CRJ 312 Juvenile Justice
Spring 2015 (March 9 – May 4)

Course Number and Title: CRJ 312 Juvenile Justice

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Credit Hours: 3 hrs Date/Time: Mondays 6:00PM-10:20PM

Course Description: This course is examines the historical response to juvenile delinquency and the origins of the juvenile justice system, Students learn the theories relating to the causes of juvenile delinquency; the laws governing the police handling of delinquency and detention; the structure of the juvenile court system; the application of corrections to juvenile offenders; and strategies for prevention of juvenile offences.


Course Learning Outcomes: By reading and discussing the assigned material, engaging the written assignments, analyzing, researching and preparing reports the students will be able to:

1. Understand the historical response and origins to juvenile delinquency.

2. Assess the theoretical causes to juvenile delinquency and the established processes and laws governing the criminal justice response from; law enforcement and corrections.

3. Recognize the structural and applicable differences between juvenile and adult court in finding morally just and legal solutions.

4. Develop prevention strategies based on creating an interdisciplinary, coordinated, and systematic approach to working with youth and their families.

5. Apply competing methods and theories to real and hypothetical problems in the juvenile justice system while enhancing their critical thinking, research and writing skills to juvenile justice issues.

The outcomes will be measured by assessing the student's ability to discuss and respond to reflective questioning, examining the results of classroom table-top problem solving exercises, examining their written assignments, field trip report and final research paper or exam.

Content and Instructional Methods: This course is comprised of reading material, electronic media files, field trips, guest speakers, and lectures. Reinforcement of learning is accomplished through the course objectives, readings and the submission of written assignments.

Instructor Expectations: Participation and professionalism are part of each student’s grade. As an educational institution designed to help students acquire and maintain viable employment, we strive to teach professionalism to our students. Each student is expected to: Complete the assigned work on time & Remain in contact with the instructor.

Participation: Informed class participation is a key component of this course. You are expected to participate in class discussions in a frequent and constructive way. Readings will be assigned (see course schedule for specific due dates). You must read the assigned articles or chapters in due time and come to class ready to critically analyze and discuss them. You may be randomly selected to answer specific questions related to your weekly readings or current events. Participation is worth 10% of your final grade.

Reading Assignments: Week-1 (Chap1-2), Week-2(Chap3-4), Week-3(Chap5-6), Week-4(Chap 7-8), Week-5(Chap 9,10), Week-6(Chap11&12), Week-7 (Chap13-14), Week-8(Chap15,16-17).
Writing Assignments

**Essay Reports:** (4) Students are expected to write 1-2 page response to an assigned question. These papers are imagined as jumping off points for class discussion, and as a way for students to frame their understanding of the themes we are developing throughout the course. 40% of your grade

**Field Trip Paper:** (1-2) Participate in a field trip and write a 2-3 page report (typed, double-spaced) describing the trip and your reactions to it (e.g., was it what you expected, do you think the program/agency you visited is doing a good job, what changes would you make in it). Instructor will pose a question or an issue that was exposed during the field trip which require some research and a response. 30% of your grade

**Final Exam:** There will be a required final exam during the last class. You may use your text book and any materials that you have prepared, including handwritten notes. You may not use any commercially prepared materials printed off from the Internet. The exam will take 2 + hours to take. The exam will count for 20% of your grade or you have the option to write an optional juvenile justice research paper. See instruction below. 20% of your grade

**Optional Paper:** You may choose to write an 5 page paper on a juvenile justice topic of your choosing. This paper can address any issue related to juvenile justice and may take the form of a research paper or policy paper. If you exercise this option, you will not be required to take the final exam. Deadlines for topic and completion will be announced during the first class period. All papers will follow APA guidelines, 1” margins, double spaced, Arial or Times Roman - size 12 font. Or 20%

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**Field trip to YAC & Cedars & Wics**

**Late Work Policy**
Students are expected to submit assignments by the assigned due dates or in advance of the assigned dates.

**Incomplete Policy**
An Incomplete (I) may be given if a student is not able to complete the work required for a course by the last day of the course due to sickness or other extenuating circumstance that the student has discussed with the instructor. When awarding an incomplete, the instructor will assign an expiration date NO LATER THAN the last day of the next term. The expiration date can be earlier if the teacher chooses. If the expiration date passes without a grade change from the instructor, the incomplete grade will automatically convert to an “F”. This is a final grade and will not be changed, per the grade change policy.

In order to receive an incomplete (I), a student must have completed at least 75% of the coursework required for the course. If a student wishes to receive an incomplete for a course, the student will obtain a form from the registrar that will allow the teacher and the student to detail the coursework required to remove the incomplete. The student must complete the form, obtain the signature of the instructor on the form, and return it to the appropriate office.