CJ 326 (01.E): JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
Fall 2025

Meets 8/25/2025 through 12/12/2025
Tues/Thurs 2:00p-3:15p   *Building:* SS *Room:* TBD

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Mike Tapia, Ph.D.
Office Location:	SS 231
Office Hours:	Tu/Th 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Office Phone:	Phone: 903-886-5332 (messages only)
University Email Address:	michael.tapia@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication**:**	email
Communication Response Time:	Normally within 24-48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook: Regoli, Robert M., John D. Hewitt & Matt DeLisi (2021). *Delinquency in Society*, 11th Edition Burlington, MA, Jones & Bartlett,

        or the 10th Edition (2017) by Boston: McGraw Hill (publisher).

Course Description

This course begins with the history of childhood, adolescence, delinquency, and the U.S. juvenile justice system.   We cover theories on the causes of delinquency for our first exam. We then examine contexts such as schools, the family, drugs and alcohol, and street gangs for our second exam. We conclude with an in-depth study of police, courts, corrections, and rule of law as applied to youth. We'll have classroom visits or zoom sessions with various professionals in the field and possibly tour juvenile courts, detention facilities, & alternative schools in the region.

Student Learning Objectives & Outcomes

        1) To learn extensively about theories of delinquency;

        2) To identify and evaluate the various social forces related to delinquency;

        3) To understand how youth are viewed and processed by the justice system.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

Course requirements:

1.	In-Class Exams	60%
2.	Presentation or Term Paper	20%
3.	Attendance and Participation	<u>10%</u>

TOTAL   100%

1. Exams

- There are three (3) in-class tests based on readings, lectures, and other relevant materials.

- Each test is worth <u>20 percent of the final grade</u>.

Tests are a combination of multiple choice and short answer. <u>Bring the green Scantron form (882-E) and a Blue Book to test dates (items available at the bookstore)</u>. Make-up exams are allowed only for verifiable emergencies and you must contact me prior to the regularly scheduled test date to be eligible to take one. Make up exams are essay-format. 1-page study guides are provided.

The final exam (Test #3) is an in-class, non-comprehensive test based on readings, lectures, and other relevant materials presented in the final part of the term.

2. Term Paper or Presentation

Students have the option to write a term paper or make a Presentation (in class or online).

Option 1: Term paper (4-5 pages) using library & web-based research on a delinquency or juvenile justice topic. See the Term Paper handout on *D2L* for a details & guidelines.

***************Term Papers Due in class on Thursday 12/4/25 (Last Regular Class Meeting)************

Option 2: Individuals, pairs, or small groups may make a classroom presentation on topic(s) or theme(s) of their choice, according to what is being covered in the week they will present. For ideas, browse the entirety of the syllabus, slides, speaker videos & outside material to get ideas for topics. The quality of your presentation & brief write-up accounts for <u>20% of your course grade</u>. (*See the Presentations handout on D2L for details*).

*******Presentations begin the 3rd week of class, with a brief write-up due one week later***********.

3. **Attendance and participation** = <u>10 Percent of the final grade</u> for the course.

To summarize, course requirements are weighted as follows:

In-class Exams	60%
Term Paper(s)	30%
Attendance & Participation	10%
TOTAL	100%

Final grades are determined as follows:

A = 90%-100%   B = 80%-89%   C = 70%-79%   D = 60%-69%   F = 59% or Below

Minimal Skills Needed:

1. Ability to use Microsoft Word & Powerpoint
2. Ability to navigate the D2L Learning System
3. Ability to navigate ETAMU Library Resources
4. Ability to navigate the internet
5. Ability to attend class and stay awake; participate in class discussions
6. Ability to complete your own work independently, without plagiarism or the use of Artificial Intelligence (A-I) tools to write papers

Instructional Methods

This is a traditional, in-person lecture course. Exams are based on lecture slides and class discussion. 1-page study guides for exams are posted no less than one week before the date of the exam. All slides are made available in clearly labeled modules in D2L, organized into three major sections of the course. Material on the exam is emphasized in the slides and in lecture.

Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course

1. Read this syllabus with great care and pay attention to its details. Mark test dates and other important notes in your personal calendar. Revisit the syllabus periodically and ask questions if you have them.

2. Students should attend each class or as often as possible. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

3. Before each class, students should review slides and, if they have it, skim sections of the textbook chapter(s) scheduled for coverage in class per the weekly schedule (below).

4. To prepare for exams, students should use lecture slides to locate all items appearing on the study guide. Focus on the items appearing in red font. If you have it, use the textbook's index to locate test items and skim those sections. Also review the notes you take during class.

5. To do well on the Term Paper or Presentation requirement, students should select a topic as early in the term as possible and run it by the instructor for approval if the student is unsure about its suitability. Students should not wait until the end of the term to begin writing papers or propose to

make a presentation in class. Your instructor is always willing to provide feedback on early drafts of both papers and presentations. Finally, stick closely to guidelines on the Term Paper or Presentation handouts on D2L for best results, grade-wise.

6. Avail yourself of resources at the ETAMU Writing Center for proofreading and advice: ETAMU Writing Center

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS), Brightspace/D2L. Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:
https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:
https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor. His preferred method of contact is ETAMU email: michael.tapia@etamu.edu, or D2L's messaging program.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Certain unforeseen circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in class and on D2L.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Students with Disabilities-- 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
East Texas A&M University-Commerce
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOf
EmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all ETA&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

ETAMU-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East TX A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit **www.tamuc.edu/counsel**

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

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Tentative Reading, Lecture, & Test Schedule   (Subject to Changes)

Part I: *Definitions and Theories of Juvenile Delinquency*

Date	Topics	Reading
Week 1 8/26 – 8/28	History of Childhood & Adolescence Defining Delinquency	Chapter 1
Week 2 9/2 – 9/4	Measuring Delinquency	Chapter 2
Week 3 9/9 - 9/11	Theories of Delinquency	Chapters 3 & 5
Week 4 9/16 – 9/18	Labeling Theory Female Delinquency	Chapter 6 Chapter 8
Week 5 9/23 – 9/25	**Test #1 (Thursday 9/25)** **Over Chapters 1-6, 8, & Lecture**	Review Study Guide

Part II: *The Social Context of Juvenile Delinquency*

Week 6 9/30 - 10/2	Review Exam 1 Results Violent Youth Crimes Det. Brandon Snyder, Mesquite PD Youth Crimes Det. Michael Manuel, Rockwall PD Youth Crimes	Chapter 11a
Week 7 10/7 - 10/9	Gang Delinquency Children's Advocacy Center of Rockwall County Farrah Brabson	Chapter 12
Week 8 10/14 – 10/16	Youth Gangs & Serious Crimes Greenville PD James Hamilton Greenville ISD Police	
Week 9 10/21 - 10/23	Drinking, Drug Use, and Delinquency Lakes Regional Adolesc. Counseling Program Amy Weems, LPC	Chapter 11b
Week 10 10/28 – 10/30	The Family & Delinquency Hunt County Juvenile Probation	Chapter 9

Week 11   Review for Test #2
11/4 – 11/6   **Test #2 Thursday, 11/10 Over Chapters 9-12, Readings, & Lecture**

Week 12   Ft. Worth ISD School Resource Officers   Chapter 10
11/11 – 11/13   Library Instructional Session via Zoom
                        Focus on Term Paper

Part III: *The Juvenile Justice System*

Week 13   Chapter 13
11/18 – 11/20   Thanksgiving Holiday Break

                        The Police and Youth
                        Detention and Case Processing   Chapter 13

Week 14   Diversion & Adjudication   Chapter 13
11/25 – 11/27   Sanctions & Courts; Hunt County Courts
                        Collin County Juvenile Detention Center Tour

Week 15   Incarceration & Corrections   Chapter 13
12/2 – 12/4   Hunt County Juvenile Probation Overview

********Term Papers, Project Write-up & All Extra Credit Due in Class Thurs. 12/4/25********

Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec. 9th, 1:15p.m. in regular classroom.