

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SYLLABUS (SPRING 2008): JUST4200(SEC.002) - - JUVENILE JUSTICE

COURSE INFORMATION:

Class Meeting Days/Times: Tuesdays/Thursdays [11:00am-12:15pm (Sec.002)]
Class Location: Rivers 269
Instructor: Dr. John Johnson Kerbs, Assistant Professor
Instructor's E-mail Address: kerbsj@ecu.edu
Office: Rivers 244
Office Phone: 1-252-328-5546
Cell Phone: 1-850-212-3319
Office Hours: Wednesdays from 1:00pm -6:00pm, or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the following: 1) social, legal, and historical aspects of juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice; 2) definitions and explanations of delinquency; and 3) delinquency prevention and correctional programs.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To provide students with an understanding of:

- 1) historical and contemporary conceptions of childhood and delinquency;
 - 2) the origins/history of the juvenile justice system;
 - 3) the juvenile court's structure and associated procedures;
 - 4) the landmark Supreme Court decisions that influence the rights of juvenile offenders (globally speaking) in the juvenile justice system and the rights children within the jurisdiction of juvenile courts;
 - 5) the nature, extent, and measurement of delinquency;
 - 6) the process and policies used to control juvenile offenders - - police work with juveniles, pretrial procedures, and juvenile adjudication (trial) and disposition (sentences);
 - 7) juvenile corrections - - i.e., juvenile probation, community-based programs, training schools, detention centers, boot camps, and so on;
 - 8) the theoretical explanations of delinquency;
 - 9) the environmental influences on delinquency;
 - 10) the waiver of children to criminal courts and the sentencing of children to adult correctional systems including, but not limited to, federal/state prisons;
 - 11) boot camps - - theoretical and practical problems; and
 - 12) why programs do and don't work for juvenile offenders
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METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

I will teach this course through a series of Power-Point lectures that will complement required weekly readings from a textbook and class handouts.

REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:

This course is exclusively based upon weekly readings from two texts. Accordingly, you are required to purchase and read the following books:

Siegel, L. Welsh, B. C., & Senna, J. J. (2006). *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law (9th Edition)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomas Learning.

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th Edition)*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Course grades will be based upon five components: 1) active class participation; 2) 4 quizzes; 3) two tests; 4) one 10-page term paper; and 5) weekly reading journal submissions. Late submissions for the term paper will depreciate your term-paper grade at a rate of 10 points per day (i.e., one letter grade a day). Please note that this class will not provide students with “extra-credit opportunities” to increase course grades or compensate for undesirable grades.

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be two exams for this course: a midterm (worth a maximum of 20 points towards your final grade) and a final exam (worth a maximum of 20 points towards your final grade). The format of these exams will include the following: 1) true/false questions; 2) multiple-choice questions; 3) fill-in-the-blank questions; and/or 4) short-answer questions. All exams will cover *both* lecture material and required readings in both your textbook and course pack. Please keep the following in mind:

- 1) The midterm examination will cover materials discussed/assigned from 1/15/08 through 2/28/08 and it will be given in class on **Thursday, February 28, 2008**.
- 2) The final examination is **not comprehensive** and so it will only cover materials assigned/discussed after the midterm. For **Section 002**, it will be given on **Thursday, May 8th, 2008, from 11:00am-1:30pm in the required/scheduled room** (i.e., during the scheduled examination period as published in the ECU University Calendar). **Please note that students are responsible for double checking on the final examination’s location, date, and time because the university may make changes in the schedule.**
- 3) No make-up exams will be given without a documented emergency (e.g., hospitalization, family death). The student must contact the instructor prior to the exam or as soon as practical thereafter if s/he is unable to take the exam as scheduled due to a *documented* emergency. Without a documented emergency, the student will receive a zero for the missed exam.
- 4) All make-up exams will consist of essay questions.

