Syllabus

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

SOCIOLOGY 2339

INTERNET (WebCT)

Fall Semester 2006

Alvin Community College

Dr. John Bethscheider
Instructor – Sociology

STUDENT INFORMATION PLAN

Instructor: Dr. John Bethscheider, Dean of Technical Programs

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Course Description:

SOCI 2339 Juvenile Delinquency (3 credits)
This course will review the nature, extent and causes of juvenile delinquency; youthful offenders and their career patterns; institutional controls and correctional programs.
This independent study course in Juvenile Delinquency allows the student to take on the responsibility of working through the theories and application of modern sociological and correctional practices without classroom instruction. While this course offers the student added flexibility in terms of when and where the learning occurs, it requires additional self-discipline on the part of the student. Completion of the course is the student’s responsibility.

The materials covered in this independent study, Sociology 2339, will be from the textbook *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law*, Ninth Edition, Larry J. Siegel, Brandon C. Welsh, Joseph J. Senna.

The instructor will be available throughout the semester for advice, consultation, and guidance. You are encouraged to drop by from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You might call my secretary and make sure I will be in, 281-756-3619. You are also encouraged to e-mail me (jbethscheider@alvincollege.edu). I will respond to your e-mail within 24 hours, Monday through Thursday, and within 72 hours of your e-mail if received on Friday.

Course Objectives:

1. To be as objective as possible, presenting the many diverse views and perspectives that characterize the study of Juvenile Delinquency and reflect its interdisciplinary nature. The instructor takes no single position on a particular viewpoint or philosophy.

2. To understand the balance of research, theory, law, policy, and practice.

3. To give thorough and updated material on Juvenile Delinquency theory and concepts.

4. To make this course interesting, as well as informative. To encourage the student to pursue reading and understanding juvenile delinquency outside this course.

Course Outline:

One: The Concept of Delinquency

   Childhood and Delinquency – 2
   The Nature and Extent of Delinquency – 32

Two: Theories of Delinquency

   Individual Views of Delinquency – 64
   Sociological Views of Delinquency – 106
Developmental Views of Delinquency – 142

TEST 1

Three: Social, Community, and Environmental Influences on Delinquency

Gender and Delinquency – 172
The Family and Delinquency – 200
Peers and Delinquency: Juvenile Gangs and Groups – 232
Schools and Delinquency – 272
Drug Use and Delinquency – 304

TEST 2

Four: The Juvenile Justice System

Delinquency Prevention: Social and Developmental Perspectives – 334
Juvenile Justice: Then and Now – 364
Police Work With Juveniles – 392
Juvenile Court Process: Pretrial, Trial, and Sentencing – 420
Juvenile Corrections: Probation, Community Treatment, and Institutionalization – 456

TEST 3

TEST 4 – FINAL EXAM

Required Text: Juvenile Delinquency, Ninth Ed.

Reading Assignment:

Section 1 Chapters 1, 2
Section 2 Chapters 3, 4, 5

TEST 1

Section 3 Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

TEST 2
TEST 3

Final Exam will cover all material

TEST 4 (FINAL EXAM)

General Course Requirements and Student Evaluation:

Upon completion of the reading assignment, the student will be required to take an exam using WebCT. The first three tests are 100 points (50 multiple-choice, 50 true/false). Final exam is a four-question written exam.

The multiple choice and true/false questions are “test bank” questions written by the publishers of the textbook. There are four exams and the student’s final grade is an average of those four exams. The final will cover all the material in the course.

In order to receive a grade and credit for this self-paced class, the student must complete all four exams by the designated date (see attached). Failure to complete the course work will result in a grade of F. A student may withdraw from the course by contacting the Admissions and Academic Advising Office on or before the Fall 2006 withdrawal date. It is the student’s responsibility to withdraw from this course.

Evaluation System:       A    90 – 100
                        B    80 – 89
                        C    70 – 79
                        D    60 – 69
                        F    Below 60

Internet Exam Advice:

You will need a reliable computer and Internet access. DO NOT expect the WebCT based exams to be less difficult than an on-campus lecture class, TBA Learning Lab, or office-administered exam. YOU WILL BE DISAPPOINTED, if that is your expectation. You should read ALL of the assigned material BEFORE attempting an exam. BE FULLY familiar with the information in the assigned reading and THINK about what the material MEANS. ALL of the essay questions require you to EXPLAIN the information, i.e., not just recite facts.

If you decide to take the WebCT exams and accept these requirements, you will need to access WebCT from the www.alvincollege.com website. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to have a
RELIABLE COMPUTER and INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER.