

Montgomery County Community College  
CJS 235  
The Juvenile Justice System  
3-3-0

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces the student to the origins and development of the juvenile justice system in the United States. Students will study the juvenile justice system and child welfare systems from historical, legal, and institutional perspectives. Students will become familiar with the substantive law of Pennsylvania in terms of delinquency and child abuse with some international comparisons. Problems and theories of delinquency, interdisciplinary communication and diversion of selected juvenile offenders from the formal justice system will be explored. Each component of the system: police, courts, probation and community corrections are analyzed and recommendations for improvement are considered. The community and the schools and their role in delinquency prevention will be covered. Lastly, there will be a study of the nature, magnitude, and social location of youth crime; analysis of causal theories, and an overview of programs aimed at delinquency prevention and control.

**REQUISITES:***Previous Course Requirements*

- CJS 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Describe childhood and adolescent development, and relate this to legal and social theories regarding the development of delinquency.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Explain the nature and extent of delinquency including how data is collected; describe delinquency trends and patterns.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
3. Describe the major biological, psychological, sociological, and developmental theories that examine juvenile delinquency in an effort to seek to explain delinquent and criminal behavior.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
4. Identify the key social, community, and environmental influences on delinquency.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
5. Explain the process of the juvenile justice system; examine key legal cases; identify and express the differences between the adult and juvenile court; and discuss both the historical implications and current changes that have occurred within the juvenile justice system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
6. Describe how the police respond to various problems related to juvenile delinquency.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
7. Discuss the various forms of punishment and the alternative methods in dealing with juveniles including efforts aimed at prevention and rehabilitation.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

#### SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

##### PART ONE: Concept of Delinquency

1. Childhood and Delinquency
2. The Nature and Extent of Crime

##### PART TWO: Theories of Delinquency

3. Individual Views of Delinquency (Biological/Psychological)
4. Social Structure, Process, Culture, and Delinquency
5. Social Reaction, Conflict, and Delinquency
6. Developmental Theories Delinquency: Life-Course and Latent Trait

##### PART THREE: Social, Community, and Environmental Influences on Delinquency

7. Gender and Delinquency
8. The Family and Delinquency
9. Peers and Delinquency: Juvenile Gangs and Groups
10. Schools and Delinquency
11. Drug Use and Delinquency
12. Delinquency Prevention: Social and Developmental Perspectives

PART FOUR: The Juvenile Justice System

13. Juvenile Justice: Then and Now
14. Police Work with Juveniles
15. Juvenile Court Process
16. Juvenile Corrections
17. Delinquency and Juvenile Justice Abroad

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Juvenile Delinquency Plus REVEL Access Card Package (3rd Edition) 3rd Edition (2017) by Clemens Bartollas and Frank Schmalleger

Textbooks are retained or changed at the discretion of the division. The decision to retain or change a textbook will be effective with the Fall term. When a textbook is retained, its latest edition will be adopted as of the Fall term.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Donald A. Nypower	Date: 5/12/1995
Revised by: Angela M. Ambers-Henderson	Date: 10/1998
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 6/18/2008
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 2/22/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 2/25/2013

Revised by: Jayden Sampson	Date: 12/16/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 12/18/2017



*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*