QUIZZES:

To encourage attendance and the completion of all assigned readings each week, I will give, typically at the start of class, a series of 6 random (unscheduled) quizzes. I will only count your 4 highest quiz scores towards your term grade (expect 3 quizzes in the first 7 weeks of class). Each quiz is worth a maximum of 5 points towards your final grade. If you do not arrive on time for class, you will not be allowed to take the quiz (i.e., you will get a “zero” for a grade on a missed quiz) and there will be no make-up quizzes.

TERM PAPER:

Because this is a writing-intensive (WI) course, you will be required to write a 10-page term paper. This paper will count for 20% of your term grade. Please write this paper as per the stylistic requirements outlined in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th Edition). For more information about this term paper, please see online materials as posted under the “Assignments” tab in Blackboard.

WEEKLY READING JOURNAL:

Students are expected to write 2 pages per week on their weekly reading for each week of the semester. Weekly journal entries will count for 15% of your final term grade; they should be typed and submitted at the start of class on Tuesday of each week. For directions concerning weekly journal submissions, please see the online materials as posted under the “Assignments” tab in Blackboard.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Please understand that, as your professor, I am professionally invested in seeing you succeed in this course and in your college careers. Students that attend classes learn more and they are also less likely to drop out of college. Hence, I strongly suggest that you attend all classes.

To encourage attendance, participation, and the completion of all assigned readings each week, I will take attendance and give students grades for participation. Attendance and participation are worth 5% of your final course grade. Attendance, class discussions, participation, activities and exercises are not assigned a letter grade, but are computed in the instructor’s rating of the student. The instructor’s rating will also be computed on the basis of class attendance. ***If you miss 3 classes, your end-of-semester grade will decrease by 3 points. If you miss 4 classes, your term grade will drop by 4 points (5 days/5 points). IF YOU MISS 6 CLASSES, YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE FOR THE TERM. If you have an excused absence with proper documentation, you have one week from the date of absence to provide proper documentation to the professor. Should you fail to provide documentation within one week, your absence will be considered unexcused and irrevocable (i.e., the professor will not be able to review documentation at the end of the semester). Participation in on-going class discussions is mandatory.***

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Students are responsible for the following:

- 1) You must be in class before class begins. It is of note that I will take attendance at the start of class. If you arrive late, you may join the class, but this may affect your participation grade if you are repeatedly late. ***If you are late, it is your responsibility to make sure you sign in with the teacher at the end of class to avoid disrupting lectures.***
- 2) You must complete the assigned weekly readings before class meets on Tuesdays so that you can answer questions in class and participate in discussions as needed. Please note that a student’s failure to complete the weekly readings may severely hurt his/her performance on unscheduled quizzes.
- 3) All students should avoid engaging in disruptive activities (e.g., carry on private conversations) during class. Students who disrupt class may be asked to leave. ***Students attending JUST4200 should disable cell phones, beepers, and pagers during class time. Laptops may only be used for taking notes and not to surf the net. Violators will be asked not to return with laptops.***
- 4) If you miss part of a class or a whole class, you are responsible for getting notes and handouts from other students. ***The professor will not give out copies of lecture notes or handouts after a given lecture is completed. If you miss a class, please do not ask the professor for lecture notes or handouts.***

GRADE EVALUATION:

TEST	POINT VALUE
Mid-Term Test	20 Points
Final Exam	20 Points
4 Quizzes	20 Points
Term Paper	20 Points
Weekly Reading Journal	15 Points
Attendance/Participation	5 Points
Total	100 Points

GRADING SCALE:

GRADE	SCORE RANGE
A	90-100
B	80-89.999
C	70-79.999
D	60-69.999
F	0-59.999

Note: All end-of-term grades for the semester will be curved so that the median term grade for JUST4200 falls in the B category.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code as published in *East Carolina University's Undergraduate Bulletin and Course Catalogue for 2007-2008*. The academic honor system of East Carolina University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the university community. More specifically, ECU's policy regarding "Honor Code" violations reads as follows:

Academic Integrity is expected of every East Carolina University Student. . . Academically violating the Honor Code consists of the following: cheating, the giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work; plagiarism, copying the language, structure, ideas, and/or thoughts of another and adopting those as one's original work; falsification, statement of untruth, either verbal or written, regarding any circumstances relating to academic work; and attempting any act which if completed would constitute an academic integrity violation as defined above. Procedures governing academic integrity violations are described in the "East Carolina University Student Handbook" and in the "Faculty Manual."

