CRCJ 3338-001: JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS

WOMS 3300-001: TOPICS IN WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

Spring 2016

Professor: Jaya Davis, Ph.D. Office Hours: 9:50-10:50 Mondays

Office: UH 304 9:50-10:50 Wednesdays

Office Phone: 817-272-3318 9:50-10:50 Fridays

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Class location: UH 104

Day/Times: M/W/F – 9:00am-9:50am

**Description of Course Content:** This course examines organization, processes, and functions of the juvenile justice system in the United States, its historical antecedents, and contemporary challenges. Discussion includes sociopolitical factors in juvenile delinquency and justice decision-making. This course will also explore female delinquency and justice processing separately and in comparison to that of males.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will have a better understanding of:

* the history of the juvenile justice system in the United States
* risks, consequences, and issues of juvenile delinquency
* juvenile justice system processes
* similarities and differences of the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems
* challenges of administering justice to juveniles
* current issues facing the juvenile justice system
* similarities and differences in male and female juvenile offending and justice processing

**Required Texts:**

Agnew, R., & Brezina, T. (2014). *Juvenile Delinquency: Causes and Control, 5th ed*. Oxford University Press.

**Additional readings will be assigned.**

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

**Exams** (4) - There will be four exams. The average of the exams will be worth 70% of your grade. Each exam may be multiple choice, short answer, and essay and will cover readings and class discussion for the assigned material.

At the discretion of the instructor, any student who arrives more than 10 minutes late for an exam may not be allowed to take that exam. No one arriving to an exam after the first person has left the exam will be allowed to take that exam.

The dates noted on the syllabus for the first three exams are tentative and are subject to change – any changes will be announced in class. The final exam has been set by the university.

**Project** – The project will be worth 30% of your grade. There are two options for the project.

Option 1 – Service-Learning Project

Option 2 – Book review

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I encourage and expect both class attendance and participation. However, neither will be factored into the course grade. Generally, students who attend class regularly perform better on exams than do students who do not attend class.

**Evaluations**:

Exams (average of four exams) -------------------------------------------70%

Project ------------------------------------------------------------------------30%

**Total**---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**100%**

**The grading scale for this course will be:**

A ------------------------100-90

B ------------------------89-80

C ------------------------79-70

D ------------------------69-60

Below 60 = F

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

**Make-up Exams**: There will be no make-up exams given without permission from the instructor – such permission will require a legitimate excuse presented **prior** to the exam. Make-up exams will consist of all essay questions.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**: Reading should be done by the dates indicated. Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, and preparing for exams.

**Grade Grievances**: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit [https://uta.mywconline.com/](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/luket@exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?C=jqplelmmw0KcvkWv1pRv_rHS8ofUUtFIXl_CWZTLffEmCPyZf3x4ncUbBmD9p3gSPROCbhSJj7U.&URL=https%3a%2f%2futa.mywconline.com%2f" \t "_blank) to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/).

**CRCJ Librarian Contact:** John Dillard (dillard@uta.edu)

**Course Schedule**

Please note that the following is the desired course outline. Each student is responsible for any changes as announced during class discussions and lectures.

Important dates:

Exams: Feb. 15, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11

Project: See respective project assignment

Jan 20 – Introduction, Syllabus, Projects – For next class read pgs 3-10

Jan 22 – Discussion topic: How are juvenile delinquents viewed and treated differently than adults who commit crimes? For next class read pgs 10-19

Jan 25 – Project declarations/requests due. Discussion topic: How can we explain the invention of juvenile delinquency? – For next class read Chesney-Lind & Shelden pgs 183-195 (Available on Blackboard)

Jan 27 – Discussion topic: Development of the Juvenile Justice System, Juvenile Court-Shelby County - For next class read Chesney-Lind & Shelden pgs 195-209 (Available on Blackboard).

Jan 29 – Discussion topic: How is the foundation of juvenile justice different for boys and girls? – For next class read pgs 24-31.

Feb 1 – Discussion topics: How is delinquency measured? – For next class read pgs 31-41.

Feb 3 – Discussion topic: How do we know that juveniles are telling the truth? – For next class read 44-51.

Feb 5 – Discussion topic: How much delinquency is there? - For next class read 51-62.

Feb 8 – Discussion topic: Is juvenile delinquency increasing? - For next class read 67-87.

Feb 10 – Discussion topic: Who is most likely to engage in delinquency? For next class read Causes and Correlates of Girls’ Delinquency (Available on Blackboard).

Feb 12 – Discussion topic: Is delinquency different by gender? For next class prepare for Exam 1

**Feb 15 – Exam 1** - For next class readpgs 96-109.

Feb 17 – Discussion topic: What is a theory and how do we test theories? – For next class read pgs114-124.

Feb 19 – Discussion topic: Does strain or stress cause delinquency? – For next class read pgs 129-141.

Feb 22 – Discussion topic: Do kids learn bad behavior from each other? - For next class read 148-158.

Feb 24 – Discussion topic: How does internal and external control impact delinquent behavior? - For next class read pgs 165-179.

Feb 26 – Discussion topic: If I call you a delinquent, does it mean you are? - For next class read pgs 185-194.

Feb 29 – Discussion topic: Is there a pattern to offending over the course of a lifetime? – For next class read pgs 199-209.

Mar 2 – Discussion topic: Is delinquency more likely in certain situations? – For next class read pgs 214-228.

Mar 4 – Discussion topic: How can we explain group differences in delinquency?

Mar 7 – Review for Exam 2

**Mar 9 – Exam 2**

Mar 11 – How does a community impact individual delinquency?

Mar 14 - 18 – Spring Break - For next class read pgs 238-248

Mar 21 – Discussion topic: What impact do individual traits have on delinquency? - For next class read 253-267

Mar 23 –Discussion topic: What impact does the family have on delinquency? – For next class read 272-281.

Mar 25 – Discussion topic: What impact does school have on delinquency?

Mar 28 – Discussion topic: What impact does school have on delinquency? (Truancy - Mullen)

Mar 30 – Project workday – no class meeting

Apr 1 – Last day to drop classes (4:00!!!!!) Project workday – no class meeting – For next class read pgs 285-296

Apr 4 –– Discussion topic: What impact do delinquent peer groups and gangs have on delinquency? - For next class read 296-301 and Girls and Gangs (Available on Blackboard)

Apr 6 – Discussion topic: How do delinquent peer groups and gangs impact delinquency for girls differently than boys? – For next class read pgs 307-327

Apr 8 – Discussion topic: How do other factors influence delinquency? - For next class read pgs 334-343

Apr 11 – Review for exam 3 – For next prepare for exam 3.

**Apr 13 – Exam 3 –** For next class read pgs 365-380

Apr 15 – Discussion topic: What do the police do to control delinquency?

Apr 18 – Discussion topic: What do police do to control delinquency? (Brooks-Grant) – For next class read 386-407

Apr 20– Discussion topic: What do the juvenile court and juvenile correctional agencies do to control delinquency?

Apr 22 – Tarrant County Juvenile Services - For next class read pgs 413-422

Apr 25 – Discussion topic: Does the juvenile justice system discriminate against certain groups? For next class read Girls and the Juvenile Justice System Today (Available on Blackboard)

April 27 – Discussion topic: Does the juvenile justice system discriminate against girls?

April 29 – Project workday

May 2 – Dallas County Juvenile Detention

May 4 – Final review

May 6 – Prepare for final exam – no class meeting

**May 11 – 8:00 – 10:30 Final Exam**

*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –Jaya Davis*

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.