

Juvenile Delinquency CJ 5317

Spring Session of 2023, SRSU Department of Homeland Security and Criminal
Justice

SYLLABUS

Professor: Benjamin Barrientes

Email: benjamin.barrientes@sulross.edu

Cell phone: (432) 294-4189; Office Phone: (432) 837-8490; Office Hours by appointment,
109A MAB

Course Description:

This “Juvenile Delinquency” course examines topics in the Jurisprudence of Juvenile Delinquency. Our reading includes case law, articles, and influential writings that can shed light on this elusive topic. We examine the reasons proffered by authorities for determining that a Juvenile is classified as delinquent. The course examines the history and present circumstances in today’s Juvenile Justice System.

Course Objectives- upon completion of the course students will be able:

1. To communicate about the various topics that shape the Jurisprudence of Juvenile Delinquency;
2. Think and write critically about these topics;
3. Think critically about their own ideologies that they bring in to our study;
4. Appreciate and respect the views of their classmates;
5. Through group inquiry participate in a dialogue that will be informative;
6. Work on reaching a level of logical precision in expressing and writing their ideas.

Texas Domain III Competency 19: The educator understands and applies critical thinking knowledge and skills to plan, organize/implement instruction, and assess learning.

Texas Domain III Competency 23: The educator understands and applies knowledge of core concepts including ways that individuals and groups achieve their goals through distinct and unique systems and approaches for thought.

Americans with Disability Act Statement:

In order to receive accommodations on exams or assignments, proper documentation must first be provided to the Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services. Students must contact Mary Schwarze-Grisham, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and she'll get back to you as soon as she can during working hours), or email mary.schwarzegrisham@sulross.edu.

Plagiarism Policies:

Sul Ross State University has a zero-tolerance policy on cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are addressed in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy. Plagiarism is a serious matter; thus, if anyone needs “clarification” please let me know.

Libraries: The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers free resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website: library@sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837- 8123). The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website: library.swtjc.edu. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

*With the advent of email, the communication between teacher and student is better served. I will respond to your communication(s); I expect for you to respond to mine.

There is no required textbook for this course (mostly all readings are part of the public domain; you will be furnished with some readings that are not easy to locate online).

Grading

Each student will submit 2 papers.

Midterm Paper: 35% of your grade;

Final Paper: 35 % of your grade;

“Class Participation”: 15% of your grade;

Criminal Justice Journal (due each Friday): 15% of your grade.

Grading system: A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 59 and below.

Juvenile Delinquency requires an examination of “totality of circumstances” (this is a phrase that is cultivated by lawyers and judges). Juvenile Justice is one of the branches of Jurisprudence that requires depth of knowledge and “patience” because the nature of the age group is incredibly complicated.