

University of Southern Mississippi
School of Criminal Justice

Introduction to Juvenile Justice - CJ 360
1:00 – 2:15pm T/R in TEC 101

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Office Hours: T/R: 11am-12:30pm & 2:30-4pm; W: 8:30am-12:30pm

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REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS: 1) *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, & Law* by Siegel & Welsh (2009) 10th edition Wadsworth/Cengage Learning; 2) *No Matter How Loud I Shout* by Humes; and 3) TWO Blank Scantrons.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The primary goal of this course is to provide an introduction to the theoretical and practical issues in juvenile delinquency and the juvenile justice system (JJS). During the first half of the semester will discuss theories concerning the causes of juvenile crime and characteristics associated with juvenile delinquency. The second half of the semester will be devoted to discussing trends in juvenile crime, measuring juvenile crime, the history of the juvenile justice system, and the state of the current system. We will also briefly touch on Mississippi's JJS.

CLASS RULES/INFORMATION:

- 1. BE ON TIME** - Please show respect to the instructor, guest speakers, and your fellow students by being **ON TIME**. Class will begin promptly at 1:00pm. BEFORE class starts, turn off your cell phones, pagers, etc.
- 2. COMMUNICATIONS** - You may email me at the email above if you have any questions. During the week, I will respond within 24 hrs. **You should use your official USM email (through the USM email system) to correspond with me.** To ensure student privacy and to protect your identities, I will not respond to emails from non-USM emails. **You must include your full name on your emails.**
- 3. GUEST SPEAKERS** - We have several impressive guest speakers who have agreed to come in to our class. Please show them respect, as they have made a special effort to come to class and make themselves available for your benefit. Tests will have a considerable number of questions related to their lecture material. Students are expected to attend class every day, but WITHOUT EXCEPTION, on days with guest speakers.
- 4. ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION** – Plan to attend class the entire scheduled time for each day per your course schedule. Although attendance is not *required*, attendance will be taken randomly. **Please note that when you miss class, you are unable to participate.** Class attendance/participation does make up a portion of your grade and can make a difference in a final letter grade. Simply put, students who repeatedly miss class will have low attendance/participation grades and poor understanding of lecture materials. I will reward students who attend class with insights into exam questions and other relevant information that will help them to be successful in the class. Excused absences are limited to observed religious holidays or official USM events (athletics, debate, etc.) that students notify me of IN

ADVANCE via email or during class time. If you miss class, for any reason, YOU are responsible for getting notes and information from another student.

5. **LECTURES** - Lectures will cover supplemental material not in the text, and will make up a significant amount of test material. I encourage critical thinking and we will have in-depth discussions during class where you will be asked to participate. You are all encouraged to be an engaged and positive participant in our classroom. Weekly PowerPoint presentations will be emailed to your USM email address prior to class (by noon on Monday and Wednesday). Students are expected to download these materials when they become available and bring them to class every week. This practice will also facilitate more active participation in class lectures, as students will only have to make personal notes about the material. It is also very important for students to be in class to get the handouts on the day they are distributed. I will NOT keep extra copies after the class and it will be each student's responsibility to get a copy of the handouts from another student if they are not present. A number of handouts will be distributed during class to facilitate discussion. Students will be tested on this material and weekly lectures, as well as films viewed during class time, and/or guest lecture notes. **Students who consistently attend class, come prepared, and participate actively during class discussions will learn more and earn better grades. Please note that I may change the syllabus without notice. It is YOUR responsibility to check your email between classes to ensure that you are prepared for class.**

6. **DISABILITIES/RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS** – In accordance with University policy, if a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies. Address: The University of Southern Mississippi Office for Disability Accommodations, 118 College Drive #8586 Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001. Voice Telephone: (601) 266-5024 or (228) 214-3232; Fax: (601) 266-6035. Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1-800-582-2233 (TTY) or email Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu. Any students who have special needs due to disabilities and those students who will be missing classes due to observed religious holidays need to inform me of their needs by August 27th.

