Instructor: Sammy Staples

Class Meets: T TH 0920-1050 hrs.

Room: PH 208

Office Hours: 0850-920 and 1050-1120 hrs. TUE and THU PH Room 309

Email: staplesl@westminster.edu

Course Description: This course is designed to study, compare, and contrast juvenile justice/delinquency with the United States and abroad, as well as to learn contributing factors associated with delinquent behavior. Throughout this semester, students will explore major theories within the field that attempt to explain delinquent behavior, the interworking of the juvenile justice system, the historical development of juvenile control, treatment, punishment, etc…and how factors such as race, gender and social class shape delinquency and society’s responses to it.

Objectives:

1) Evaluate, compare and contrast theories of juvenile delinquency
2) Describe nature and extent of deviant and delinquent behavior in juveniles
3) Develop and apply critical thinking skills related to human behavior and societal responses
4) Identify and illustrate how juveniles relate/identify with themselves and others
5) Identify, explain and evaluate traditional and alternative responses to juvenile delinquency
6) Be familiar with Pennsylvania and other states and nations programs and treatment philosophies for youthful offenders

Classroom Expectations and Environment: Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared to actively participate and engage in relevant discussion topics. Academic integrity will be maintained at all times, as will respect for classmates insight and opinions during discussions. Differing opinions and supported arguments are welcomed and will be done so tactfully.

Late Assignments/Missed Exams/Prolonged Absences: All will be subject to discretion of instructor. Please keep me apprised of your situations should any come up in which you need to miss a class, assignment, etc… I will check my email regularly for any changes, updates, questions or concerns you may have.
Inclusion Policy: Westminster College strives for the full inclusion of all of our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Ms. Faith Craig, Director of Disability Support Services, in 209 Thompson Clark Hall or at 724-946-7192 or at craigfa@westminster.edu

Academic Integrity: See Westminster Student Handbook (p. 21)

Course Materials:


Assignments and Exams:

Midterm Exam -20% 10-17-17

Final Exam- 20% Wednesday December 13, 2017 @ 0800-1030 hrs.

Student Facilitation of Selected Reading- 20%- student will select a reading from either text (pre-arranged to avoid duplication), prepare a summary and lead a class discussion. Student will provide handouts to class containing 5-8 questions to be addressed during discussion and also can be testable on midterm and/or final exam. TO BE COMPLETED THROUGHOUT SEMESTER

Independent Movie Review- 20%- Students will watch one of the following movies, Sleepers, Bad Boys (Sean Penn NOT Will Smith and Martin Lawrence) or At Close Range and summarize film, identify and discuss relevant/applicable delinquency theories to the characters, their behaviors, relationships with family, friends, etc… Use the above as a framework, the review should be a minimum of three (3) pages. DUE 11-7-17

Presentation- 20%- In groups, students will present to class and field questions on a
pre-selected topic. Presentation may include handouts, visual aids, etc… and should be a minimum of 10-12 minutes. Topics can include: School Bullying, School Shooters, Juvenile Gangs, Juvenile Sexual Offenders, The Jordan Brown case or Juveniles in the Adult System, among other topics approved by instructor.

DUE 11-23-17 AND 11-28-17

Grading Scale: 
A  93-100  A-  90-92  B+  87-89  B  83-86  B-  80-82
C+  77-79  C  73-76  C-  70-72  D+  67-69  D  60-66
F  0-59

Classes:
8-29-17 INTRODUCTION/RECEIVE SYLLABUS/MEET & GREET
8-31-17 BERGER & GREGORY PGS. 1-22
9-05-17 DOWD PGS. 21-38 (INSTRUCTOR FACILITATION)
9-07-17 BERGER & GREGORY PGS. 127-147
9-12-17 DISCUSS THEORIES OF DELINQUENCY
9-14-17 BERGER & GREGORY PGS. 27-43 (INSTRUCTOR FACILITATION)
9-19-17 JUVENILES AND POLICE
9-21-17 DOWD PGS. 219-238 (INSTRUCTOR FACILITATION)
9-26-17 KALIEF BROWDER VIDEO AND DISCUSSION
9-28-17 JUVENILE JUSTICE IN PENNSYLVANIA
10-3-17 GUEST SPEAKER- TENTATIVE(TBA)
10-5-17 STUDENT FACILITATIONS OF SELECTED READINGS
10-10-17 STUDENT FACILITATIONS OF SELECTED READINGS
10-12-17 STUDENT SUBMISSIONS OF MIDTERM QUESTIONS & REVIEW
10-17-17 MIDTERM EXAM
10-19-17 STUDENT FACILITATION OF SELECTED READINGS
10-24-17 NO CLASS
10-26-17  STUDENT FACILITATION OF SELECTED READINGS
10-31-17  INDEPENDENT MOVIE REVIEW- NO CLASS
11-2-17   INDEPENDENT MOVIE REVIEW- NO CLASS
11-7-17   STUDENT FACILITATION OF SELECTED READINGS (IMR DUE)
11-9-17   STUDENT FACILITATION OF SELECTED READINGS
11-14-17  STUDENT SUBMISSION OF FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS AND REVIEW
11-16-17  PREPARE FOR PRESENTATIONS- NO CLASS
11-21-17  PREPARE FOR PRESENTATIONS- NO CLASS
11-23-17  PRESENTATIONS
11-28-17  PRESENTATIONS
11-30-17  NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING
12-5-17   REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM
12-7-17   TBA
12-13-17  FINAL EXAM @ 0800 hrs.

THIS SYLLABUS IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT INSTRUCTOR DISCRETION. IT WILL BE THE COLLECTIVE GOAL OF THE CLASS FOR THIS SCHEDULE TO BE MAINTAINED/ADHERED TO AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE.