Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: SOCI 331

Course Title: Juvenile Delinquency

Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Nature and extent, competing models and theories, prevention, control, treatment, and research in juvenile delinquency. Prerequisite: SOCI 111. Offered Spring.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOCI 111.

Text(s):


**Supplemental Texts:**


Course Objectives:

- To understand youth crime and the development of a separate juvenile justice system.
- To understand the nature and extent of juvenile crime in the United States today and throughout the 20th century.
- To master the various theories on the causes of juvenile delinquency.
- To think critically and analytically about the role of family, child abuse, peer groups, schools, and drug abuse in juvenile delinquency.
- To analyze the roles of police, courts, the justice system and treatment programs for juvenile offenders.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Understand what juvenile crime is, patterns of juvenile crime, and the development of a separate justice system to address juvenile crime.
- Evaluate the competing theoretical perspectives that attempt to explain juvenile crime.
- Describe the role of the police, courts, and the juvenile justice system in addressing delinquency.
- Understand the role of family, child abuse, peer groups, schools, and drug abuse in juvenile delinquency.
- Evaluate treatment programs for juvenile offenders.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Nature of delinquency
- Measuring juvenile delinquency
- Choice, biosocial and psychological theories
- Social structure theories
- Social process theories
- Social reaction theories
- Female delinquency
- The family and delinquency
- Peers and delinquency
- Schools and delinquency
- Drugs and delinquency
- Overview of the juvenile justice system & treatment programs

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date: September 21, 2005
NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an 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. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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