

Sul Ross State University
Department of Homeland Security and Criminal Justice
CJ 4313 W01 Juvenile Delinquency / SOC 4310 W01 Juvenile Delinquency
SPRING 2017 Web-based Course

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Course Description:

A contemporary study of juvenile delinquency, it's causes, and the role officials within the Juvenile Justice System and society play in addressing this complex issue.

Objectives:

Students will gain a working knowledge the theories and perspectives of delinquency causation, aspects of delinquency and social environments, the specific language of the Juvenile Justice System and the ability to identify the individual parts of the Juvenile Justice System. Students will have an awareness of the costs associated with the Juvenile Justice System and the ability to adequately deal with delinquency, and the ability to recognize and be aware of political influence on the system. Additionally, students will gain the ability to apply historical knowledge of the Criminal Justice and Juvenile Justice Systems and recognize patterns of system change. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand the history and causes of juvenile delinquency, the organization of the Juvenile Justice System and its processes including the role of law enforcement, methods of preventing, treating, and controlling delinquency, and current issues in juvenile delinquency.

Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

UG-CJ-SLO1: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities.

UG-CJ-SLO2: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories, and apply those theories to an analysis of practical criminal justice events.

UG-CJ-SLO3: Student will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice System, ability to identify the individual parts and costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and demonstrated knowledge in recognizing the political influences on the CJ system.

Required Text:

Kratcoski, Peter and Kratcoski, Lucille (2004) *Juvenile Delinquency, 5th Ed.*. Pearson Prentice Hall.
ISBN: 0-13-033673-4

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires 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.

Requirements – Students will:

This is a Blackboard class and students will be expected to participate frequently with class discussions and complete all assignments in a timely manner. Students are responsible for logging into the class frequently to ensure full participation in class. Any technical problems experienced that hinders a student from logging in should be reported to me promptly so that the problem can be fixed, assignments completed and proper credit given. If you are having any problems, please email me right away or contact me at the CJ office.

Grading:

Final Grades in this course will consist of student's performance on Discussion Questions, Tests, and one current events summary. All tests must be completed on time as there will be no make-up exams given. The Tentative Course Schedule provides the dates for these exams. The final exam will be available only during finals week.

Discussion Questions:

Students will be expected to log in frequently, possibly several times each week, to actively participate in class discussions. Participation will involve responding to each discussion question as well as responding to information posted by other students. Students are required to participate and are expected contribute considerably to discussion boards. Students will need to draw on their own personal experiences, knowledge gained from reading the textbook, prior coursework, and any other source that would make a positive contribution to discussions. Each week there will be 1-2 discussion questions posted on Blackboard. The Assignment section will provide students with the guidelines for discussion content. All responses for discussion shall remain professional and courteous at all times.

Current Events Summary:

Students will be required to select one current event related to criminal procedure, summarize the event and main points associated with it, and post the summary to the discussion board.

Plagiarism:

Integrity is essential in the criminal justice field. Each student is expected and required to do their own work. Any cheating or plagiarism on any assignments in this class will result in a grade of "F".

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691.

SPRING 2017 Tentative Course Schedule

Course Introduction (Introduction to assignments and Blackboard, begin reading chapters)

Jan 17 – Jan 20

Read Chapter 1 – Definitions, Scope, and Trends in Juvenile Delinquency. Chapter 1 covers defining delinquency, the scope of the problem, as well as trends in delinquent behavior. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 1.

Jan 23 – Jan 27

This assignment covers 2 chapters. Read Chapter 2 – Historical Perspectives on Delinquency Causation. Chapter 2 deals with the theory development process and the various theories of delinquency and criminality. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 2. Read Chapter 3 – Psychological Theories of Delinquency Causation. Chapter 3 delves into psychoanalytic theories, moral development, personality traits, and mental illness as they relate to delinquency. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 3.

Jan 30 – Feb 3

Read Chapter 4 – Sociological Perspectives on Delinquency Causation. This chapter discusses social theories of delinquency causation. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 4.

Feb 6 – Feb 10

Test 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4) Read Chapter 5 – Controlling Children: The Changing Role of Children in American Society. Chapter 5 presents a historical perspective of the role of children up through the development of the juvenile justice system and philosophy. Accomplish the Discussions Assignment 5.

Feb 13 – Feb 17

Read Chapter 6 – Gang Delinquency and Violence. Chapter 6 takes the reader through the scope of the problem of gangs, including a historical look at gang development and behavior, and addressing gang prevention and control. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 6.

Feb 20 – Feb 24

This assignment covers 2 chapters. Read Chapter 7 – Family Functioning and Delinquency. Chapter 7 offers information on the American family and the influence of family on delinquent behavior. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 7. Read Chapter 8 – Female Delinquency. Chapter 8 covers the issues of female juvenile delinquency, its causes, the extent of the problem, and the difficulties within the juvenile justice system in handling female delinquents. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 8.

Feb 27 – Mar 3

Test 2 (Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 8) Read Chapter 9 - The School and Delinquency. This chapter deals with the issue related to schools and delinquency including the role schools play in handling juvenile delinquency. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 9.

Mar 6 – Mar 10

Read Chapter 10 – Maltreated/Endangered Children. Chapter 10 covers the topic of child abuse and neglect. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 10.

Mar 13 – Mar 17

SPRING BREAK (No class discussions)

Mar 20 –Mar 24	Read Chapter 11 – Key Issues in the Juvenile Justice Process. Chapter 11 covers the areas of status offenders and serious delinquent offenders. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 11.
Mar 27 – Mar 31	Read Chapter 12 – The Police Role in Delinquency Prevention and Control. This chapter covers the nature of police work related to handling juveniles, investigating offenses Against children, and the role of police in delinquency prevention. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 12.
Apr 3 – Apr 7	Test 3 (Chapters 9, 10, 11, and 12) This assignment covers 2 chapters. Read Chapter 13 – Juvenile Court Process and Issues. Chapter 13 offers information on the why and how juveniles enter into the juvenile justice system and the process of juvenile courts. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 13. Read Chapter 14 – Probation and Community-Based Programs. Chapter 14 covers what probation is, the historical development of probation, the probation process, alternative community-based programs, and the effectiveness of each in dealing with delinquency issues. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 14.
Apr 10 – Apr 13	This assignment covers 2 chapters. Read Chapter 15 – Secure Facilities for Juveniles. Chapter 15 covers the history of juvenile institutions in America, the organization of juvenile detention and correctional facilities, and what it is like in these facilities. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 15. Read Chapter 16 – Aftercare and Non-secure Residential Placement. Chapter 16 deals with the aftercare process for juveniles. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 16.
Apr 14	Good Friday (No classes)
Apr 17 – Apr 21	Test 4 (Chapters 13, 14, 15, and 16) Read Chapter 17 – Treating the Juvenile Offender. Chapter 17 presents the treatment principle for juveniles and discusses specific treatment techniques. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 17.
Apr 24 – Apr 28	Read Chapter 18 – Delinquency Prevention and Control. This chapter discusses delinquency prevention programs and delinquency control. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 18.
May 3	Last Class Day
May 5 – May 10	FINAL Test 5 (Chapters 17 and 18)
May 12	Commencement (Friday at 7pm, Pete P. Gallego Center)