

Saint Leo University

CRM 370 Juvenile Justice

Course Description:

This course addresses the problem of juvenile crime and justice in the United States. Topics covered include the nature and extent of the delinquency problem; the measurement of official delinquency; unofficial accounts of delinquency; the role of the family, schools, and peers; an overview of the juvenile process including law enforcement, courts, and corrections; and efforts towards delinquency prevention and prediction.

Prerequisite:

POL 123 or CRM 123, and CRM 220

Textbooks:

Fuller, J. R. (2016). *Juvenile delinquency: Mainstream and crosscurrents*. (3rd ed.). New York, New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0-02357-0

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN-13: 978-0-19-027557-0

Course Objectives:

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the Saint Leo University core value of Personal Development as it relates to improving outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice system.
2. Describe the sequence of events that occur for the adolescent offender from initial contact with law enforcement, through the court process and disposition, to the final sanctions and placement of the offender.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the juvenile justice system.
4. Describe the impact the juvenile justice system has on our communities.

Core Value:

The core value for this course is: **Personal Development**. Saint Leo University stresses the development of every person's mind, spirit, and body for a balanced life. All members of the Saint Leo University community must demonstrate their commitment to personal development to help strengthen the character of our community.

Student Evaluation:

Grading will be based on the following point system:

Participation/Discussion Questions (8@2% ea.)	16%
Textbook Review Guides (8@2.75% ea.)	22%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Research Paper	22%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade Score (%)	
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	0-59

Written Assignments and the APA Format:

APA has been adopted by the Department as its writing standard for all academic written assignments. No other writing style is acceptable. APA is the American Psychological Association, and the style is one of many in the academic world used to regulate the language, citations, procedure, and formatting of manuscripts and other examples of writing in the social sciences. Refer to the *APA Guide* under *Resources* on the Course Menu for APA specifics.

All projects, assignments, or papers submitted for grading will be required to include an abstract and reference page. All references are to be cited using the American Psychology Association (APA) format (6th edition). Your work will be assessed using an individual grading rubric for each assignment. This tool and process helps the professor measure the key points necessary to successfully complete written or group assignments. *Wikipedia is not an appropriate source for any scholarly writing and is not permitted for any assignment in this program.*

Participation/Discussion Question Postings and Responses.

You are expected to attend and participate in each class discussion. A portion of your grade is dependent upon informed and active participation in these discussions. You are expected to log into class **a minimum of twice a week** to post discussions to **TWO** other classmates.

Please note: Your post is due by 11:59 on Thursday of each week. Once this is complete, post your **TWO** replies by 11:59 PM EST/EDT on Sunday, the due date of this week's assignment.

Length: Content post is 150-200 words; Response post is 75-100 words.

Both your content post and your response post should reflect a collegial attitude and be free of grammatical and spelling errors.

Textbook Reviews

You are expected to complete a review guide from the assigned weekly readings. The textbook reviews will be used as study guides for your Midterm and Final Exams. They are to be completed and turned in each week for a grade. You may submit your Textbook Reviews prior to the due date. If any review guides are submitted after the due date, there are no guarantees that they can be graded and returned to you by the exam dates. All assignments submitted late are subject to a grade reduction or sanction as determined by the instructor. Prior permission of the professor/instructor must be received if coursework is to be submitted late.

Midterm and Final Exams

A Midterm and a Final Exam will be given in this course. These exams will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, true/false, and essay-based questions.

Research Paper

A list of approved topics related to the subject of juvenile justice will be provided in Module 2. You are expected to complete a research paper related to one of these topics by the end of Module 7. No more than 20% of your paper may be attributed to referenced sources. Support your paper with at least 5 scholarly resources. In addition, other appropriate scholarly resources, including older articles, may be referenced.

Your paper should demonstrate thoughtful consideration of the ideas and concepts that are presented in the course and provide new thoughts and insights relating directly to this topic. The paper must include the concepts of juvenile delinquency and demonstrate an understanding of the content and internal logic of the theories and premises applied to juvenile delinquency.

This paper will be presented in a typed, college-level, double-spaced format including proper title headings, sub-topics, citations, and reference page.

Your response should reflect scholarly writing, current APA standards, and should adhere to Saint Leo University's Academic Integrity Policy.

