



CJ 326.71E
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2014

Instructor: Jana Miller, Adjunct Instructor
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required: *Juvenile Delinquency: A Sociological Approach* (9th Edition). by William E. Thompson and Jack E. Bynum. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 2010, ISBN-13-9780205246533
Pearson

Course Description: The study of the nature extent, causation, treatment, and prevention of juvenile delinquency. Recommended background courses: CJ 101 or SOC 1301.

Student Learning Outcomes: After completing this course students should be able to:

1. Apply a sociological and criminal justice perspective on juvenile delinquency to the causation, nature and extent of delinquency, the juvenile court, and possible control, treatment, and prevention strategies;
2. Make general sociological analyses of specific types of delinquency and juvenile offenders;
3. Provide a brief overview of the Texas Juvenile Code and the Juvenile Justice System in Texas; and compare/contrast it with other states;
4. Apply critical thinking skills to the problem of delinquency and express their ideas in written and oral communication.
5. Use critical thinking skills to assess current trends in juvenile delinquency and develop a plan with policy implications for “rethinking” the problem of delinquency.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructor's Expectations of Student

1. Attend class regularly
2. Read material before class
3. Active participation in discussions (not just "I agree/disagree")

Instructional Methods

The method of instruction for this course will be a combination of lectures, discussions, films and group activities. The specific activities used to engage students in mastering chapter material will be classroom participation, discussion boards, five unit exams and a research paper as assigned.

There will be five examinations. Each examination will contain multiple-choice, matching, and true-false questions. The final will contain only multiple-choice and true-false questions. Each examination will be weighted equally.

You will also submit a ten page paper at the end of the semester. It is not to be an argumentative or opinion paper, but a research paper. This paper must be written based on a discussion and analysis of a course related issue. Please, use APA format writing style for this paper. The paper will be graded on content as well as exposition. There will be a 20 point penalty for late submission.

Grading

Classroom Participation	100 points
Discussion Boards	100 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Exam 4	100 points
Exam 5	100 points
Final Paper	100 points
Total Points	800 points

A	720-800 points	90-100%
B	640-719 points	80-89%
C	560-639 points	70-79%
D	540-559 points	60-59%
F	539 and below	59-below

Additional Information:

Examinations: Each examination will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the blanks, true/false and short essay questions. You may prepare for these exams by reviewing reading assignments, lecture notes covered in class and/or assigned on the syllabus.

Online Discussions: We are going to integrate most of our face-to-face class meeting into online e-college discussion. Please, make sure you are familiar with e-College discussion board.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

- Word Processes or (Microsoft Word – 2003 or 2007)
- Access to University Library site
- Access to Email
- Access to E-college

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Participation & Communication: I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful participants within the learning environment. This includes completing readings and other assignments on time and contributing to discussions in class and online via e-college. If you need to contact me outside of class, use one of the following methods.

1. My personal email janamiller85@gmail.com is the best way to reach me as I check it multiple times daily. A reply will be sent within 24 hours.
2. Urgent matters may be handled by phone. My cell number is (903) 257-8765.
3. I plan to be available for as much as 30 minutes after class if needed.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION: Attendance and preparation for class are important. Each student is expected to be present, on time, and prepared for all class meetings unless other arrangements have been made in advance. If you must be late to class due to extraordinary circumstances, please quietly enter the room and take your seat.

MAKE UP POLICY (and withdrawals): No make-up assignments/examinations are allowed. For withdrawal from the course, see “class cancellation and dropping policy.” You are responsible for dropping this course if you choose, however, let the instructor know before doing so.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: University rules against plagiarism apply. All work submitted to the instructor must be original work of the student. Please, follow American Psychological Association (APA), 5th Edition guidelines in all your writings in this course. If you have any question about academic dishonesty, consult with the instructor before submitting your work

DIABILITIES POLICY: University rules apply. Please, notify the instructor should you have any form of disability that could affect your academic performance. It is the student’s responsibility to present the appropriate form to the instructor as approved by the Director of Students Services.

CLASS CANCELLATION & DROPPING POLICY: Students who wish to drop a course or withdraw from the university are responsible for initiating this action (from University Catalog).

However, I suggest that you consult with me before dropping this course. In case of severe weather, call the office @ 903-875-7617 for class cancellation information.

OTHER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: In case of any emergency or extenuating circumstances that may affect your class attendance, please, call or e-mail the instructor and leave a message on her voice mail.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gege Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

DATE: TOPIC: READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1	First Class 1/26 Introduction, Course Syllabus, etc. Online Discussion #1 A Sociological Approach to Delinquency	Ch. 1
Week 2	Dimensions of the Delinquency Problem Biological/Psychogenic Explanations of J.D. Online Discussion #2 opens .	Ch. 2 Ch. 3
Week 3	EXAM 1 Ch 1,2	
Week 4	Strain Theories and Cultural Transmission Theories Social Learning Theories	Ch. 4 Ch. 5
Week 5	Labeling and Radical/Conflict Theories Maturation/Life Course Rational Choice/Deterrence	Ch. 6 Ch. 7

Feminist Theories

Week 6	EXAM 2 CH 3 - 7 Online Discussion #2 ends	
Week 7	Family and J.D. Schools & JD	Ch. 8 Ch. 9
Week 8	Spring Break	
Week 9	Youth Subculture Gangs Online Discussion #3	Ch. 10 Ch. 11
Week 10	EXAM 3 Ch.8-11	
Week 11	Policing Juveniles Juvenile Courts	Ch. 12 Ch. 13
Week 12	Juvenile Corrections Discussion #4	Ch. 14
Week 13	EXAM 4 Ch. 12-14	
Week 14	Treatment and Prevention Strategies Rethinking Delinquency Discussion #5 Ends at 11:59 p.m. Critical Thinking Paper Due	Ch. 15 Ch. 16
Week 15	Exam 5 (Final): Ch. 15,16	

Guidelines for Course Assignment

In this course, you are expected to follow these guidelines for all written assignments. This would help guide you towards format and clarity. To receive full credit in every assignment students must follow the following standards:

1. All graded assignments must be typed
2. All typed assignments must be double spaced
3. All typed assignments must be in Times New Roman 12 point font.
4. All typed assignments must have a standard format of a 1" each margin on the left and right sides with a .5" setting for the bottom and top. The margin set up is found under the page setup on your Word menu.
5. All assignments must have a standard header inserted into the document that contains your complete name, class, CRN, Professor's full name, assignment date, and assignment name.
6. Please, include a cover page for any paper handed to your Professor
7. You may consult APA style manual located in reference section at the Gee Library

Please Note: There would be weekly Homework/Discussion Questions via eCollege

What deadlines must I meet? Your final paper deadlines for CJ-326 should be rigid. This instructor suggests you choose a paper topic and consult with your instructor by January 31, 2014. Have

introduction, literature review done by March 1, 2014. Rough draft and follow-up consultation should be completed by April 1, 2014. Submit your final paper by April 28, 2014.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this calendar as necessary.