



**MASTER SYLLABUS**  
**(Generic Outline)**

Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration and Social Work Dept.  
Course Prefix and Number: MSCJ 567  
Course Title: Seminar in Juvenile Justice

DIGITAL DESCRIPTIONS

STUDENT DESCRIPTION:  
# Cr Hrs - # Lec Hrs - # Lab Hrs  
3 - 3 - 0

PAY-HOUR DESCRIPTION:  
Total # = Lec Hrs + Lab Hrs  
3 = 3 + 0 X 2/3

Catalog Description: An analysis of all aspects of the juvenile justice system and process. Topics include history, movements toward diversion and deinstitutionalization, police interaction, court co-process, due process and community intervention. The course will also consider the law as it relates to juvenile justice and future trends in the field.

Additional Information: The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an in depth understanding of the various practical and managerial issues confronting juvenile justice practitioners and managers now and in the 21st century. The material will be presented from a legal, historical, practical, and/or social systems perspective so that the student will develop an understanding of the different social, economic, political, and practical issues in developing acceptable practices in the juvenile justice field.

The student should, upon course completion, be able to identify the goals and objectives of contemporary juvenile justice practitioners. In addition to the areas of study discussed above, learning experiences will include structured group interaction, guest speakers, field trips, class presentations, debates, and the use of computer-based decision software relative to the topics studied in the course.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: MSCJ foundation courses.

Text: Whitehead, J.T. and Lab, S. (1999). Juvenile Justice: An Introduction, 3rd ed. Cincinnati: Anderson Publishing.

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an understanding of the problems and issues relating to all aspects of the juvenile justice system. The course is designed to allow for debate, discussion and interaction between professor and students in a mature forum of understanding the improvement of

effectiveness and efficiency of juvenile justice systems. The student should, upon course completion, be able to identify the most critical issues in juvenile justice as well as an understanding of juvenile law and related critical issues.

## Topical Outline:

- I. Sub-themes of juvenile justice
- II. Gangs and gang delinquency
- III. Police interaction
- IV. Court co-process
- V. Community intervention
- VI. Missouri juvenile code
- VII. Understanding juvenile justice trends
- VIII. Theoretical rationale for juvenile interventions

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15

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Name Signature

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**NOTE:** The intention of this master course syllabus is to provide a general outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught, or where it is taught. This generic outline is not intended to restrict the way any individual faculty member teaches the course. The master syllabus, therefore, should be general enough to allow for a diversity of individual approaches to teaching the course, while at the same time it provides guidance on what the course should cover.