

Course Description**CJJ2002 | Juvenile Delinquency | 3.00 credits**

An analysis of the theories and causes of juvenile delinquent behavior. The role of the three components of the juvenile justice system (Police, Court, Corrections) and their impact on prevention and rehabilitation.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will examine the theories and concepts involved in the study of juvenile delinquency by:

1. Describing the major problems youth experience in society
2. Explaining the adolescent dilemma and the aging out process
3. Identifying the concept of “*parens patrie*” and its relationship to delinquency rehabilitation
4. Contrasting the difference between criminal behavior, juvenile delinquent, and status offender

Competency 2: The student will identify the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency by:

1. Defining the term official delinquency
2. Describing the recent trends in juvenile delinquency
3. Recognizing the risk factors that affect juvenile crime in society
4. Analyzing various crime measurement tools, including the Uniform Crime Report, National Crime Victimization Surveys, and self-study reports

Competency 3: The student will describe the basic theories related to the individual and delinquency by:

1. Defining the differences between choice theory and trait theories
2. Discussing the general deterrence theory, specific deterrence, and situational crime prevention methods
3. Identifying the contemporary biosocial theories including biochemical factors, neurological dysfunctional, and genetic factors
4. Examining the psychological theories, including psychodynamic theory, behavioral theory, and cognitive theory

Competency 4: The student will identify the factors that influence the sociological views of delinquency by:

1. Defining social factors, social structure theories, including social disorganization, anomie and strain, and cultural deviance theory
2. Examining the components of the social process theories, including social learning and social control
3. Describing the social reaction theory, the labeling theory, social conflict theory and critical theory
4. Identifying gender differences in development and delinquency, trait views, feminist views, including sex abuse and sex trafficking

Competency 5: The student will identify family factors that contribute to delinquency by:

1. Defining the changing family influences, including family breakup, family conflict, family effectiveness, and family deviance

2. Comparing the different types of child abuse and neglect and its relationship to delinquency
3. Describing the elements that cause child abuse, and the legal issues involved in child abuse cases
4. Summarizing the principles that reduce child abuse and the resilient theory

Competency 6: The student will explore the role of peers and delinquency by:

1. Defining the term gangs and the factors that explain the changes of gang activity
2. Recognizing the various types of gangs, gender issues, race, age, location, structure, and contemporary gangs in society
3. Analyzing the different theories of gang formation and strategies to prevent gang membership
4. Identifying factors that reduce gang membership including law enforcement efforts and community control efforts

Competency 7: The student will identify the role of education process on the development of delinquency by:

1. Explaining recent educational trends and issues, and the relationship of academic performance and juvenile delinquency
2. Recognizing the risk factors that influence school failure and dropping out of school
3. Listing the causes of the failure including, personal problems, social class, tracking alienation, and bullying
4. Examining the causes of school crime and identifying school-based prevention and safety policies and procedures

Competency 8: The student will examine some of the juvenile drug trends and its relationship with delinquency by:

1. Identifying the frequently abused drugs in accordance with recent surveys
2. Discussing the reasons why youth take drugs and the pathways to drug abuse
3. Defining the different types of drug users and criminal behaviors associated with the sale and distribution of drugs
4. Describing the drug control strategies of law enforcement, education, community, and treatment

Competency 9: The student will identify the major social changes leading to the development of juvenile justice by:

1. Recalling delinquency prevention strategies in early years and teenage years
2. Describing landmark Supreme Court decisions that have influenced present day juvenile justice procedures
3. Recognizing the historical and significant differences between the adult and juvenile justice system
4. Defining the key elements of a comprehensive juvenile justice strategy, including prevention, intervention, graduated sanctions, institutional programs, and alternative courts

Competency 10: The student will examine the different roles of the police, the courts, and corrections in the handling juvenile offenders by:

1. Identifying the history of juvenile policing, the rule of law and police, and police strategies to prevent delinquency
2. Explaining key issues affecting the juvenile court process, the transfer to the adult court, the juvenile court trail, and the future of the juvenile court

3. Distinguishing between probation, community treatment and institutional treatment of juvenile offenders, including the principle of least restrictive alternative
4. Recalling recent trends of children processed as adults by the criminal justice system

Learning Outcomes:

- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities