

## Class Syllabus: Developing a Successful GPS Offender Tracking Program

Instructor: George B. Drake

### Course Description

The use of electronic equipment to track the location of offenders is utilized in nearly every state in the US and is expanding rapidly to international markets. Except for limited training offered by vendors, correctional and law enforcement employees often receive no expert training on how to operate a successful offender tracking program. While giving students a basic understanding of the technology, the course will teach students how to structure a program, select participants, develop appropriate response protocols and evaluate the success of the program.

### Course Requirements

This class does not require previous class work. Students should be employed by a law enforcement or criminal justice agency. Some of the material discussed is not intended for the general public and should not be shared with offenders under electronic supervision.

Registration to the Electronic Monitoring Resource Center is recommended. Many additional readings can be found in the website's knowledge base. <https://emresourcecenter.nlectc.du.edu/>. All required readings will be accessible at [www.correcttechllc.com](http://www.correcttechllc.com) in the website's "Education" section.

Active participation in the class is required. Students will be expected to post comments on a discussion forum.

### Course Goals

- The student will be able to identify the components of an electronic offender tracking system and define the nomenclature used for the types of tracking methodologies currently used.
- The student will be able to list four critical responsibilities of an EM Program Manager.
- The student will be able to recite two or more limitations of the technology and discuss how these limitations may impact the offender selection process.
- The student will be able to draft an appropriate response protocol and understand the costs associated with an around-the-clock response commitment.
- The student will be able to use the Electronic Monitoring Resource Center website and become familiar with other valuable tools related to offender tracking programs.

## Course Materials

Students will be required to read a lecture that will be provided electronically. Additionally, several required readings will be available online. Coursework will be completed on a computer with access to the internet.

## Grading Policy

Upon the successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a Certificate of Completion and, if applicable, credit for continuing education requirements. Students who complete the readings, make a genuine effort to answer the self evaluation questions and post comments on the discussion forum will pass. No grades will be given.

## Course Outline

The coursework will be completed over a two week period. A module will be completed each week.

### Module 1 (week 1)

- The student will read the lecture prepared for this course.
- The student will read portions of Global Positioning System (GPS) Technology for Community Supervision: Lessons Learned.
- The student will answer the self assessment questions associated with that reading.
- The student will read portions of Monitoring Tennessee's Sex Offenders Using the Global Positioning Systems: A Project Evaluation
- The student will answer the self assessment questions associated with that reading.
- The student will post their thoughts and comments about these reading on a discussion forum and respond to comments posted by others.

### Module 2 (week 2)

- The student will read portions of Under Surveillance: An Empirical Test of the Effectiveness and Consequences of Electronic Monitoring.
- The student will answer the self assessment questions associated with that reading.
- The student will read Offender Tracking Technology in Domestic Violence Cases.
- The student will answer the self assessment questions associated with that reading.
- The student will post their thoughts and comments about these reading on a discussion forum and respond to comments posted by others.

Note: The posting of comments on the forum can be done at anytime while the coursework is being completed.