**Adolescence & Delinquency – SYP 4530**

**Wednesdays @ 4:00-6:50PM**

**Boca Campus GS 208**

**Fall 2014**

**Instructor:** Dr. T. Bernhardt, Ph.D.

**My Office:** CU 259

**My Office Phone Number**: 954.201.6590 (I have voice mail, so leave a message)

**My E-mail Address**: [Tbernhar@fau.edu](mailto:Tbernhar@fau.edu) OR [Tbernhar@broward.edu](mailto:Tbernhar@broward.edu)

**Office Hours:** W 3:00pm -3:50pm, 7:00-8:00pm

**Course Credits: 3**

**Required Text:**

Thompson, William E. and Jack E. Bynum. 2013. *Juvenile Delinquency: A Sociological Approach*. 9th Ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

I’ve also placed readings on Blackboard that correspond with each chapter. These will be discussed in class and you’ll have writing assignments based on these readings.

**Course Description:**

An analysis of sociological issues in defining delinquency in changing society; the nature of adolescence; current theories of delinquent behavior; and modes of social control applied to juvenile delinquency.

**Learning Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, you will understand:

1. Major sociological issues facing adolescence and their delinquency
2. Current theories on why adolescents commit crime
3. The major social institutions that socialize adolescents
4. Ways we can reduce delinquency in our society

**Grading:**

Source Maximum Points

4 Exams 400 Points

3 Short Responses 60 points

1 Paper 100 points

**Total 560 Points**

**Maximum Points Available in the Course & Corresponding Letter Grade:**

**522-560 – A 410-428 – C**

**504-521 – A- 392-409 – C-**

**485-503 – B+ 373-391 – D+**

**466-484 – B 354-372 – D**

**448-465 –B- 336-353 – D-**

**429-447 – C+ 335 and Below – F**

\*\*Note that grades of Incomplete (“I”) are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances.

**Exams: 71% of grade**

There are four exams in this course. Exam material will come from all readings, videos, lectures, class discussions, handouts, and guest speakers. Exams will consist of true and false, multiple choice, and perhaps several essay questions. I **DO NOT** GIVE EARLY EXAMS OR LATE EXAMS (UNLESS YOU HAVE A MEDICAL OR LEGAL EXCUSE). IF YOU MISS THE EXAM DAY, YOU LOSE THE POINTS.

**Short Responses: 11% of grade**

The three short response papers will derive from the readings found on Blackboard. These responses are essentially quizzes that you will either do in class or as take home. The responses will be analytical in nature and will require integrating reading material covered in class. These will be due on the first 3 exam days.

**Paper: 18% of grade**

There will be a 100 point paper in this class. A handout will be provided that describes the requirements. This paper will be due on **November 19th.**

**Classroom Polices:**

***\*\**Turn cell phones off before entering class\*\***

**\*\*No text messaging during class OR other related computer work \*\***

***Attendance & Exam Make-up Policy:*** Class attendance is an *extremely* important component to college success. Class attendance is required and will be taken each class session. If you miss a class meeting for any reason, you will be held responsible for all the material covered and announcements made in your absence. I suggest you find a “buddy” from among your classmates who you can inform you on what you missed.

It should not be assumed that you will be given a make-up exam or quiz if you miss a day where an exam or quiz is given. Exams or quizzes missed because of illness, death in the family, or other emergencies require informing me sometime before the class meeting missed – it’s about being a responsible adult! If you miss an exam due to a religious holiday or any university approved reason, make-ups will be available.

I have voicemail, email, and/or you can contact the secretary at FAU if you need to get in touch with me. Failure to show up for an exam, quiz or when the paper is due on the scheduled day will result in the score of a zero.

***Assignments/Paper*** – The paper will only be accepted at the beginning of class, when I collect them. Emailing me the paper after class begins or turning it in after class begins (even 5 minutes after class begins) or after class, is **late** and will not be collected*. If I* accept the paper as “late,” I will automatically deduct **2 letter grades** from the assignment. There’s only one day where you have to be in class on time……be here on time!

***Tardiness*** *–* Please arrive to class on time and remain in your seat until the break. Arriving late is both rude and inconsiderate of your colleagues. If you are running late to class, please email me or call my office phone number before the beginning of class.

***Academic Integrity*** – Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see the Code of Academic Integrity in the University Regulations at <http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf>.

More specifically, cheating WILL NOT be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, collaboration on exams or quizzes and plagiarized papers. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged reproduction of information or ideas not your own (i.e. copying someone’s work without proper reference and citation of their work).

**Academic Accommodations for Disabled Students** - In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305) and follow all OSD procedures. For further information, go to [www.osd.fau.edu](http://www.osd.fau.edu).

**Extra Credit-** Extra credit will be available during the semester. Extra credit assignments will be announced in class with no prior notice. If you miss the assignment because you are absent for class, or late for class, I will not repeat the assignment. Extra credit will be a total of 5 points.

***Tentative* Weekly Schedule:**

**Conformity, Deviance and Juvenile Delinquency**

**August 20th**

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| --- | --- |
| Topic/Reading | Syllabus and Chapter #1: A Sociological Approach to Juvenile Delinquency |

**August 27th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #1 continued & Chapter #2: Dimensions of Delinquency  *The Rise of the Child Saving Movement*  *Crime Decline in Context* |

**Sept 3rd**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #3: Classical, Biological, and Psychogenic…..  *Early Violence Leaves its Mark on the Brain*  *What Makes Teens Tick* |

**Sept 10th**

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| Topic/Reading | **EXAM #1: Chapters 1, 2, & 3** |

**Sociological Causes of Juvenile Delinquency**

**Sept 17th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #4: Sociological: Strain & Cultural Transmission Theories  ***Life and Death in the City: Neighborhoods in Context*** |

**Sept 24th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #5: Sociological: Social Learning & Social Control Theories…  *Do Video Games Kill?* |

**October 1st**

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| Topic/Reading | Sociological: Labeling & Radical Conflict Theories…  *Saints and the Roughnecks* |

**October 8th** **\*\*October 10th - Last day to drop without receiving an ‘F’\*\***

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| Topic/Reading | **Exam #2: 4, 5, & 6** |

**Juvenile Delinquency in a Social Context**

**Oct. 15th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #8: The Family & Delinquency  *Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids* |

**Oct. 22nd**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #9: Schools & Delinquency  *Testing the Theory: Rampage – The Social Roots of School Shootings* |

**Oct 29th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #10 Youth Subcultures  *Dude, You’re a Fag: Adolescent Masculinity and the Fag Discourse*  *Crimes by Girls Flying off the Charts* |

**November 5th**

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| Topic/Reading | **Exam #3: 8, 9, & 10** |

**Juvenile Delinquency and The Juvenile System**

**November 12th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #12: Juveniles and the Police  *Kids and Guns: From Playgrounds to Battlegrounds* |

**November 19th**

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| Topic/Reading | Chapter #13: Juvenile Courts  *With Juvenile Courts in Chaos, Critics Propose their Demise* |

**November 26th**

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| Topic/Reading | Finish up semester |

**This syllabus is subject to change with advance notice.**

**Don’t forget about the final……..**

**Final Exam: December 10th @ 4:00-6:30**