READ THE ENTIRE SYLLABUS CAREFULLY

Instructor: Craig T. Robertson, Ph.D.

Office: 558 Stevens Hall

Office Phone: 765-4530

Office Hours: M.W.F 9-11 a.m. and T.R 9:30-11:00 a.m.

(on-line office hour from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday)

E-mail: Always use the Angel e-mail system for this class. Address your e-mails to the "course faculty" if you are e-mailing me. Look carefully each time you enter the course to see if you have unread e-mail (see "What's new" or "Tasks").

Dept. of Sociology Website: http://www.una.edu/sociology. Check out the website to learn more about the department, the major, the faculty, our courses, careers, etc.

Course Description and Goals

This cross-listed criminal justice and sociology class explores the topic of delinquency and juvenile justice. For our purposes, delinquency refers to any illegal behavior committed by, in most U.S. jurisdictions, a person under the age of 18. However, despite this rather concrete definition, delinquent conduct and youthful perpetrators are multifaceted thus making their scientific study quite challenging. Specifically, our goals are to understand the following issues as they are most central to the ongoing debate involving youth and delinquent conduct:

- the nature of delinquency
- the etiology of delinquency
- the family and delinquency
- the schools and delinquency
• the gang and delinquency
• the juvenile justice system and
• the prevention, treatment and control of delinquency

As in all applications of the scientific method, in this course we seek to attain the **four goals of science**: to understand, explain, predict, and control (through public policy guided by theoretically driven research) our topics of interest which, in this case, are youth, their delinquency and their treatment within the justice system.

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**Course Text**


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**Student Responsibilities**

**Course Preparation**: To reach our class goals, everyone is expected to keep up with class readings, due dates and all forums that will be created as we move through the semester. Tests and assignments must be submitted on or before the designated due dates **as no late work will be accepted in this class**.

**Assignments**: Written assignments must follow the format specified for this class. We will use the APA format in this course for preparing written work and a brief tutorial from the UNA Center for Writing Excellence in located on their website (see the link to the Writing Center under "Resources"). Work that is inconsistent with the APA format and other expectations concerning format and professionalism of presentation will be graded accordingly and subjected to a 5% point deduction.

Please understand that not every assignment requires you to prepare internal citations or reference page/s. I will inform you in my assignment instructions when this is necessary. Please remember that late work will not be accepted in this class. Submit your work before assignment dropboxes and exams close. This will be at 10:55pm.

Your assignments this semester will be accessed and submitted through the Angel assignment dropbox (look under "Lessons" for assignments). In sum, I post an assignment, you download it to your word processor, you complete the assignment using your word processor or other software such as PowerPoint, upload it to the assignment dropbox, submit the work and then I take things from there.
You will complete three assignments this semester. There are no extra-credit assignments.

Forums: For each chapter covered we will have discussion forums. I host discussion forums and students will participate as this is a credit-bearing assignment. Students will respond to the questions or issues I raise as the forum host. A specified number of informative postings are required of each student. These involve direct responses to me as well as responses to other students. It is hoped that these required forums will bring to this on-line class a solid measure of class involvement and participation.

Exams: Examination dates are noted on the tentative course itinerary. If we deviate from that schedule I will always give you at least one week notice before rescheduling an exam. Examination 1 will count 100 points. Examination 2 will count 100 points. Examination 3 (very likely comprehensive), given during exam week, will count 150 points. Examinations will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and essay questions. Study guides containing essay questions will be posted to Angel (under "Lessons").

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**Important Policies**

**Submitting Your Work:** I have mentioned above that late work cannot be submitted in this class. It is your responsibility to keep up with all due dates. If you miss a due date, you will earn a zero on that assignment. If you miss an exam you must communicate with me as soon as possible. All make up exams in this course are given at my discretion.

**Learning Disabilities Policy:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Disability Support Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors within the first three class meetings to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Disability Support Services (RM. 111 in the GUC or 765-4214).
Ethical Writing

Any information drawn from works published by others must be appropriately cited within the written work and on the reference page/s (prepared in the APA style).

Direct quotes, longer than three lines of typed text in your paper, are to be indented an additional inch on the left and right margins and single-spaced typed. You must never string together one direct quote after another and you must never begin a quote and finish it one/two paragraph(s) or pages later. It is also unethical to block and move large volumes of text from websites to your own work without the proper citation. Students engaging in these activities are merely engaged in a typing exercise and this type of work will result in a grade of zero. These cases will also be referred to the Office of Student Life.

Grading

The standard 10-point grading scale (A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69%, and below 60%=F) is employed in this course. Course averages may be calculated at any point in the semester by adding together the total number of points you accumulate from all graded work and then dividing that sum by the total number of points that could possibly have been earned. For example, if a student made 8 out of 10 on a quiz and 85 out of 100 on an exam, the student's grade would be 93 out of 110 or 84.5%. You can check your grades using the Bb "My Grades" feature.

Where do my course points come from?

1st. Examination = 100 pts.
2nd. Examination = 100 pts.
3rd. Examination is the final = 150 pts.
3 Assignments = 50 pts. each
Chapter Discussion Forums = 10 pts. each (Minimum total of 90 pts. Maximum total of 100 pts.)

Course Itinerary

Date and Event/Subject (Dates for examinations are tentative. Check your Calendar in Angel for other important dates)
1/11 - Classes begin
1/16 - Holiday
2/10-12 - EXAM 1 (exam will open the morning of 2/10 and close at 10:55pm on 2/12)
2/17 - Winter break
3/9 - Last day of "W" period
3/16-18 - EXAM 2 (exam will open the morning of 3/16 and close at 10:55pm on 3/18)
3/26-30 - Spring Break
4/6 - University closed
4/18 - End of "WP/WF" Period. Last day to completely withdraw
5/2-4 - FINAL EXAM (this exam will be comprehensive and will open the morning of 5/2 and close at 10:55pm on 5/4)

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Final Comments

It is my goal to make this course worth your time and effort. Therefore, I will do all within my power to ensure that you learn and succeed. If you are concerned with any aspect of this course please contact me. You owe it to yourself to talk with me since I can only help you if I know there is a problem.