7. **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:** The field of criminology/criminal justice is based upon the integrity of those people working in it. It is assumed that students taking this class will live up to the highest levels of academic honesty. If I have reason to believe a student is cheating or being academically dishonest in any way, any and all procedures available to me will be instituted to have the student dismissed from the program and/or the University (see student code of conduct in University Catalog). **Do NOT try to cheat in this class. I will take any and all measures possible against any student who attempts to use academic dishonesty in any form in this course.**

8. **WRITING ASSIGNMENT:** Throughout the semester, we will discuss 3 separate topics with opposing viewpoints. You must pick **ONE** of these topics and choose a viewpoint to support. Incorporating information from your textbook and/or additional resources is strongly suggested. Your paper should include the following FIVE parts: 1) An introduction that states the issue you will be examining as well as its relevance. Following this, you should 2) clearly state your position, 3) provide support in favor of your position, and 4) provide support that *disproves* the *opposing* position. The paper must also include 5) a brief conclusion which should be rooted in the literature you research.

Your double-spaced paper should be **3-4 pages** in length (**NOT** including a title page, references, etc). The text should be written in APA format, with 12-point Times New Roman font and 1-inch margins on the sides and top/bottom. You should have a minimum of 5 sources. You should use active voice in your paper (i.e., avoid passive language). Your paper must be free of *unsupported* opinions, rants, cliché and/or value judgments. Remember, it is not relevant to “judge” the circumstances surrounding your topic as “good” or “bad.” Your job as a researcher is to make a scientific, unbiased evaluation of a given issue in criminology. Always remain tentative in your conclusions, since nothing in science is ever completely certain; that is, there is no “absolute proof.” Writing assignments are expected to be organized, well-written, free of grammatical and spelling errors, with responses to the sections thoughtfully and thoroughly answered. This assignment is **DUE BY NOVEMBER 17th**. **A half letter grade will be deducted for each day beyond this deadline.**

9. **QUIZZES:** Part of your grade will be made up of from a number of true/false or multiple choice unannounced quizzes that will be given during the course of the semester. I generally give five quizzes (5 pts each) throughout the semester, unless there is poor attendance/behavior in the class. I reserve the right to increase or decrease the quizzes without notice. The quizzes will typically cover the reading due for that day or the reading/lecture from the class immediately prior) and may include information covered in class or in the required texts. **IMPORTANT: Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason unless** 1) you are hospitalized (not just sick!) with written doctor verification and proof of hospitalization provided to the instructor, 2) you are participating in an official activity of a USM organization (you should give me an official letter at the beginning of the semester with the dates that you will miss class), or 3) you are observing an official holiday for your religious faith – **AND you have notified me in ADVANCE of those dates via phone or email.** Again, I encourage you to come to class on time since quizzes usually occur at the **beginning** of class. If you come late and the quiz is done, you will **not** be allowed to make it up.
10. **EXAMS:** Exams will include materials from your texts, lectures, articles, videos, guest speakers, and other supplemental materials covered in class or distributed via email. Exams are typically multiple choice with one or two short answer-style questions. **IMPORTANT: Make-up exams will NOT be considered unless** 1) you are hospitalized (not just sick!) with written doctor verification and proof of hospitalization provided to the instructor, 2) you are participating in an official activity of a USM organization (you should give me an official letter at the beginning of the semester with the dates that you will miss class), or 3) you are observing an official holiday for your religious faith - **AND you have notified me BEFORE THE EXAM via phone or email.** Simply you being sick is not a valid excuse for a makeup exam. Do not try to make up an excuse if you miss an exam! For example: you have to take it or you will lose your academic/athletic eligibility, you overslept, your power went out, your car wouldn't start, your boss kept you late for work, your best friend was in the hospital, your dog ran out the front door and you've been chasing it for hours, you were arrested and could only make one phone call. I have heard every excuse. **NONE OF THESE (OR ANY OTHER EXCUSE) WILL GET YOU A MAKEUP.** All makeup examinations will be full essay.

