

# CAPITAL COMMUNITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER:           LAW 102

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO JUVENILE  
DELINQUENCY

UNITS: 3

### CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore and define the emerging components of juvenile justice in the United States. The course will include the history of juvenile justice, the processing of youthful offenders, the philosophy of juvenile justice, the detention of juveniles and the diversion of youths from the juvenile justice system. Additionally, this course will review the statutes and chronic offenders; drug trafficking street gangs of the 1980's and 1990's; the wide spread use of drugs and alcohol by America's adolescents. The course will also discuss the positions and problems of practitioners who work with youths in the justice system.

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

### PREREQUISITE:

Introduction to Sociology 101

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide students with an understanding of the workings and history of the juvenile system in America.
2. To provide the student with insight into the workings of gangs and the role of narcotics and violence as it relates to adolescents in the United States.
3. To provide the student with an understanding of the emerging components of juvenile justice.
4. To expose the student to the positions and problems of practitioners in the juvenile justice system.

## SECTION II

### 1. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE:

#### A. OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COURSE

The following topics will be included in the framework of the course but are not intended as a limit on content. The order of presentation and relative emphasis may vary with each instructor.

##### 1. Juvenile Justice

- a) Historical overview
- b) Juvenile justice agencies and function
- c) Challenges to the juvenile justice system

#### B. PROFILE OF THE JUVENILE OFFENDER

1. Official measurements of juvenile crime
2. Unofficial measurements of crime
3. Comparison of official and unofficial measurements of delinquency
4. Classification of schemes

#### C. THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF YOUTH CRIME

1. Dysfunctional families
2. Failure in school
3. Anti-social peer relationships
4. Toxic neighborhoods and the underclass
5. Drugs and alcohol abuse
6. Street gangs
  - a) Urban gangs
  - b) Emergent street gangs

#### D. THE POLICE

1. History of police-juvenile relations
2. Police: Organization and Functions
3. Police and the legal rights of juveniles
4. Informal and formal disposition of juvenile offenders
5. Specialized police work
6. Special police innovations
7. Juvenile's attitudes toward the police
8. Issues in police juvenile relations

## SECTION II

### 1. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE: (continued)

#### A. OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COURSE (continued)

##### E. THE JUVENILE COURT

1. Tradition
2. Development of the juvenile court
3. Changes in legal norms
4. Organization of the court
  - a) Court personnel
5. Nature of juvenile court services
6. Issues facing the juvenile court

##### F. YOUTHS IN ADULT COURT

1. Children or adults?
2. Transfer to adult court
3. Youths in adult court
4. Youths in correctional facilities
5. Death penalty for juveniles

##### G. JUVENILE PROBATION

1. History
2. Administration
3. Probation services
4. Risk, control and crime reduction
5. The Probation Officer
6. Rights of probation
7. Volunteer Probation Officer
8. Effectiveness of probation

##### H. COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS

1. History
2. Community
3. Delinquency prevention
4. Run-a-way Programs
5. Mediation with youth gangs
6. Foster care
7. Diversion
8. Day Treatment Programs
9. Group Homes
10. Survival Programs
11. Community involvement in corrections

## SECTION II

### 1. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE: (continued)

#### A. OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COURSE (continued)

##### I. JUVENILE AFTER CARE

1. Definition and scope of juvenile aftercare
2. Operation of juvenile aftercare
3. The Aftercare Officer
4. Interstate compacts
5. Improving the effectiveness of aftercare

##### J. INSTITUTIONALIZATION

1. The training school
  - a) History
2. Population trends in training schools
3. Public and private training schools
4. Differences in public/private training schools
5. Issues of juvenile institutionalization

##### K. THE INMATE

1. Outside/Inside
2. Life inside the walls
3. Getting with the program
4. Downside of institutional life
  - a) Social hierarchy
  - b) Inmate code
  - c) Exploitation matrix
5. Three types of staff members
6. Reactions to confinement
7. Impact of Institutionalization

##### L. THE STAFF

1. Staff level
2. Superintendents
3. Academic and vocational teachers
4. Social workers
5. Youth leaders
6. Careers in juvenile institutions

##### M. STATUS OFFENDERS

1. Definition
2. Legislation and status offenders

##### N. CHRONIC OFFENDERS

1. Definition
2. Types
3. Characteristics
4. Processing

**SECTION II**

**1. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE: (continued)**

**A. OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COURSE  
(continued)**

**O. TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES**

1. The debate
2. Classification of offenders
3. Treatment modalities
4. Effectiveness

**P. RESEARCH AND THEORY IN JUVENILE JUSTICE**

1. Approaching the research problem
2. The research process
3. Promoting research in the system
4. Theory and juvenile justice
5. Issues in research and theory

**Q. TOWARD A NEW VISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

1. Youth at risk
2. Basic problems in administration of juvenile justice
3. New vision for juvenile justice
4. Personnel development model
5. Credo for juvenile justice

### SECTION III

#### 1. COURSE CONTENT AND SCOPE:

##### A. Appropriate Reading

Reading assignments will supplement the course lectures and prepare the student for participation in class discussions.

1. Weekly readings from textbooks
2. Readings from selected handouts

##### B. Writing Assignments

1. The writing assignment will be used to measure the student's ability to communicate his/her position on a particular topic from the juvenile justice area. The student will be graded on thought as well as grammar.
2. Students will be responsible for a final essay of five (5) to ten (10) typewritten pages.
3. Topics of paper will focus on any subject discussed in class or other issue in juvenile justice.

##### C. Appropriate Outside Assignments

1. Reading from class books.
2. One (1) typewritten essay of five (5) to ten (10) pages.
3. Assigned readings from library and handout material including court cases.

##### D. Appropriate assignments that demonstrate critical thinking.

Critical thinking will be required of students in such assignments as the written essays, student participation at lectures, and in the student's written ability to respond to questions on mid-term and final exam. Additionally, two (2) quizzes will be given.

**2. METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Evaluation will be based on performance of a variety of assignments such as in class and out of class writing assignments, quizzes, essay examinations, class discussion and participation.

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Examination I           | 10% |
| Examination 2; mid-term | 20% |
| Examination 3           | 10% |
| Examination 4; final    | 25% |
| Essay                   | 20% |
| Class participation     | 15% |

**3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Methods of instruction will include lecture, lecture/discussion, audio/visual aids and any other unique instructional strategy as shall be determined by each instructor.

**4. REQUIRED TEXTS AND SUPPLIES**

The following text will be reviewed for recommendation:

Clenners Bartola, Stuart J. Miller, Juvenile Justice In America (Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Prentice Hall, 1994).

Textbook:

Clenners Bartola, Stuart J. Miller, Juvenile Justice In America (Englewood Cliffs, N.J. Prentice Hall, 1994).

OUTLINE OF CHAPTERS

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Readings for class</u>   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1           | Orientation                 |
| 2.          | Chapters 1,2                |
| 3.          | Chapter 3,4                 |
| 4. Quiz     | Chapter 5                   |
| 5.          | Chapter 6, 7                |
| 6.          | Chapter 8, 9                |
| 7.          | Chapter 10, 11              |
| 8. Mid-term | Chapter 12                  |
| 9.          | Chapters 13                 |
| 10.         | Chapter 14                  |
| 11.         | Chapter 15                  |
| 12.         | Chapter 16                  |
| 13. Quiz    | Chapter 17                  |
| 14.         | Connecticut Juvenile System |
| 15.         | Final Exam, paper due       |