

**CJC 113**  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090, or satisfactory score on placement test

This course covers the juvenile justice system and related juvenile issues. Topics include an overview of the juvenile justice system, treatment and prevention programs, special areas and laws unique to juveniles, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and discuss juvenile court structure and procedures, function and jurisdiction of juvenile agencies, processing and detention of juveniles, and case disposition. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

- a. Define the historical, psychological and sociological theories regarding the causes of juvenile delinquency.
- b. Describe the relationship between gang delinquency and violence.
- c. Describe the relationship between family functioning and delinquency.
- d. Describe the nature of female delinquency in our society.
- e. Describe the role of schools in the cause and control of delinquency.
- f. Describe the role and practices of the police in the prevention and control of delinquency.
- g. Describe juvenile court processes, systems, and practices and issues.
- h. Explain juvenile due process rights and other constitutional guarantees that apply to juveniles.

**OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:**

- I. The problem of delinquency
  - A. Definition of delinquency
  - B. Scope of juvenile delinquency
  - C. Trends in delinquent behavior
- II. The status offender
  - A. History of the treatment of status offenders
  - B. Trends in treatment
- III. Theories of delinquency causation
  - A. Classical theories
  - B. Biological theories
  - C. Psychological theories
  - D. Sociological theories

- IV. Gang delinquency
  - A. Theories of gang formation
  - B. Gang structure
  - C. Gang behavior
  
- V. Family influence on delinquent behavior
  - A. Disrupted family structure
  - B. Parental rejection
  - C. Nature and causes of child abuse
  - D. Effects of child abuse
  
- VI. Female delinquency
  - A. Nature and extent of female delinquency
  - B. Causes of female delinquency
  - C. Family influence on female delinquents
  - D. Treatment of female delinquents
  
- VII. The school system and delinquency
  - A. Socialization failure of the system
  - B. Academic failure of the system
  - C. Delinquency and dropout rate
  - D. Vandalism and the delinquent
  - E. The school and drug and alcohol abuse
  
- VIII. The juvenile justice process
  - A. The offender dilemma
  - B. Handling serious delinquent offenders
  
- IX. Diversion programs from the criminal justice system
  - A. Nature of diversion programs
  - B. Role of police in diversion programs
  - C. Success factors in diversion programs
  - D. Selection criteria for diversion programs
  
- X. The juvenile court
  - A. Origins of juvenile court
  - B. The court process
    - (1) The juvenile petition
    - (2) The nature of the hearing
    - (3) Adjudication and disposition of juvenile cases
    - (4) Predisposition investigation and reporting
    - (5) Treatment programs
  
- XI. Probation
  - A. Nature of juvenile probation
  - B. Selecting probation candidates
  - C. Probation activities
  - D. Role of the probation officer
  - E. Effectiveness of probation programs

- XII. Treatment and prevention
  - A. Detention facilities
  - B. Treatment programs
  - C. Delinquency prevention

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:**

Kratcoski, P. Juvenile Delinquency. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Prentice Hall.

**STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.