In practical terms, if you plagiarize on anything, you will get an "F" for this course and you will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs. Please review all sections in the APA Publication Manual regarding the proper use of quotations. If you reproduce a quote verbatim (word for word), you must put the text in quotation marks and properly reference (with a text cite) the author(s), date of publication, and page quoted (please refer to pages 117-118 of the APA Publication Manual for illustrations of quotations with proper text cites). Failure to put verbatim quotes in quotation marks with proper text cites thereafter will constitute plagiarism; if you plagiarize, you will fail this course for the term. I will not make exceptions to this rule.

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) POLICY:

Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should (1) register with and provide documentation of the disability to ECU's Department of Disability Support Services, and (2) bring a letter to the instructor documenting the required accommodation. This should be done during the first week of class. You can reach ECU's Department of Disability Support Services by calling 252-737-1016, or visit their web site at the following address for additional information: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/dss/>

WEEKLY READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS**Week #1 [January 15 & 17]: Syllabus Review and Course Overview & Lecture -- Conceptions of Childhood**

Chapter 1: Childhood and delinquency.

Week #2 [January 22 & 24]: Lecture - - Measuring Delinquency and Victimization

Chapter 2: The nature and extent of delinquency.

Week #3 [January 29 & 31]: Lecture - - Biological and Sociological Theories of Delinquency

Chapter 3: Individual views of delinquency. Chapter 4: Sociological views of delinquency.

Week #4 [February 5 & 7]: Lecture - - Developmental/Gender-Based Theories of Delinquency

Chapter 5: Developmental views of Delinquency. Chapter 6: Gender and delinquency.

Week #5 [February 12 & 14]: Lecture - - Family & Peer Influences on Delinquent Activity

Chapter 7: Family and delinquency. Chapter 8: Peers and delinquency - - Juvenile gangs and groups.

Week #6 [February 19 & 21]: Lecture - - Schools and Delinquency

Chapter 9: Schools and Delinquency.

Week #7 [February 26 & 28 (Mid-Term Exam)]: Lecture - - Drugs and Delinquency

Chapter 10: Drug use and delinquency.

Week #8 [March 4 & 6]: Lecture - - The Public Health Model of Prevention Programs

Chapter 11: Delinquency prevention - Social and developmental perspectives.

SPRING BREAK: MARCH 9-16**Week #9 [March 18 & 20]: Lecture--The Juvenile Court's Changing Mission, Rehabilitation to Punishment**

Chapter 12: Juvenile justice then and now.

Week #10 [March 25 & 27]:Lecture - - Juveniles and law enforcement

Chapter 13: Police work with juveniles.

Week #11 [April 1 & 3]:Lecture - - Due Process Limitations in Juvenile Court

Chapter 14: Juvenile court process - - pretrial, trial, and sentencing.

Week #12 [April 8 & 10]:Lecture - - Juvenile Corrections

Chapter 15: Juvenile corrections - - probation, community treatment, and institutionalization.

Week #13 [April 15 & 17]:Lecture - - Juvenile Justice Abroad

Chapter 16: Delinquency and juvenile justice abroad.

Week #14 [April 22 & 24]:Lecture - - The Future of Juvenile Justice

Chapter 17: The future of delinquency and juvenile justice.

FINAL EXAMINATION FOR SECTION 002: 11:00am to 1:30pm on May 8th (Thursday)

This final examination will include true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and fill-in-the-blanks. It will only cover material reviewed since the midterm (weeks 8-14).

PLEASE CHECK UNIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES