

Criminal Justice 351, Section 002  
**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND JUSTICE**  
Spring 2014  
M/W 2:20 – 3:35 p.m.  
Davis College Room 209

Professor: Dr. Tia Stevens  
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Office Hours: M/W 1:00 – 2:10 p.m. or by appointment

### **Course Description**

This course will provide an overview of the nature of juvenile delinquency, including its causes and correlates, as well as the current strategies for preventing and controlling its occurrence.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the semester, each student will be able to:

- Give examples of risk factors for juvenile offending
- Identify the types of crimes juveniles are most likely to commit
- Summarize the major theories that describe juvenile delinquency from psychology, sociology, and criminal justice perspectives.
- Understand juvenile delinquency as it interrelates with other systems including the family, the school and the courts.
- Understand how the juvenile and criminal justice systems process juvenile delinquents
- Critique strategies for preventing and controlling juvenile delinquency

### **Required Texts**

Siegel, L. J. (2012). *Juvenile Delinquency: The Core*. Fourth Edition. Belmont, CA: Cengage.

Kotlowitz, A. (1991). *There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America*. New York: Anchor.

## **Evaluation**

Class Participation/In-Class Assignments: 20% of final grade

There will be regular individual and small-group in-class activities during the semester. Students who are in class and make a genuine effort to complete the activity will be given full credit for the assignment. Missed in-class assignments cannot be made-up, but three scores will be dropped when computing your final grade.

Weekly Reading Assessments: 20% of final grade

Students will complete weekly reading assessments on Blackboard covering information from the textbook (Juvenile Delinquency: The Core). **The first reading assessment is due at noon on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. All subsequent reading assessments are due at noon on Mondays.** Missed assessments cannot be made-up, but your three lowest scores will be dropped when computing your final grade.

Exams: 60% of final grade (20% each)

You will have three exams for this course. Exam questions will be from the readings AND class notes/materials/discussions/activities. The format of all exams can consist of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in, and short essay questions. Exams are non-cumulative. Students may use one 3x5 card of handwritten notes with any information they want to include.

## **Grading Scale**

90% to 100% - A  
85% to 89% - B+  
80% to 84% - B  
75% to 79% - C+  
70% to 74% - C  
65% to 69% - D+  
60% to 64% - D  
0% to 59% - F

## **Course Policies**

Attendance: Although I will not take attendance, there are regular in-class assignments. Absences will negatively affect your grade in this area. I do not provide my lecture notes to students. Students who miss classes are responsible for obtaining notes from another student in the course.

Missed Exams: Exams cannot be made up, except in cases of extreme illness, medical emergency, death in the family, court appearances, or conflict with a religious holiday. In the case of illness, or

death in the family or court appearances, documentation is required and I must be notified *before* the exam or *within forty-eight hours after* the exam. As per university policy, students who are absent from the final examination, will be given an F in the course unless they have offered a documented acceptable excuse. Those with a documented acceptable excuse will be assigned an Incomplete in the course until the examination can be made up. Make-up exams may be different from the original and may contain essays. If you must miss an exam for a religious holiday, you must notify me at the beginning of the semester.

Communication: E-mail or face-to-face during office hours are the best ways to reach me. To ensure that I will open and respond to your e-mail, please use your USC e-mail (not personal email) and put CRJU 351 in the subject line. It is your responsibility to follow up with me if you do not receive a response within 48 hours. ***I will not discuss grades or class performance with you via e-mail. This discussion must be held face-to-face in my office.***

Blackboard and E-Mail Requirements: All reading assignments and supplementary materials for the course will be posted on Blackboard. I will also e-mail the class at times with information through the university e-mail system. It is your responsibility to check your e-mail and/or forward it to your primary e-mail address. Please consult the VIP system of see me if you need instructions on how to use Blackboard.

Classroom Conduct: All cell phones and pagers are to be turned off or silenced during class (not on vibrate). All cell phones are to be put away out of view during class; there is no text messaging, eating, sleeping, chatting, etc., during class. Students are expected to be respectful and courteous of fellow classmates, the instructor, and any opinions offered during the course of class discussions. Any student engaged in disruptive behavior may be asked to leave the classroom. Failure to adhere to these classroom rules may result in your being dismissed from class and/or an academic penalty.

Academic Integrity: Assignments and examination work are expected to be the sole effort of the student submitting the work. Students are expected to follow the University of South Carolina Honor Code and should expect that every instance of a suspected violation will be reported. Students found responsible for violations of the Code will be subject to academic penalties under the Code in addition to whatever disciplinary sanctions are applied. Cheating on a test or copying someone else's work, will result in a 0 for the work, possibly a grade of F in the course, and, in accordance with University policy, be referred to the University Committee for Academic Responsibility and may result in expulsion from the University.

## **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, contact the Office of Student Disability Services: 777-6142, TDD 777-6744, email sasds@mailbox.sc.edu, or stop by LeConte College Room 112A. All accommodations must be approved through the Office of Student Disability Services.

## Class Topics and Reading Assignments

Readings are to be done PRIOR to the class date as to facilitate active classes (i.e., discussions and in-class activities). This is a tentative schedule, and I may post revisions on Blackboard.

WEEK	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
1	M, Jan. 13 W, Jan. 15	Introductions, Childhood and Delinquency
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 1:</u> p. 14-22 <u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 1-6
<b>NO CLASS, MONDAY, JANUARY 20</b>		
2	W, Jan. 22	Nature and Extent of Delinquency
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 2:</u> p. 40-52 <u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 7-10
3	M, Jan. 27 W, Jan. 29	Theories of Delinquency: Individual Views
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 3:</u> p. 53-66 <u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 11-15
4	M, Feb. 3 W, Feb. 5	Theories of Delinquency: Sociological Views
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 4:</u> p. 90-110 <u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 16-20
5	M, Feb. 10 W, Feb. 12	Theories of Delinquency: Developmental Views
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 5:</u> p. 119-136 <u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 21-26
6	M, Feb. 17	Theories of Delinquency: <i>There Are No Children Here</i>
		<u>There Are No Children Here:</u> Chapters 27-Epilogue
<b>EXAM ONE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19</b>		
7	M, Feb. 24 W, Feb. 26	Gender and Delinquency
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 6:</u> p. 146-150, 153-163
8	M, March 3 W, March 5	Family and Delinquency
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 7:</u> p. 172-179, 192-194
<b>NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK, MARCH 9-16</b>		
10	M, March 17 W, March 19	Youth Gangs
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 8:</u> p. 200-218
11	M, March 24 W, March 26	Schools and Delinquency
		<u>S&amp;W Chapter 9:</u> p. 233-244

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READING ASSIGNMENT</b>
<u>12</u> M, March 31	Drug Use and Delinquency	<u>S&amp;W Chapter 10:</u> p. 260-276
<b>EXAM TWO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2</b>		
<u>13</u> M, April 7 W, April 9	Delinquency Prevention and Justice	<u>S&amp;W Chapter 11:</u> p. 280-293
<u>14</u> M, April 14 W, April 16	Police Work with Juveniles	<u>S&amp;W Chapter 12:</u> p. 306-323
<u>15</u> M, April 21 W, April 23	Juveniles in Court	<u>S&amp;W Chapter 13:</u> p. 333-356
<u>16</u> M, April 28	Juvenile Corrections	<u>S&amp;W Chapter 14:</u> p. 374-390
<b>EXAM THREE, FRIDAY, MAY 2, 12:30-3:00 PM</b>		