Juvenile Justice  
University of Texas at El Paso  
CRIJ 3308-001, Spring Semester, 2021  
Instructor-Miguel A. Rico

Office Hours: By appointment at the UTEP CJ Department  
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Classes are 100% online, and I will be available for any question Monday-Friday  
8:00am to 5:00 p.m. and will answer any questions within 24 hours.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Juvenile Justice. An overview of the principles of Juvenile Justice and criminological theory with an emphasis on juvenile justice studies, approaches, practices, and evaluations.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify the causes of juvenile crimes, and how to prevent them at an individual and organizational level.
2. Learn the theory, practice and law implemented in juvenile delinquency. Learn to discuss cultural differences that effect juvenile delinquency and how each different culture addresses those juvenile delinquent issues.
3. Analyze and apply juvenile justice techniques in order to reduce crime in your own community.
4. Cultural differences will be explored and students must respect each other’s opinions, and comments in order to have a vast understanding of other student’s perspectives.

Modules:

This course is designed using a modular format—that is, each week is “packaged” as a single module so that all the materials, lecture notes, submission areas, discussion posts are in one area for a given week.

Course Requirements:

Students will be required to read each chapter, participate in class discussion and be ready to discuss current events in criminal justice as they occur.

Exams: There will be 2 class exams and two written papers

The first paper will be in APA format and it will illustrate the many causes of crime. You will use the terminology and theories which we will go over in the book.
The second paper will be also APA format and will illustrate the solutions to the many causes of crime. Again, you will use the terminology and theories illustrated in the book. Students are encouraged to use the Writing Center to assist them with their work.
Please refer to the Writing Center if you need assistance with your written assignments. The University Writing Center is located in Library, Room 227. It is a great place to receive help with editing your written papers, and with APA style assistance. They are open M-Th 9:00-5:00 pm, Fr 9:00-2:00 pm, and Sundays 12:00-5:00pm. Appointments are recommended well before the deadline, but they will take walk-ins.

There will be a quiz every Friday at the beginning of class, if you are late you will not be able to take the quiz and will not get credit for that quiz.

The first exam/mid-term will cover chapters 1-8 and reading material and lecture.

The final exam will cover chapters 1 through 16 and reading material and lecture.

**Alternative means to turn in work:**

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort.

**Attendance:**

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, “When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of “W” before the course drop deadline and with a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline.” See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will drop you from the course. I will provide 24 hours advance notice via email.

**OR**

I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar’s Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an “F” for the course.
UTEP Drop Policy

If unforeseen circumstances happen where a drop is necessary, students are responsible for initiating any course drop. It is the student’s responsibility to determine how dropping courses may affect financial aid. **Students are limited to dropping no more than 6 courses over their entire academic career of all courses taken at any public college or University in Texas.**

a. Students who drop a course within the first 2 weeks before the “official census date,” ( ) the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn’t count toward the 6-course drop limit.

b. Dropping a course after the official census date, but before the “course drop date” ( ) will generate a “W” in the course—although the drop shows on your transcript, a “W” does not lower your GPA. However, this type of drop counts against your 6-drop limit.

c. If the course is dropped after the “course drop date” or if the student just stops coming/taking tests, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an “F” in the course that permanently remains on the transcript. This type of drop counts against the 6-drop limit.

d. UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of excessive absences, lack of effort, or disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP email account. A “W” will be issued if the drop occurs before the course drop date, and an “F” will be issued if a student is administratively dropped for disciplinary reasons or after the course drop date. This type of drop counts against the 6-drop limit.

e. If circumstances occur where a student must miss an excessive number of classes and/or is unable to submit multiple assignments (e.g., student medical reasons, medical conditions of a family member, death of a family member, active military service), they should first discuss the possibility of withdrawal from all classes with their academic advisor. If a student withdraws completely from all classes, kindly notify Mr. Miguel Rico at marico42@utep.edu. Complete withdrawals from all classes in the same semester do not count against the 6-drop limit.

Exams and will be based both on lecture and assigned reading materials.

Grading distribution:

The final course grade will be determined using the average of the following metrics:

Exam one 25% Final 25% Quiz’s/Discussion Boards 25% Written Papers 25%

The following will be used to assign course letter grades:

A :90-100   B: 80-89   C:70-79   D:60-69

F: Below 60 or three or more un-excused absences

There will be no curve used in the grading nor will extra work be accepted for credit, except as previously described for participation credit for absences.

Academic Honesty:
Submitting someone else’s work as your own or not performing your own work at exam time will not be tolerated. A student, whom the instructor deems is being dishonest, will be quietly advised and if the departure of dishonesty is not immediate, the director of the Criminal Justice Department will be advised in writing. The Criminal Justice Program will abide strictly with College Policy. Anyone found cheating on an examination or a paper in this course will be reported to the Dean, and the Director will work towards the student’s dismissal from school.

Note for students with disabilities:

Alternative formats of this syllabus are available upon request to students with disabilities. Please contact the instructor. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor, and seeking available assistance in a timely manner.

Make up work:
Make-up work will be given only in the case of a documented emergency. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, may require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. If you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable, you will receive a zero. It is therefore important to reach out to me—in advance if at all possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement. Once a deadline has been established for make-up work, no further extensions or exceptions will be granted.

Covid 19 Accommodations and Precautions:

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

(classes with on-campus meetings) Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling
unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 Health and Safety and Section 1.2.2.5 Disruptions in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. 

(classes with on-campus meetings) Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery

CLASS RECORDINGS

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a synchronous or in-person class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP’s acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. You may not share recordings outside of this course. Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

The book has excellent references to the current literature cited and explains in detail the theory, hypothesis and research behind each chapter. The book explains to the student what to be aware of, and enables the student to deal with what research is about and what a student should be able to do upon completion of the course.

Crime Prevention is a multi-disciplinary endeavor and any student intending to go into any portion of the field should be able to apply the sociological, psychological, political, criminal law and procedural law aspects in order to achieve success.

From law enforcement, probation, correctional, counseling, to employment as a lawyer, a student must deal with sociology, psychology, politics and an understanding of legal and procedural principles. Steven Lab provides excellent material on these and many other subjects.

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments, by Week

Week one Introduction: Class Format, policy and syllabus distribution, expectations and requirements.
Chapter 1 Video, Discussion and review of Blackboard/quiz
Week two
   Chapter 2, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 3, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz

Week Three
   Chapter 4, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 5, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz

Week Four
   Chapter 6, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 7, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz

Week Five
   Chapter 8, Video Read, Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 9, Video, Read, Discussion/quiz

Week Six
   Chapter 10, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 11, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz

Week Seven
   Chapter 14, Video, Read and Discussion/quiz
   Chapter 15, Review/Quiz

Week Eight
   Review for final and Discussion of course
   Final

Schedule is subject to change at the Professors discretion.