Enhancing the lives of people living and working in our correctional system through research, education, and community engagement.

Learning by Doing: The Arizona Inside-Out Prison Exchange Project

Summary

- Purpose was to implement and evaluate the ASU Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program classes
- Inside-out combines ASU "outside" students with incarcerated "inside" students to learn together over a semester in a prison setting
- The course culminates in a group project designed to improve the system

Data and Methods

- Sample included 24 incarcerated and 20 nonincarcerated students across two semesters of the Inside-Out class
- Pre/post test to determine group and individual differences in attitudes toward the criminal justice system

Findings

- Increased positive attitudes toward the criminal justice system (inside students)
- Increased positive attitudes toward people who are incarcerated (outside students)
- Decreased punitive attitudes in how to respond to crime (outside students)

Implications

- Experiential learning can provide an alternative approach to understand the impact of the criminal justice system for university students
- People in prison can have their perceptions changed when they view future criminal justice system actors in a different setting
- · More rigorous method of assessment required to document true impact

Select Publications

Philippon, C.N. (2018). Sending students to prison: An impact evaluation of the Arizona Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program. (Unpublished master's thesis). Phoenix, AZ.



