Juvenile Delinquency
University of North Texas
CJUS 5470
Spring 2017 Semester

Course Information:
3 Credit Hours
Class Location: Language Building (LANG) 316
Meeting Schedule: Thursdays 2:00 - 4:50pm

Professor Information:
Dr. Scott Belshaw, Ph.D
Office: Chilton Hall #273E
Email: scott.belshaw@unt.edu
Telephone: (940) 565-4591
Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will help students understand the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency in the context of real communities and social policies, integrating the many social factors that shape juvenile delinquency and its control (including race, ethnicity, socioeconomic class, gender, and sexuality). Offering a thorough mix of traditional and cutting-edge theories, research, and practices, this course helps students answer many of the difficult questions on juvenile delinquency that they will face in their careers and lives.

COURSE NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
Please make sure to have your official UNT email forwarded to your preferred email address (if different) to receive important updates, class cancellations (if applicable), and generally, so I can reach you if necessary.
The announcement board in Blackboard will be used for primary communication to the class as a whole. I advise you check the announcements section frequently.
Please send questions regarding the class to myself at scott.belshaw@unt.edu. Do not email me through Blackboard. You can expect a response from me within 24 hours. With that said, if we do receive several emails regarding a common topic, an announcement will be posted or a mass email will be sent addressing the issues instead of responding to each individual email.
It is your responsibility to utilize a computer system that works and is compatible with the UNT online system/Blackboard Learn. Please see Blackboard Learn: Getting Started under the “Start Here” link for further information on system requirements.
Utilizing a compatible computer system is especially critical during examination times. I would recommend that you take your exams on the UNT campus if possible. If that is not possible, I would recommend you avoid waiting until the last minute to take your exam in case problems arise.
For connection/browser issues or questions regarding how to work Blackboard, please contact the UNT Helpdesk at 940-565-2324 or http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/.
TEXTBOOKS:
The assigned texts listed below are required for all students enrolled in this class. Reading assignments are noted in the course calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the course calendar. The assigned readings will serve as a foundation for the discussion of issues in class as well as examination material.

1. Juvenile Delinquency in a Diverse Society: Race, Class and Gender
   Kristen A. Bates, Richelle S. Swan
   2014, 14th Edition
   ISBN: 9781412998123

2. Beyond Bad Girls
   Meda Chesney-Lind, Katherine Irwin
   2007
   ISBN: 9780415948289

3. Last Chance in Texas: The Redemption of Criminal Youth
   John Hubner
   2005
   ISBN: 9780375759987

4. Lost Causes: Blended Sentencing, Second Chances, and the Texas Youth Commission
   Chad R. Trulson, Darin R. Haerle, Jonathan W. Caudill, Matt DeLisi
   2016
   ISBN: 9781477308455

COURSE GRADES:
• Midterm (30%)
• Final (40%)
• Discussion Boards (20%)
• Classroom Participation/Attendance (10%)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
The following section lists the required components of this course as well as the points that may be earned toward the final course grade for each component.

Readings:
Students should follow the schedule of reading assignments found on the course calendar. The reading assignments need to be read before participating in discussions. This will not only facilitate peer discussion, but will also allow you time to formulate questions you may have regarding the material. In addition to the required texts, the course will utilize video presentations, additional handouts, etc. that concern issues pertinent to the study of ethical problems. Information from all sources (textbook, online discussions, video presentations, handouts) may be included on course examinations.

Blackboard Discussions/Assignments/Activities:
For each we do not meet in class, you will be required to make at least four substantive comments on the discussion board. The instructor will propose the question or dilemma and the student must answer the question and make 3 more comments on other students’ discussion
comments. To earn points, such comments must be more than trivial and in fact substantial and substantive (think of these as the discussion you would engage in if we had an on campus class). Discussion board contributions are worth 30 points total. Each discussion forum will remain open from Sunday afternoon at 12:00 p.m. until the following Sunday afternoon at 12:00 p.m.

Lackadaisical discussions will result in a loss of points for Blackboard discussions.

**Makeup Policy:**
There are no make-up tests/quizzes/assignments in this class with the exception of authorized absences according to University policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations. I reserve the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Those in athletics, those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school-supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed make up if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. I must have written documentation in advance that you will be away from class for the absence to be excused (e.g., traveling for a basketball game).

