01:202:322:86 Juvenile Delinquency

Criminal Justice Program

Professor: Ellen McCann

Monday/Wednesday 5:30-9:45 pm

Email: emccann72@aol.com

Office Hours: By arrangement

General Description of the Course:

Students will learn both historical and modern roots of today’s juvenile justice system. They will learn to think critically and analytically about issues that face juvenile justice professionals every day, and learn to understand and discuss the state of research in the field of juvenile delinquency. A broad perspective on the field of juvenile justice will be offered in the context of delinquency and criminology more generally.

Dates of Note:

Midterm Exam = 6/21

Annotated Bibliography Due = 7/5

Final Exam = Wednesday, July 7th, 5:30 pm

Grades:

25% = Discussion questions and participation

25% = Midterm Exam

25% = Final Exam

25% = Paper

Required Texts:


*Other readings will be assigned throughout the course, but not in text format.

Discussion Questions and Participation
These items will both be graded together to account for 25% of your grade.

Discussion questions:

For each class meeting date, there are several readings involved in the Benekos and Merlo text. Students are required to type up the response to at least one “discussion question” from EACH reading that is assigned for that night and come prepared to discuss their responses. There are seven (7) dates on which this is assigned (see course schedule below), and students are allowed to use one free pass on this assignment. That means that you must turn in 6 of these assignments throughout the course of the semester. These will be collected at the conclusion of class each night that it is assigned, and will ONLY be accepted if TYPED. Late work will NOT be accepted unless the student misses and the absence is excused. If a student is going to miss for an inexcusable reason, it is highly recommended that he or she email the assignment to the professor before the class time for which it is due so that it is obviously completed on time.

Participation is gauged via attendance, as one must be present to participate. Excuses are outlined by the University, including but not limited to doctor’s appointments, funerals, and religious observances; also included are University-sanctioned events such as conferences, athletic events in which one takes part as a University team member, and other such instances. All excused absences must be PRE-APPROVED by the professor unless impossibly be presenting circumstances and all excuse notes become property of the professor. Any counterfeit notes or excuses such as doctor’s notes are grounds for failing this course.

Annotate Bibliography:

Students will select from a list of topics provided in the attachment, and do an annotated bibliography to those specifications outlined in that attachment for 25% of their grades.

Exam Make-up Policy:

As defined above, only excused absences are grounds for a make-up exam, and MUST be made apparent and approved before the exam start time, including the final.

Special note about missed work:

It is important that you, as a student, take full responsibility for catching up on any and all missed work that occurs as a result of excused or unexcused absences. Notes and other course materials are the responsibility of the student, and the professor will not provide such work to any student.

Other vital information:

Students with disabilities are advised to contact the department and the Office of Disability Services so that arrangements may be made with the instructor to meet special learning needs of the student.

Academic Freedom is a fundamental right in any institution of higher learning. Honesty and integrity are necessary preconditions of this freedom. Academic integrity requires that all academic work be wholly
the product of an identified individual or individuals. Joint efforts are legitimate only when the assistance of others is explicitly acknowledged. Ethical conduct is the obligation of every member of the University community, and breaches of academic integrity constitute serious offenses and will be handled as such.

Dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and denying others access to information. For more information on these topics and the penalties available to your professor, please refer to the University Website. If you are dishonest by any of these standards, you will fail this course, NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Tentative Schedule:**

6/2  Movie and Introduction to the Course (bring syllabus)

6/7  Read Introduction to Lawrence and Hemmens text (through page 17)

Read Chapters 2 and 3 in Benekos and Merlo text

6/9  Read Section I. of Lawrence and Hemmens text – History and Development… (pp. 19-39)

Read pages 40-116, prepare responses to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 54, 69, 100, and 116. You need only answer one question from each article, meaning that you will hand in a typed copy of 4 answers.

6/14 Read Section II. Of Lawrence and Hemmens text – Police and Juveniles… (pp. 117-128)

Read pages 128-196, prepare responses to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 149, 166, 182, 195, 208. You should then be prepared to hand in 5 TYPED answers.

Read Chapters 5 and 9 in Benekos and Merlo text

6/16 Read Section III. Of Lawnrece and Hemmens text – Juvenile Detention and Intake (pp. 209-219)

Read pages 220-263; prepare answers to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 235, 249, and 263. You should be handing in 3 typed responses.

6/21 Midterm Exam

Read Chapter 10 in Benekos and Merlo text

6/23 Read Section IV. Of Lawrence and Hemmens text – Transfer to adult (pp. 265-278)

Read pages 279-333; prepare answers to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 287, 301, 318, and 333.
Read Chapter 7 in Benekos and Merlo text

6/28 Read Section V. of Lawrence and Hemmens text – Juvenile Court (pp. 335-351)
Read pages 352-401; prepare answers to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 360, 377, 388, and 401.

6/30 Read Section VI. Of Lawrence and Hemmens text – Corrections (pp. 403-423)
Read pages 424-485; prepare answers to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 435, 450, 471, and 485.
Read Chapter 8 in Benekos and Merlo text

7/5 Read Section VII. Of Lawrence and Hemmens text – Future (pp. 487-502)
Read pages 503-580; prepare answers to discussion questions – one from each reading found on pages 518, 538, 550, and 580.
Read chapter 12 in Benekos and Merlo text
ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

7/7 Final Exam

This schedule WILL be altered throughout the course of the semester and it is your responsibility as the student to be aware of these changes as they are announced in class.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ATTACHMENT STILL PENDING – SORRY FOR DELAY, PLEASE CHECK BACK BEFORE 1ST DAY OF CLASS FOR THIS ATTACHMENT.