

CRIM 3310: Youth, Crime, and Justice

Course and Instructor Information

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Class Hours & Location: W 7:00-9:45 pm GR 2.302

Office Hours: G 3.412. Monday 9:00-11:30 am or email 48 hours in advance to make an appointment.

Course Description

CRIM 3310 -- Youth Crime and Justice -- examines the concept of juvenile delinquency as a distinct type of criminal activity from that committed by adults and assesses the juvenile justice system that has evolved to handle children. Topics include: the historical roots of delinquency and the juvenile justice system; the scope and extent of delinquency in the US; explanations of delinquency; and the socio demographic correlates of delinquency status. The course also explores programmatic best practices and evidence based research from the field. (SOC 3362.)

The format for this course combines lecture with student-discussions and activities. Students will spend a portion of the class time engaging in interactive activities based on the readings. These activities are designed to illustrate important concepts in the text and will help prepare students for the exams. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to attend class with the assigned reading materials in hand and to be prepared.

Student Learning Objectives

- Understand why the study of delinquency is an important public policy issue.
- Understand the historical development of the juvenile justice system, and the way in which children have been viewed over the centuries; accordingly, be familiar with major U.S. Supreme Court decisions that have influenced the handling of juveniles.
- Describe the types of juvenile offenses and how juvenile crimes are measured.
- Describe the major theories of delinquency; develop an appreciation for competing theories, and be able to express why you believe some theories are more valid than others; how might these theories overlap or compete?
- Discuss the influences that social forces play in delinquency; consider relationships between family, peers, schools, and drug use.
- Discuss how the community and social environment can be applied to the prevention and treatment of youth offenders.
- Know how children are processed by the juvenile justice system; beginning with arrest and ending with reentry into the community.
- Understand the nature of aftercare for juveniles and become familiar with recent innovations in reentry programming.
- Be able to comment on pressing issues facing the juvenile justice system today.

Required Textbook



Larry J. Siegel, Brandon C. Welsh *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law*. 10th edition ©2009

Suggested Texts and Materials

- (Free) Student Companion Site with test practice: http://www.wadsworth.com/cgi-wadsworth/course_products_wp.pl?fid=M20b&flag=student&product_isbn_isbn=9780495503644&disciplinenumber=10
- Newhart. L. Study Guide for Larry J. Siegel, Brandon C. Welsh *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law*. 10th edition ©2009
- Additional readings are incorporated in this [syllabus](#) and posted on WebCT. Students are required to check WebCT weekly for readings and notices.

TOPICS	READINGS
PART 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT OF DELINQUENCY	
August 26 th Introduction to the class; Childhood and Delinquency	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 1 Chapter 1, Child Welfare as Public Policy in Martin, M. (2007). Human Services. Allyn & Bacon Publishing.
September 2 nd The Nature and Extent of Delinquency	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 2
PART 2: THEORIES OF DELINQUENCY	
September 9 th Individual Views of Delinquency: Special Topics – 1) FASD/Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and 2) ADHD	Quiz 1 Siegal and Welsh, Chapters 3 & 4 Case Study (in class): Biochemistry and Delinquency, a Look at Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders among Delinquent Youth
September 16 th Social Structure, Process, Culture, and Delinquency; Special Topic: Children in Poverty	Siegal and Welsh, Chapters 4 & 5 Case: Rural Poverty/Children in Poverty
September 23 rd Social Reaction, Conflict, and Delinquency; Developmental Theories of Delinquency: Life-Course and Latent Trait	Siegal and Welsh, Chapters 5 & 6
September 30 th Developmental Theories of Delinquency continued	Test #1 (lecture 1 st half of class; test to follow)
PART 3: SOCIAL, COMMUNITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON DELINQUENCY	
October 7 th Family and Delinquency Special Topic: Special Topic: Foster Care	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 8 Case Study (in class): Foster Care
October 14 th Peers and Delinquency: Juvenile Gangs and Groups	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 9
October 21 st Schools and Delinquency; Special Topic area on the public policy of inner city schools	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 10 Case: Amistad Academy: A Best Practice in School-based Prevention?
October 28 th Delinquency Prevention: Social and Developmental Perspectives; Special Topic: Head Start, Tracking the Effects of a Long-term Federal Program	Quiz 2 Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 12 National Head Start Association; Research and Evaluation http://www.nhsa.org/files/static_page_files/081FD64E-1D09-3519-ADC7E878DDB5CEC9/REDFactSheets1.pdf

PART 4: THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

November 4 th Police Work with Juveniles	Test #2 Siegal and Welsh, Chapters 14
November 11 th Police Work with Juveniles; Juvenile Court Process: Pretrial, Trial, and Sentencing	Siegal and Welsh, Chapters 14 & 15
November 18 th Juvenile Corrections: Probation, Community Treatment, and Institutionalization. Special Topic: Juvenile Corrections	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 16 Case: Youth Offenders in Secure Correctional Facilities
Project Due Wednesday, November 18th	
November 25 th Juvenile Corrections: Probation, Community Treatment, and Institutionalization continued	Siegal and Welsh, Chapter 16 continued Student Project Presentations
December 2 nd	Student Project Presentations
Final Exam Wednesday, December 16th 7:00 -9:45 pm	

Grading Policy

Quiz 1				10%
Quiz 2				10%
Test 1				20%
Test 2				20%
Project (Presentation is 10% of total Project Grade)				20%
Final Exam				20%
98-100 = A+	88-89.9 = B+	78-79.9 = C+	68-69.9 = D+	
94-97.9 = A	84-87.9 = B	74-77.9 = C	64-67.9 = D	
90-93.9 = A-	80-83.9 = B-	70-73.9 = C-	60-63.9 = D-	< 60 = F

Course & Instructor Policies

Exams and Assignments

No makeup tests or makeup assignments will be given. If a student is unable to take a test during scheduled test hours, the student will need to provide written notification (i.e., hospital documentation, police report, death certificate, etc) detailing your condition (e.g., illness, death in family, car accident, etc). Make up tests are not offered for weddings, personal travel, or other personal decisions unrelated to medical conditions or emergencies. Make-up tests are provided if tests fall on religious holidays (see UTD policy below).

Instructions will be given on quiz and exam days. For planning purposes, students should be prepared to have only a writing instrument on their desks. Hats, drinks, papers, and any other objects must be placed in a backpack or put away. Cell phones must be turned off. Students may not leave the classroom during a test or quiz until the student's own test is complete.

Participation

Participation is not included in your overall grade. However, attendance and participation are highly recommended, as information from lecture material not necessarily in the text will be included on in-class quizzes, tests, and exams. Lecture material will typically be considerably more in-depth than the text, while using the text as a foundation for discussion. Students are strongly encouraged to take notes.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

Field Trip Policies / Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours. The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22., PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688, (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY), disabilityservice@utdallas.edu

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.