The "Research Paper" must be at least 5 pages (not including title and reference pages) in length. The research will be graded on how well the topic is presented, along with sentence structure, spelling, grammar, and proper punctuation. See the rubric chart in Module 2 for detailed grading information.

Module 1 Juvenile Delinquency: Definitions, History, and Measurement

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Define status offenses.
- Discuss the use of *parens patriae* in the modern juvenile justice system.
- Describe the dark figure of crime.
- Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports, the National Incident-Based Reporting System, and the National Crime Victimization Survey.
- Discuss the purpose of self-report studies.
- According to the textbook, define how youth may be affected by victimization.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post an introduction to the class	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 1	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 2 The Adolescent Dilemma

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Compare and contrast theories and hypotheses.
- Define determination.
- Compare and contrast the positivist and classical schools of criminology.
- Summarize and explain the theories of Piaget, Kohlberg, Gilligan, Freud, and Erikson.
- Compare how the adult criminal justice system and the juvenile justice system use different terminologies.
- List three ways of explaining crime and delinquency.
- Evaluate the effect of deterrence on juveniles.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 2	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Select Research Paper Topic	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 3 Juvenile Delinquency: Sociological and Life-course Theories of Delinquency

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Explain social learning theory and its relationship to differential association.
- Compare and contrast theories and hypotheses.
- Recall the criteria that must be addressed when evaluating theories.
- Explain Merton's five modes of adaption to strain.
- Discuss and explain collective efficacy.
- Describe why the early 20th-century Chicago sociologists sought to understand crime and deviant behavior.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion questions	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 3	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Study for the Midterm Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 4

Module 4 The Family and Delinquency

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Evaluate the assertion that students shouldn't subscribe exclusively to one theory.
- Briefly summarize the first biological theories of crime.
- Explain the contribution of life course theory as it relates to female delinquency.
- Compare and contrast how female juvenile delinquency is different from male juvenile delinquency.
- Understand how psychological theories of antisocial behavior are particularly crucial to the study of delinquency.
- Discuss the effects of poverty on parenting.
- Summarize the history of research on intelligence and delinquency.
- Discuss the controversy surrounding the use of the psychopathy diagnosis for juvenile delinquents.
- Explain the connection between child sexual abuse and the power relationship between adults and children.
- Describe the effects of divorce on delinquency, as well as that of social support, family conflict, and parents and siblings.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read an assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 4	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete Midterm Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 5 Schools, Youth Gangs, and Delinquency

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- List and explain the goals of school that affect delinquency.
- Discuss bullying and how it's related to delinquency.
- Define labeling theory and how it relates to bullying and delinquency.
- Detail and discuss Miller's six characteristics of a gang.
- Describe primary gang prevention.
- Explain the focus of tertiary gang prevention.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion questions	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 5	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Continue working on Research Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 7

Module 6 Substance Abuse and the Law

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Discuss why peer pressure is such a powerful influence on why young people use drugs.
- Distinguish individual drug-abuse factors from social drug-abuse factors.
- Define how having a drug dependency may lead to delinquency.
- List and discuss the two standards juveniles must meet to be introduced into the juvenile justice system.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion questions	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 6	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Continue working on Research Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT of Module 7

Module 7 The Juvenile Court and Corrections

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Compare and contrast the taking of a juvenile into custody with the arrest of an adult.
- List and discuss the three types of juvenile court hearings.
- Evaluate the constitutional rights guaranteed to juveniles as a result of the court case "In re Gault" (1967).
- List the four options available to the intake officer in handling juvenile offenders.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 7	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Research Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 8 Juvenile Delinquency and Cultural Comparisons

Objectives

When you complete this module, you should be able to:

- Discuss the reasons why Americans seldom consider other cultures.
- Determine why cultural components determine whether behavior is rewarded or punished.
- Explain how major differences among cultures, justice systems, and data collection make direct comparisons difficult among nations.
- Compare and contrast the effects of social change on dealing with youth crime in China, Russia, and South Africa.
- Compare the use of children as soldiers and prostitutes in some nations to U.S. status offender laws.
- Defend the idea that delinquency doesn't exist in many developing nations.

Assignments:

Items to Be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Post an initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Textbook Review 8	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete the Final Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT