

Course Prefix and Number:

Sociology 344

Date:

December 15, 2007

Learner Outcomes	Assessment
Identify and discuss historical eras of juvenile delinquency and the Juvenile Justice System in the United States.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete an outside classroom writing assignments detailing and explaining the historical transformations of the juvenile justice system from colonial times to the contemporary period.
Identify and discuss sources of data and statistics measuring the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency and their related strengths and weaknesses.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete outside classroom writing assignments discussing the merits and limitations of official statistics, self-report surveys, victimization surveys, and cohort studies.
Identify and discuss sociological theories of juvenile delinquency and be conversant with their theoretical scope and level of empirical support.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete outside classroom writing assignments explaining theories of delinquency including differential association, general and structural strain theory, drift theory, labeling theory, conflict theory and control theory.
Identify and discuss the social problems of juveniles' lives, social groups and social institutions and their relationships to delinquency.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete an outside classroom writing assignments detailing social problems of the family, peer groups (especially juvenile gangs) and schools, relating these institutional and group problems to juvenile delinquency.
Apply sociological theories of juvenile delinquency to social policy.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete an outside classroom writing assignments discussing delinquency prevention programs that are both cost effective and that also offer empirical support for actually lowering rates of delinquency.
Identify and discuss empirical knowledge about delinquency correction programs.	Students will participate in classroom discussions, write exam essays and/or complete an outside classroom writing assignment identifying and discussing the qualities of successful juvenile correction programs including probation, intensive probation, diversion programs, and aftercare.