

CCJS450: ADVANCED JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

SPRING 2026

Mon/Weds 11:00am – 12:15pm (Section 0101)

2166 Lefrak Hall

PROFESSOR

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-10:50am and 2-3pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines juvenile delinquency in the United States. Throughout the course, we will explore the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency, historical approaches as it pertains to juvenile offenders, sociological and criminological theories and research on its correlates and causes, social contexts of juvenile delinquency including the institutions of families, schools, and peers, and social responses to juvenile delinquency including prevention, punishment, and treatment programs, both within and outside of the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

CCJS105 and CCJS300

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency in the United States.
2. Comprehend the major historical events and Supreme Court cases that led to the construction of the juvenile justice system in the United States.
3. Understand both sociological and criminological theoretical explanations of juvenile delinquency.
4. Compare and analyze theoretical explanations of the causes, dynamics, and consequences of juvenile delinquency.
5. Derive concrete and effective policies from theoretical arguments and evaluate existing and past policies considering theory and research.
6. Examine the environmental and social impact of families, schools, and peers on juvenile delinquency.
7. Understand the social responses to juvenile delinquency through delinquency prevention, punishment and treatment by the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems.
8. Understand the future direction of juvenile delinquency in the United States.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Bates, K. A. & Swan, R. S. (2024). *Juvenile Delinquency in a Diverse Society*, 4th Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN-13: 9781071862230

COURSE WEBSITE

This course uses ELMS for the distribution of important course information (syllabus, extra reading material, class announcements, assignments, grades, etc.). You are strongly encouraged to access ELMS on a regular basis and enable notifications so you receive all posted information in a timely manner. You can set this up by clicking on the “Account” tab in ELMS. To access ELMS, go to <http://elms.umd.edu> and log in with your Directory ID and password. If you have any problems accessing your account, contact the support desk at 301-405-1500. You must be registered for the class to access the course website. You are also expected to use your UMD email account to communicate with me in this class.

GRADING STRUCTURE

Classroom Activities: 15%

Reflection Papers: 30%

Exam #1: 15%

Exam #2: 15%

Final Exam: 25%

Final Grade Cutoffs									
+	97.00%	+	87.00%	+	77.00%	+	67.00%	+	
A	93.00%	B	83.00%	C	73.00%	D	63.00%	F	<60.0%
-	90.00%	-	80.00%	-	70.00%	-	60.00%	-	

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Students are expected to attend class regularly, on time, and participate in all classroom activities. Classroom activities may include discussions and debates, written assignments, quizzes, surveys, etc. To obtain credit for classroom activities, students must be present in their registered class on the day the activities are assigned. There are no makeups for classroom activities, except in cases of excused absences which require prior notification and acceptable forms of documentation excusing the absence. At the end of the semester, the two lowest grades for these activities will be dropped.

REFLECTION PAPERS

Students will be given the opportunity to think deeply and critically about various topics concerning juvenile delinquency through reflection papers. These papers will allow students to reflect on what they have learned, how they feel, and where they are challenged. Reflection paper assignments will be posted and due on ELMS. Please check the syllabus course schedule for specific due dates throughout the semester. If you miss the due date, you will have three (3) days from the original due date to submit the assignment with a 10% per day penalty of the total possible points. Late submissions will not be accepted beyond this time.

EXAMS

Exams are considered major graded assessments. There will be three exams in this class. The first two exams will take place **in class** and will be in the format of multiple choice and true/false questions. These two exams **will not** be cumulative.

Please note that if you arrive late for one of these exams, after the first person has completed the exam and exited the classroom, you may **not take the exam and will receive a zero.**

The third exam (the final exam) will be in the format of multiple choice and true/false questions and **will** be cumulative, covering all the material learned throughout the semester. This exam will be given **online** on ELMS during final exam week. Please check the course schedule for the day and time of your final exam in this class. You will only get one attempt to complete exams. Exams not completed by the deadline will receive a zero.

Students may only attend class and take exams in their **registered** section. You may **not** alternate sections in this class.

Students are expected to keep up with the scheduled weekly readings and lectures to succeed on the exams. There are no makeups for exams except in cases of excused absences which require prior notification and acceptable forms of documentation excusing the absence. Makeup exams may be in a different format from the exam given to the class, but the content will be at the same level of difficulty as the standard version given to the class.

If you must miss an exam due to an excused absence, **please contact me before the start of the exam** so we can discuss a makeup option. After you contact me, I will request official documentation to verify the excused absence. Since exams are considered major graded assessments, self-signed notes will **not** be accepted. Excused absences include religious observances, mandatory military obligation, illness of the student or illness of an immediate family member, required participation in university activities, death in the family, and required court appearances. Changes in employment schedules, personal travel, traffic/transit problems, miscalculating due dates, etc. do **not** qualify as excused absences.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- **Keep up with the readings.** Read the weekly chapter before attending lecture.
- **Regularly attend lectures and weekly discussions.** If you miss a lecture, you are still responsible for learning what was missed. If you miss discussion, you will miss assignments and fall behind.
- **Manage your time.** Invest in a planner/calendar and schedule time for your homework, projects, studying, etc.
- **Check your grades often.** Log into ELMS regularly so you stay updated with assignments and grades.
- **Do your own work.** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Referrals will be made to the Office of Student Conduct.
- **Ask questions.** This is how you will learn. Ask away!
- **Ask for help.** We are here to support you.

POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

It is our shared responsibility to know and abide by the University of Maryland's policies that relate to all courses, which include topics like:

- Academic integrity
- Student and instructor conduct
- Accessibility and accommodations
- Attendance and excused absences
- Grades and appeals
- Copyright and intellectual property

Please visit <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html> for the Office of Undergraduate Studies' full list of campus-wide policies and follow up with Dr. Madoo if you have questions.

COURSE GUIDELINES

This University of Maryland recognizes the importance of a diverse student body, and we are committed to fostering inclusive and equitable classroom environments. If you wish, please inform me how you want to be referred to in this class. Please also treat others with respect, as well as refrain from disruptive behaviors such as entering the classroom late, leaving the classroom early and/or repeatedly, making distracting noises, eating, reading outside material, sleeping, side conversations, text messaging and using prohibited technological devices. Please note that cell phones are to be turned off or placed on silent during class. Repeated classroom disruptions will result in being asked to leave the class and may ultimately affect the final grade you receive.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

The use of AI tools (ChatGPT, TerpAI, Gemini, Grammarly, etc.) is **prohibited** for any part of the assignment process in this class, including brainstorming, writing, and editing. While there will be a place for these tools in your future work, this policy aims to foster your ability to develop original ideas and a unique voice, both core skills of this class. Any use of AI-generated work to outline, write, create, or edit your assignments will be considered an academic integrity violation and will be subject to a referral to the Office of Student Conduct. If you have any questions about this policy, please email me and I would be happy to talk more.

ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY SUPPORT

Students who are registered with the Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS) Office and provide me with ADS documentation will be accommodated in the classroom. After submitting your Accommodations Letter through the ADS portal, you are expected to reach out to me via email to further discuss your specific accommodations. Please make sure all ADS documentation is submitted through the portal for me to review and confirm receipt by **February 13, 2026**.

ADS students who request to take their exams this semester at the ADS Testing Office need to provide me with a test request online **at least one week prior to each exam** or will have to take the exam at the same location/time as the rest of the class. When scheduling at ADS, the student is expected to schedule and take the exam at the **same time** as the rest of the class unless other accommodations have been approved.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES & ATHLETIC OBLIGATIONS

If you are unable to attend class or take an exam due to a known religious observance or athletic obligation, you must inform me by **February 13, 2026**. Documentation will need to be provided prior to the missed class (signed religious letter, university athletic travel schedule, etc.) to excuse your absence. It is your responsibility to arrange an alternative date to complete exams/assignments prior to the missed class.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Unless you are instructed to use it as part of an in-class activity, **laptops and phones are prohibited** in this class. If these devices are seen and/or used during the class, outside of a required in-class activity, you will be given a warning or asked to leave class due to the disruptive behavior. Exceptions to this policy may apply if a student has a documented need and has obtained written approval directly from me.

NOTICE OF MANDATORY REPORTING

Faculty members are designated as a “Responsible University Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking to UMD’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy on Sexual Harassment and Other Sexual Misconduct. Please visit the Office of Civil Rights and Sexual Misconduct’s website at ocrsm.umd.edu for further information.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

On occasion, the university may have a delayed opening or be closed due to inclement weather. Please make sure you check our ELMS page for any updates on class meetings and assignment due dates if/when these situations arise.

COURSE EVALUATION

Please submit a course evaluation through Student Feedback on Course Experiences to help faculty and administrators improve teaching and learning methods. All information submitted to Course Experiences is confidential. Campus will notify you when Student Feedback on Course Experiences is open for you to complete your evaluations at the end of the semester.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Course materials are copyrighted and may not be reproduced for anything other than your personal use in this course without written permission from the course instructor. Course materials are the property of the course instructor – please do not sell them, do not post them on a website, do not take pictures or screenshots of them, and do not record them without documented permission from the course instructor. Be aware that copyright infringements may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Course Schedule & Reading Assignments (subject to change)
 Reading assignments are to be completed prior to the date on the schedule.

Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Reading Assignments
1	M 1/26 W 1/28	<i>SNOW DAY</i> <i>SNOW DAY</i>	
2	M 2/2 W 2/4	Course Introduction Delinquency and Deviance	
3	M 2/9 W 2/11	Thinking about Juvenile Delinquency	Chapter 1
4	M 2/16 W 2/18	The Creation of Delinquency Reflect #1 DUE	Chapter 2
5	M 2/23 W 2/25	Understanding Delinquency <i>NO CLASS (Work on Reflect #2)</i>	Chapter 3
6	M 3/2 W 3/4	Micro-Level Theories <i>NO CLASS – Reflect #2 DUE</i>	Chapter 4
7	M 3/9 W 3/11	Exam #1 Macro-Level Theories	Chapter 5
8	3/16-3/18	<i>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS</i>	
9	M 3/23 W 3/25	Critical Theories	Chapter 6
10	M 3/30 W 4/1	Families in Context <i>NO CLASS – Reflect #3 DUE</i>	Chapter 7
11	M 4/6 W 4/8	Schools in Context	Chapter 8
12	M 4/13 W 4/15	Exam #2 Peers and Gangs/Drugs in Context	Chapter 9 & 10
13	M 4/20 W 4/22	Why a Separate Juvenile System? Reflect #4 DUE Policing and Juveniles	Chapter 11 Chapter 12
14	M 4/27 W 4/29	Process of the Juvenile Court Reflect #5 DUE	Chapter 13
15	M 5/4 W 5/6	Juvenile Corrections Approaches to Delinquency	Chapter 14 Chapter 15

****FINAL EXAM (ONLINE) ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 – 10:30AM****