There is absolutely no make-up for assignments turned in late unless authorized as a result of university-related absence or through prior consultation and approval of myself. Assignments as a result of authorized absences must be turned in within 3 days of returning from the authorized absence.

**Note:** I am reasonable; so if you must miss an assignment for an unavoidable and “legitimate” circumstance, please let me know as soon as possible so as to get you back on track. Communication is the key.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Assigned Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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</table>
| Week 1| 01/17 – 01/22 | **Chapter 1:** Understanding Juvenile Delinquency in a Diverse Society  
Journal/Video Links on Blackboard | N/A         | N/A        |
| Week 2| 01/23 – 01/29 | **Chapter 2:** The Creation of Delinquency  
Journal/Video Links on Blackboard | N/A         | N/A        |
| Week 3| 01/30 – 02/05 | **NO CLASS**  
**Chapter 3:** Understanding Delinquency, Data, Correlates, and Trends  
Journal/Video Links on Blackboard | Discussion Board | 2/05/17 @ Noon |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Journal/Video Links</th>
<th>Discussion Board</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>02/06 – 02/12</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>2/12/17 @ Noon</td>
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<td><strong>Chapter 4: Micro Level Theories</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>02/13 – 02/19</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 5: Macro Level Theories</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>02/20 – 02/26</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 6: Critical Theories</strong></td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>02/27 – 03/05</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>3/05/17 @ Noon</td>
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<td><strong>Chapter 7: The Family in Context</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>03/06 – 03/12</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 8: Schools in Context</strong></td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td><strong>Supplemental Reading: Beyond Bad Girls</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spring Break</strong></td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>03/20 – 03/26</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>3/26/17 @ Noon</td>
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<td><strong>Chapter 9: Peers and Gangs in Context</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>03/27 – 04/02</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 10: Drugs in Context</strong></td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>04/03 – 04/09</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>4/9/16 @ Noon</td>
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<td><strong>Chapter 11: Why a Separate Juvenile Justice System?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Journal/Video Links on Blackboard</strong></td>
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**Week 12**  
04/10 – 04/16  
**NO CLASS**  
**Chapter 12:** The Process of the Juvenile Court  
**Journal/Video Links on Blackboard**  
**Discussion Board**  
4/16/17 @ Noon

**Week 13**  
04/17 – 04/23  
**Chapter 13:** Juvenile Corrections  
**Supplemental Reading:** *Lost Causes*  
**Journal/Video Links on Blackboard**  
**N/A**  
**N/A**

**Week 14**  
04/24 – 04/30  
**Chapter 14:** Preventative, Rehabilitative, and Restorative Approaches to Delinquency  
**Journal/Video Links on Blackboard**  
**N/A**  
**N/A**

**Week 15**  
05/01 – 05/07  
**Supplemental Reading:** *Last Chance in Texas*  
**N/A**  
**N/A**

**Week 16**  
05/08 – 05/11  
**Final Exam Week**  
**Final Exam**  
TBA

**PARTICIPATION, PREPARATION AND BEHAVIOR:**  
To be successful at learning and understanding the material in this class, it is essential that you read and complete the assigned material and engage in thoughtful online discussions. Your attendance and active participation, along with your willingness to engage in thoughtful discussion will be taken into account at all times during the semester. An online classroom, at least during times of online discussion, is a place to express ideas, opinions, and engage in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times or their status in the course will be examined. In sum, simply be appropriate during online interactions. Each student brings unique insight and perspectives, and that can make for a very interesting and lively discussion forum, but just please be appropriate and respectful of others. **Please review the graduate catalog concerning conduct, which adversely affects the university community.**

**Miscellaneous:**  
The material posted online is my personal intellectual property or that of the University of North Texas. You may not utilize the material for other than class purposes.

**ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR:**  
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional
forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom, and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct will apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, & ASSAULT:
UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you have (or someone you know has) experienced or experience any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodation, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT’s Student Advocate, and she can be reached through email at survivoradvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

SYLLABUS CHANGES:
I reserve the right and have the discretion to change the syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that the syllabus must be modified. In the case that the syllabus needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments in class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student’s responsibility to check announcements so that any and all syllabus changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements does not constitute a defense against missed assignments, test dates, and other applicable changes.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
It is expected that each student will do his/her own work. Cheating, including plagiarism, on any assignment may result in a zero for the semester. This is criminal justice – how could anyone even contemplate cheating when you are studying to work in a system based on trust and honor? With that said, I reserve the right to pursue the formal channels for plagiarism/cheating set down in the UNT Policy Manual. All students are urged to read the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline located in the UNT Policy Manual (Section 5.2). Academic dishonesty will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the final disposition being at the discretion of the professor.

A GRADE OF “INCOMPLETE”:
I – Incomplete; a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course; (2) has justifiable reason (medical or other emergency circumstance) why the work cannot be completed on a schedule; and (3) arranges with the professor before the end of the semester to finish the course at a later date by completing specific
requirements that the professor must list on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course). If you do not meet the specifications for this grade, you will need to see the Registrar’s Office about resigning from the University.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:
My lectures are protected by state and common law and by applicable federal copyright laws. You are not authorized to make any commercial use of them without express prior permission from myself. Persons who do make use of my lecture notes for commercial purposes (i.e. sell you class notes to an Internet sit or other commercially-related business) will be held legally liable.

ODA STATEMENT:
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in the course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.

For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.

I will make every attempt possible to accommodate anyone with a documented disability. Please let me know in advance of exams or other class requirements so I have enough time to send exams or other materials to ODA. You must provide me with the appropriate exam request forms from ODA prior to the exam in order to take the exam at ODA.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses: Federal Regulation

The paragraph reads:
(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through
distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F–1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F–1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, he/she should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Service Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

GRADES:

Every semester, at least a couple of students come to my office around the end of the semester asking, “What can I do to raise my grade?” My policy and statement concerning that question is this:

• If you focus on learning and being responsible (i.e., keeping up with assignments, completing extra credit when given, etc.), your final grade will reflect this.

• I do not give individual extra credit. If and when I offer an extra credit assignment it will be offered to the entire class. I suggest you take advantage of extra credit whenever it is offered.

• Borderline grades will be evaluated on case-by-case basis and my policy is this: if a student is 1 percentage point away from the next letter grade (borderline grade), has completed all extra credit opportunities, and has not missed more than the allotted number of absences, I will bump them to the next letter grade. I will not raise any grades that are not borderline grades. Not all borderline grades will be raised. Grades are not based on how much I like a person. They are based on work and performance, period.

• ALL GRADES ARE FINAL AFTER ENTERED IN THE COMPUTER. The final decision on whether or not to raise a grade is solely at the discretion of the professor. Do not email me to change your grade because you did not like the grade you earned!

FINAL POINTS:
Please do not hesitate to come to me with any questions, problems, or issues you may have. Do not wait to address these issues until it is too late for you to receive an acceptable grade. I think you will find me to be very approachable and eager to address any problems with you in a professional manner.

• To do well in this class the student must complete all assigned readings prior to that class date. (READ! READ!! READ!!!) This will allow for a better discussion and understanding of the material. I take test questions from the book and discussions!!

• DO NOT highlight and copy text from the Internet and turn it in as your own work. It is easy for me to catch you doing this. I type a sentence into Google or Yahoo and it will pull up the entire text. You will not receive a good grade for doing this!! This includes when doing Blackboard assignments.

• If you are having academic or even a personal problems please feel free to talk to me. I am here to help. I might understand more than you think.

Although we will attempt to adhere to the schedule of topics listed and described below, the course schedule should be viewed as highly flexible. I am not interested in covering the material as fast as possible simply for the sake of covering it. Rather, I want to cover the material that we do cover thoroughly, and at a pace that is conducive to learning the material instead of simply covering the material. Consequently, it is your responsibility to come to class, know where we are in the listing of assigned readings irrespective of this schedule, and know the material that we have covered prior to any reading assessment, examination, and/or presentation. Further, there may be additional items added to the calendar throughout the course of the semester (i.e. video presentations and/or handouts). It will be your responsibility to keep up with these as well.