

COURSE OUTLINE

CRIM-103 Juvenile Delinquency 3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course studies youthful crime; its volume, causes, and trends. The prediction, prevention, treatment and control of juvenile delinquency by social control agencies is examined relative to social policies needed to reduce its incidence. The organization and procedures of the juvenile justice system will be explored. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives:

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

1. Identify and describe juvenile crime including "Status Offenses".
2. Define the legal differences between a juvenile and an adult offender.
3. Describe how the labeling process affects delinquent behavior.
4. Describe major causation theories for male and female delinquency in American society.
5. Analyze the various implications of having a "delinquent self concept."
6. Describe the basic delinquent personality types and the forces that shape them.
7. Examine the effects of emotionally disordered parents on the development of delinquent personality.
8. Analyze the contemporary public school system's role in both educating and socializing children today.
9. Describe the administration of justice in the juvenile court system from arrest through disposition.
10. Identify notable juvenile cases pertaining specifically to the 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th and 14th amendments.
11. Analyze police work and delinquency prevention.
12. Examine sentencing options including diversion programs such as community service, restitution, community treatment, PBJ, electronic monitoring, alternative family placement, etc.
13. Identify career opportunities and requirements in the juvenile justice system.

Major Topics

- I. Defining Delinquency
 - A. The nature and extent of juvenile delinquency
 - B. The juvenile court
 - C. Social class factors and delinquency

- II. Psychological and Sociological Factors in Delinquency
 - A. Delinquent personality types
 - B. The family and delinquency
 - C. The school and delinquency

- III. Significant Problems
 - A. The juvenile in a violent society
 - B. Juvenile gangs
 - C. Growing up in a substance-abusing society

- IV. The Causal Theories of Crime And Delinquency
 - A. Treatment methods and strategies
 - B. Community treatment and prevention programs
 - C. Institutions and therapeutic communities for delinquents

Course Requirements

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

Final grades will be calculated on the basis of exams, including a comprehensive final exam, a research paper based on a contemporary issue pertaining specifically to the juvenile system, an oral presentation, and class participation.

Other Course Information

Meets College definition for Cultural Diversity

This course is a Social Science and Arts and Science elective.