

# **Female Delinquency**

## **CJ 5331**

### **Spring, 2016**

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#### **Texts:**

Chesney-Lind, M & Shelden, R.G. (2014). *Girls, Delinquency, and Juvenile Justice*, 4th Edition. West Sussex, England: Wiley-Blackwell.

Additional readings will frequently be assigned during the course of the semester. Any additional materials will be posted in the class units folders on Blackboard in PDF format so that you can download them.

#### **Course Description:**

The focus of this course is on antisocial/criminal behavior committed by female juveniles. In particular, we will look at the various explanations for female juvenile delinquency. These include theoretical explanations as well as “risk factors” for delinquency, such as gangs and drugs. We will also discuss how delinquent behavior as a child and adolescent can influence behaviors throughout a person’s life. Material will also cover the juvenile justice system and its treatment of female delinquents.

#### **Criminal Justice Graduate Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

**PLO 1.** Demonstrate knowledge of Criminological theories, and apply those theories to practical criminal justice events. The ability to identifying a prominent criminological theory within an actual criminal event or simulated criminal event. The ability to compare and contrast the basic concepts of the differing competing Criminological Theories.

**PLO 2.** Working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice and the ability to identify the individual parts of the CJ System. An awareness of the costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and the ability to recognize and be

aware of political influence on the system. The ability to apply historical knowledge of the CJ system and recognize patterns of system change.

**PLO 3.** Ability to identify, assess and compare policy processes and outcomes in criminal justice. Ability to identify and analyze various legal challenges to laws and policies within criminal justice.

**Distance Education Statement:** Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

\*Please note - in this class, all assignments are submitted in Blackboard, not email.

## **Assignments**

Your grade for the course will be based on the following assignments:

1. Discussion Boards (20 percent)
2. Research Paper (30 percent)
3. Midterm Exam (25 percent)
4. Final Exam (25 percent)

Please note - I **do not** use the Grade book in Blackboard to calculate grades. The scores are not weighted based on how much the assignments are worth. Please use the spreadsheet found in the Course Documents section if you want to track your progress.

## *Discussion Boards*

Each week there will be one or two discussions that you will participate in. The goal is have you think about questions and issues related to the week's topic and discuss them with your classmates. It is important to actively participate in these discussions since they replace the "classroom experience." Please refer to the Discussion Board Guidelines document to learn more about participation rules and criteria.

### *Research Paper*

You will need to write a 10 - 15 page paper on a topic related to female delinquency or a juvenile justice issue specific to females. **The paper must be based on the academic literature** – using personal experience, websites, and other non-academic sources is not acceptable. Additional information on the requirements for the paper can be found in the Research Paper Guidelines document. **You must submit a topic for approval by the end of week 3.**

### *Midterm and Final Exams*

There is also a midterm and final exam. Both will be in-depth essay exams. Each exam will consist of questions that will require you to incorporate the various readings. Outside research may also be required. The final exam is not cumulative and will only cover the material after the midterm.

***Cheating and Plagiarism:*** Just don't do it. At the graduate level you are expected to know how properly cite other peoples' works when incorporating it into your own research. If you are caught plagiarizing you will receive an F for the course and may be suspended from the program. All references to other works are to be cited using APA format. You can purchase the APA manual or look at the multiple online resources on how to use APA format.

If you have any questions about the course or assignments you should contact me so I can provide clarification.

### **Class Schedule**

Below you will find an outline of the schedule for the course and includes the major topics and readings assigned for each module as well as assignments, discussion board posts, quizzes, mid-term and final essay exams. ***The instructor reserves the right to modify the course schedule*** to accommodate student progress and learning needs. Due dates for the special assignments are listed below. Your weekly assignments are listed in the course modules.

Unit	Dates	Topic	Readings	Notable Assignments
1	1/19 - 1/24	Studying Female Delinquency	Chapter 1, 6 Supplemental Readings	
2	1/25 - 1/31	Nature of Female Delinquency	Chapter 2, 3 Supplemental Readings	
3	2/1 - 2/7	Female Victimization	Supplemental Readings	<b>Term Paper Topic Due 2/7</b>
4	2/8 - 2/14	Female Trauma	Supplemental Readings	
5	2/15 - 2/21	Theories of Delinquency	Chapter 5 Supplemental Readings	
6	2/22 - 2/28	Developmental Theories	Supplemental Readings	
7	2/29 - 3/6	Feminist Theories	Supplemental Readings	
8	3/7 - 3/13	MIDTERM		<b>Midterm Term Due 3/13</b>
	3/14 - 3/20	SPRING BREAK		
9	3/21 - 3/27	Juvenile Prostitution	Supplemental Readings	
10	3/28 - 4/3	Female Gangs	Chapter 4 Supplemental Readings	
11	4/4 - 4/10	Female Drug Use	Supplemental Readings	
12	4/11 - 4/17	History of Juvenile Justice	Chapter 7	
13	4/18 - 4/24	Females and Juvenile Justice I	Chapter 8 Supplemental Readings	<b>Term Paper Due 4/24 at noon</b>
14	4/25 - 5/1	Females and Juvenile Justice II	Chapter 9 Supplemental Readings	
15	5/2 - 5/8	Prevention/Treatment Efforts	Chapter 11 Supplemental Readings	
16	5/9 - 5/13	FINAL EXAMS		<b>Midterm Due 5/11 at noon</b>