback, R. B., & Innes, C. A. (1988). The relevance and irrelevance of psychological research: The example of prison crowding. American Psychologist

Clements, C. B. (1999). Psychology, attitude shifts, and prison growth. American Psychologist, 54, 785-786.

Haney, C., Banks, C., & Zimbardo, P. (1973). Interpersonal dynamics in a simulated prison. International Journal of Criminology & Penology, Vol. 1, 69-97.

Dembo, R., & Dertke, M. (1986). Work environment correlates of staff stress in a youth detention facility. Criminal Justice & Behavior, 13, 328-344.

Dollard, M. F., & Winefield, A. H. (1998). A test of the demand-control/support model of work stress in correctional officers. Journal of Occupational Health Psychology, 3, 243-264.

Rice, M. E., & Harris, G. T. (1997). The treatment of mentally disordered offenders. Psychology, Public Policy, & Law, 3, 126-183.

Reidy, T. J., Cunningham, M. D., & Sorensen, J. R. (2001). From death to life: Prison behavior of former death row inmates in Indiana. Criminal Justice & Behavior, 28, 62-82.

Sorensen, J., & Wrinkle, R. D. (1996). No hope for parole: Disciplinary infractions among death-sentenced and life-without-parole inmates. Criminal Justice & Behavior