Regarding the exam questions: If class participation is good and respect is shown for our guest speakers and myself, I will offer KEY POINTS after videos and guest speaker lectures. **I will only do this if I see students taking notes, not doing other activities during class, being on time, and not packing up early to move along guest speakers or myself.** Your syllabus clearly shows that materials you are responsible for each examination, plus any items that I send to the class via email, show, or assign in class. There should be no surprises on your exam and I will determine if any curve is added to final exam grades. Grades are final once posted. Students who would like to review exams will have the opportunity to do so by appointment.

ON TEST DAYS: ALL HATS, CELL PHONES, PDA'S, CALCULATORS, WATER BOTTLES, OR OTHER DRINKS ARE TO BE PUT IN A BOOKBAG OR PURSE. **Students who do not bring their blank scantron form on test day will not be able to take the exam and are NOT eligible for make-up exams. The instructor will NOT have extra forms for your use. You must also bring your USM student ID cards with you to the exam.***

11. IMPORTANT DATES

- 9/1/09 – Deadline to drop for 100% refund
- 9/30/09 – Deadline to drop w/o academic penalty

I reserve the right to change any part of the syllabus or the course requirements at my discretion.

GRADING SYSTEM:

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION	25 POINTS
WRITING ASSIGNMENT	25 POINTS
QUIZZES	25 POINTS
EXAM 1	150 POINTS
EXAM 2	150 POINTS
	375 POINTS TOTAL

GRADING SCALE:

90-100%	A	337-375 POINTS
80-89	B	299-336
70-79	C	262-298
60-69	D	224-261
50-59	F	223 AND BELOW

JUVENILE JUSTICE

COURSE SCHEDULE* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August 20 – Introduction

August 25 – Trends, Definitions, & Correlates

- S & W Chapter 1
- Juvenile Arrests 2007

August 27 – Measurement of Juvenile Crime

- S & W Chapter 2

September 1 – Theory

- S & W Chapter 3 – 4

September 3 – Theory

- S & W Chapters 5 - 6

September 8 - TBA

September 10 – Family & Delinquency

- S & W Chapter 8
- **Opposing Viewpoints #1**

September 15 – Peers & Delinquency

- S & W Chapter 9

September 17 – Schools & Delinquency

- S & W Chapter 10

September 22 – Drugs & Delinquency

- S & W Chapter 11

September 24 – Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Class & Delinquency

- S & W Chapter 7
- **Opposing Viewpoints #2**

September 29 – GUEST SPEAKER

October 1 – Review for Exam

October 6 – EXAM 1

October 8 – NO CLASS – FALL BREAK ☺

October 13 – History of the JJS

- S & W Chapter 13

October 15 – Police Work & Juveniles

- S & W Chapter 14

October 20 – Intake & Diversion

- S & W Chapter 15 (pp 501-504)
- Humes (Intake – 1. January 1994)

October 22 – GUEST SPEAKER

- Humes (2. Home Girl – 4. Judge Dorn)

October 27 – Detention & Transfer to Adult Court

- S & W Chapter 15 (pp. 497-501; 505-510)
- Humes (5. Punks – 6. Raised by the State)

October 29 – Juvenile Court

- S & W Chapter 15 (pp. 491-496)
- **Opposing Viewpoints #3**
- Humes (7. War – 8. Juggling Act)

November 3 – Adjudication, Disposition and Appeal

- S & W Chapter 15 (pp. 510-522)
- Humes (9. The Big Fix – 10. Sister Janet)

November 5 – NO CLASS ☺

November 10 – Juvenile Probation and Parole

- S & W Chapter 16 (pp. 529-546)
- Humes (11. HOP – 12. Judge Dorn’s Solution)

November 12 – Juvenile Corrections & Aftercare

- S&W Chapter 16 (pp. 547-567)
- Humes (13. Thirty-one Flavors – 14. The Dorn Wars)

November 17 – GUEST SPEAKER

- **Opposing Viewpoints – Writing Assignment DUE**

November 19 – Death Penalty & Juveniles

- Article
- Humes (15. Lost Causes – 16. The Ins)

November 24 – Catch-Up

- Humes (17. The Outs – 18. A Year Later)

November 26 – NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Break ☺

December 1 – Review for Exam

December 3 – EXAM 2