

Introduction to Juvenile Delinquency SOC 231

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Course Description

This course will focus on the nature and extent of delinquency, answering the question of what is delinquency and how does it differ from adult crimes. We will examine the theories of delinquency, primarily focusing on strain theory, social learning, labeling, and control theory.

Then we will look at some of the "causes" of delinquency, specifically the individual traits, the family factors, school factors, peer groups, gangs, and other factors. As well as examining the control and prevention of delinquency by looking at what the juvenile justice system (police, juvenile court, juvenile correctional agencies) does to control delinquency.

We will also pay special attention to the general strategies surrounding the controlling of delinquency: the "get tough" strategies of deterrence and the strategies of rehabilitation and prevention.

REQUIREMENTS

Larry J. Seigal and Brandon C. Welsh. 2010. *Juvenile Delinquency: The Core*. 4th edition. Cengage. ISBN: 0495809861

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SLOs)

- 1) You will have 10 written assignments in this course, each totaling a minimum of 400 words

- 2) As a commitment to course discussion, you will have a total of 10 class discussion requirements in which you must engage in discussion with your classmates by posting responses to the questions listed and following up with replies to your classmates' posts.

STUDENT EVALUATION

Your grade will consist of the following:

10 Discussion Question postings worth	1.5 pts each
10 Assignments worth	3 points each
Mid-term exam worth	25 points
Final exam worth	30 points

Total **100 points**

Students should regularly check their Hawaii email account for messages.
COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS: (Schedule is subject to change)

Week/Topic/Reading Assignment

Week 1 Childhood & Delinquency Chapter 1

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Week 2

Nature & Extent of Delinquency Chapter 2

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Week 3 Ind views of Delinquency Chapter 3

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Week 4

Sociological Views of Delinquency Chapter 4

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Week 5 Developmental Views of Delinquency Chapter 5

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Week 6

Gender & Delinquency Chapter 6

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Week 7 Family & Delinquency Chapter 7

Mid-term exam (Chapters 1-7)

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Week 8

Peers & Delinquency Chapter 8

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Week 9 Schools & Delinquency Chapter 9

Week 10 Drug Use & Delinquency Chapter 10

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Week 11

History & Development of Juv Justice Chapter 11

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Week 12 Police Work with Juveniles Chapter 12

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Week 13

Juvenile Court Process Chapter 13

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Week 14

Juvenile Corrections Chapter 14

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Week 15 Topic TBA Chapter 15

FINAL EXAM (Ch's 8-15)

SOME IMPORTANT ITEMS:

- ü **NO MAKE UPS FOR ASSIGNMENTS, DISCUSSIONS, or EXAMS**
- ü **NO EXTRA CREDIT IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS COURSE UPON REQUEST**
- ü **NO GRADE NEGOTIATING**

Doing well in this class: In order to do well in this class, it is important that you a) follow along with all assignments, and discussion questions, and (b) do all required readings

It is critical that you do the readings. Doing the readings will help you to better understand the course material and focus your paper topics to the relevant areas that we have been covering.