

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

CJ 2513 Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Justice

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite or corequisite: CJ 1013 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description:

Nature and extent of delinquency, explanatory models and theories: the juvenile justice system; history, philosophy, and evaluation of the juvenile court, juvenile court practices and procedures; the role of the police officer and the correctional officer.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Discuss the basic concepts and theories in the juvenile justice field.
2. Understand the role of each component (law enforcement, courts, and corrections) of the juvenile system and each role of its various actors.
3. Become acquainted with the scope of juvenile crime, how it is measured, and how it is reported.
4. Apply theory in explaining juvenile criminal behavior.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and learn about court cases and how juvenile justice is based on the Constitution.
6. Develop critical thinking skills through writing assignments, readings, videos, guest speakers, and discussions.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify juvenile delinquency problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will use essay format for written presentation of research projects and discuss particular aspects of various topics.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will examine ethical dilemmas within the juvenile delinquency system and develop ethical frameworks to resolve specific ethical issues.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Overview of police, courts, and corrections
- B. Crime and the causes of juvenile crime
- C. Issues and challenges facing the Juvenile Justice System