

## CORRECTIONS & PENOLOGY NEWS PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENT

- As discussed in class and on the syllabus, you need to identify 4 “newspaper” articles on the topic of punishment that were published during this semester. The articles can be on different topics or the same general topic as long as they are reporting on an entirely different story or event.\* Print out these articles and make sure that the source of these articles is noted somewhere.
- Your assignment is to
  - First, summarize these articles in **your own words**. Do not summarize each article using an “and then” style of writing (e.g, The article says ..... and then it says this and then it says that). At the conclusion of your summary portion, identify an integrating theme or pattern to the subject matter (e.g., severity of punishment, injustice, racial disparity). This theme or pattern is simply a common thread that seems to connect these articles, even if the articles are about different topics. - The entire summary portion, which includes all 4 articles, should be 1 page in length.
  - Second, analyze the subject matter of these articles by connecting them to what you have learned in class. The *American Penology* text should be your source of reference. In this portion of the assignment, you should be **thinking about questions** such as: “Is this article calling attention to an issue that has been addressed before?” “Is history repeating itself?” or “Does this article suggest that correctional practices have changed for the better and how?” “In what ways does the article shed new light on the issue?” “Is this issue something that is unprecedented in correctional history?” The analysis portion of the paper, which includes all 4 articles, should also be 1 page in length.
- **Make sure you type your assignment using 12 pt. font, 1” margins all around, and DS.** Please **staple your assignment (a final total of 2 pages) to the articles.** No loose papers please.
- The assignment is **due April 24<sup>th</sup>**. In that the regular semester will have ended at this point, you may turn it in by sliding it under my door (HPA 1 Rm 326), or giving it to my grad assistant in Rm. 312, or have someone in the main CJ office place it in my mailbox . **DO NOT EMAIL** your assignment. You may turn it in early as well.

\*Suggestions for locating current events news items include obtaining or googling local newspapers (e.g. The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The St. Petersburg Times, The Tampa Tribune, The Orlando Sentinel, The Miami Herald, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Boston Globe, The Baltimore Sun, The Chicago Tribune; Huffington Post), news magazines (e.g., Time; U.S. News & World Report; The Economist; Mother Jones, Christian Science Monitor, Newsweek); or The Crime News Report website, which compiles articles from numerous news outlets around the country. You can also locate these and many more news sources through the UCF library. Go to “Articles & Databases” and then go to the “Miscellaneous” category at the bottom and click on the “news” link.