

Common Course Outline
CRJU/EDTR/SOCL 223
Juvenile Delinquency
3 Semester hours
Community College of Baltimore County

Description

CRJU/EDTR/SOCL 223 – 3 credits –Juvenile Delinquency studies the causes, volume and trends in delinquent behavior by children; examines the efforts of social control agencies to predict, prevent, treat and control juvenile delinquency with emphasis on the organization and procedures used to implement social policies to reduce the incidence of delinquent acts.

Prerequisites: ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. summarize the historical development of the juvenile justice system;
2. analyze the strengths and weakness used in measuring the extent of juvenile delinquency;
3. evaluate the major theoretical perspectives that attempt to explain juvenile delinquency;
4. describe and give examples of delinquency prevention programs;
5. examine the various methods in which law enforcement respond to juveniles;
6. compare the rights and procedures awarded to juveniles in landmark cases to those in the adult system;
7. distinguish the juvenile pretrial and trial proceedings from the adult criminal court system;
8. define the goals and responsibilities of community corrections for juveniles;
9. outline juvenile institutions and programs utilized in juvenile corrections;
10. differentiate the approaches used to curtail juvenile gang development and involvement with approaches used in the criminal system; and
11. evaluate the future of the juvenile justice system and predict possible scenarios that may emerge with the “get tough on crime” philosophy.

Major Topics

I. The Concept of Delinquency

- A. History and development of juvenile justice system
- B. Nature and extent of delinquency
- C. Approaches used to measure delinquency
- D. Risk and protective factors

II. Theories of Delinquency

- A. Choice, Deterrence, Biological, and Psychological Theories
- B. Social Structure Theories
- C. Social Process Theories
- D. Social Reaction theories
- E. Delinquency Prevention and Intervention

III. Police and Courts

- A. Police procedures and juveniles
- B. Landmark juvenile cases
- C. Pretrial procedures
- D. Juvenile trial and disposition

- IV. Juvenile Corrections
 - A. Probation and community corrections
 - B. Juvenile Institutions
- V. Juvenile Gangs
 - A. Approaches
 - B. Interventions
- VIII. Future of Juvenile Justice
 - A. Current trends
 - B. Specialty courts

Course Requirements

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- A minimum of two exams; the final exam does not have to be cumulative;
- Quizzes can be given as determined by the instructor
- A minimum of one writing assignment such as:
 - Summaries of current events and their relation to course material;
 - Evaluation of scholarly journal articles
 - Observation and analysis of a juvenile treatment program

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine additional writing assignments.

Course Information

This course is a Criminal Justice core course, an Education elective, and a Sociology elective. Credit may be received only for CRJU 223, EDTR 223, **or** SOCL 223.