

**Workshop 3**

**Corrections Academy; CEA Training Online and Web-Based  
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## Corrections Academy (OCA) William Sondervan Ed.D.

The Online Corrections Academy (OCA) provides the most current correctional education and training to all levels of corrections professionals. Our content is written and reviewed by experts in the criminal justice field. OCA serves correctional agencies as well as individuals and allows you or your agency to control the pace of learning in an easy-to-use format. Individuals may access the courses whenever and wherever they choose, while agencies may use the Academy to supplement their training.

Our course catalog offers a variety of subjects that will meet the professional needs of users. Look over our courses, and choose the one that will best serve you or your agency.

### History

In 1996, the Professional Development Department along with the National Institute of Justice surveyed corrections professionals to identify their training needs. The overwhelming response for online training encouraged the Professional Development Department to add online training to its many training services. These services are conducted through the use of training workshops, self-instructional courses, video programs and interactive tools that address the needs of corrections personnel.

### Mission

The mission of the Academy is to offer high-quality and accredited online education and training for all corrections professionals. The Academy is dedicated to helping busy adults achieve career success in today's ever-changing corrections job market. The Academy's purpose is to promote the professional development of individuals working in all aspects of the corrections field by:

- Providing accredited online education and training to use toward in-service and pre-service training;
- Offering training hours, continuing education units (CEUs), and continuing medical education units (CMEs);
- Providing challenging curricula;
- Serving correctional agencies as well as individuals with online education and training; and
- Designing custom-built courseware to meet agencies' needs.

### Courses

#### Ethics in Corrections Series

This series of courses is designed for correctional officers who work in jails and prisons on the federal, state and county level. The principles are applicable to juvenile careworkers who work in juvenile detention facilities and juvenile correctional facilities (training schools) at the state and county level. The course is applicable to both adult and juvenile correctional supervisors who want a basic review of the subject.

#### Course Listing:

ETH201: Understanding Ethics and Ethical Behavior

ETH202: Maintaining Ethics Through Mental and Physical Fitness

ETH203: Crossing the Boundaries of Professionalism

### Supervising Women Offenders in Correctional Institutions Series

This series of courses is designed for correctional officers who work in jails and prisons on the federal, state and county level. The course is applicable to correctional supervisors and managers who want a basic review of the subject.

#### Course Listing:

WOM206: Understanding Women Offenders

WOM207: Women Offenders and the Correctional Environment

WOM208: Gender-Specific Needs of Women Offenders

WOM209: Mental and Medical Health Issues

### Correctional Supervision Series

This series of courses is designed for newly appointed correctional supervisors who work in jails and prisons on the federal, state and county level. The principles are applicable to newly appointed juvenile correctional supervisors who work in juvenile detention facilities and juvenile correctional facilities (training schools) at the state and county level. The course is applicable to both adult and juvenile veteran correctional supervisors who want a basic review of the subject.

#### Course Listing:

CSU202: The Transition to Correctional Supervisor

CSU203: Communicating Effectively With Staff

CSU204: Navigating the Legal Issues of Supervision

CSU205: Meeting Performance Goals and Standards

### CEA Training Online and Web-Based

([ceanational.org](http://ceanational.org))

Stephen J. Steurer, Ph.D.

CEA was organized in 1946 and, for most of the last 50 plus years, it has conducted training through regional, national, and international conferences. In the past fifteen years CEA has also sponsored a number of teleconferences on the topics of literacy and learning disabilities teaching strategies. Like many other organizations, with the advent of the Internet, CEA has begun to exploit web-based and online training for its members.

In the United States public school teachers must be certified by the state in which they teach. Teacher certification requires certain initial minimum expertise and continuing education for renewal of credentials. Most correctional teachers work full time in juvenile and adult institutions which usually require public school teacher certification in order to be hired and to continue service. While each of the 50 states has its own particular requirements for public school teachers, no state has a correctional education certificate. As a result correctional education agencies frequently hire teachers who have Reading, Special Education, Secondary, or Elementary school certificates. Since there is no universal United States standard for certification it is difficult for CEA to meet the in service needs of all teachers. However, most teacher certification systems allow for a certain number of elective hours so that teachers can tailor training to their particular needs.

Online Course As a first step to assist correctional teachers in obtaining training for their particular needs CEA has developed a general online course called, Fundamentals of Correctional Education (Fundamentals). This four credit course, designed by CEA in conjunction with the Corrections Learning Network (CLN), is

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offered through Eastern Washington University (in the state of Washington and not to be confused with Washington, DC).

Fundamentals contains general information needed by any teacher in a youth or adult correctional setting. The scope of correctional education is as vast as the diverse needs of the population it serves. The content of the course includes the history of correctional education in North America, principles of effective correctional teaching, the historical development of correctional education programs, curriculum issues for learning disabled students, security considerations, CEA Standards for Correctional Education, and research on the impact of correctional education for the ex-offender and for public safety.

Many correctional institutions are located in rural areas and teachers do not always have ready access to local colleges or universities. Fundamentals was developed not only to provide content specific to the profession, but also to help teachers continue in service training from the comfort of their home.

The PowerPoint presentation at EPEA in Bulgaria will highlight more of the specific content of the Fundamentals online course. Examples of some of the readings required in the course will be available in limited quantities.

CEA Website CEA has operated its own website for about 10 years. It can be located at [www.ceanational.org](http://www.ceanational.org). The website contains general information about CEA such as membership and conferences. The website is linked to other correctional and education websites around the world.

For the past five years CEA has operated the Correctional Education Special Collection for the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) LINCS website. There are several other special collections and these include Assessment, English as a Second Language, Equipped for the Future, Family Literacy, Health and Literacy, Literacy and Learning Disabilities, Program Leadership and Improvement, Policy and Legislation, Science and Numeracy, Technology Training, and Workforce Education. At the present time NIFL is planning a re-design of LINCS and CEA will have to re-apply for a grant to continue its special collection. The current grant ends on September 30, 2005.

CEA will conduct a PowerPoint presentation of the LINCS website with emphasis on the Correctional Education Special Collection.

Future Training Efforts CEA has aligned itself closely with CLN. CLN has been operating for five years as part of the United States Department of Education (USDOE) Star Schools grant. USDOE encourages the development of technology to improve educational delivery and content. CLN has been providing television programs via satellite to over 700 adult and juvenile correctional institutions in the United States. CLN broadcasts courses daily for incarcerated students, their teachers, and correctional staff. As a result of federal funding the programs have been free. As the federal support ends CLN and CEA have teamed up to collect fees in order to maintain satellite programs and to develop new technologies. The first step will be to provide correctional teachers and staff with web-based and Internet courses. At the present time most correctional institutions do not provide Internet access in adult facilities.

