Criminal Justice 202:322:01  JUVENILE JUSTICE - SYNOPSIS

Instructor  Paul J. Hirschfield, Ph.D.
Contact  Office: Davison Hall, #38
Information  phirschfield@sociology.rutgers.edu

Common Hour Exams:
February 20th
April 3rd

Description: This course provides a comprehensive overview of America’s juvenile justice system. First, the course traces the historical development of juvenile justice from the 19th century through the present. Second, the course describes the nature and effects of contemporary juvenile justice interventions at each stage of system processing and how legal issues, race, gender, and geography condition these practices. Finally, the course attempts to encourage students to critically evaluate both treatment and penal alternatives and current trends in juvenile justice reform with respect to reducing delinquency and other key juvenile justice objectives.

Student Learning Outcome Goals:
Students who complete the course should understand the special role of the Police, Corrections, and Courts within the juvenile justice system. Students should know how these institutional forms vary across jurisdictions and how these institutions interact with and influence each other. In addition, students should be able to apply their understanding of core concepts and theories in juvenile justice to analyze real world problems and to evaluate alternative policy proposals on a range of juvenile justice issues.

Required Texts:

Anticipated Assignments and Grading Structure (assignments, papers, projects, exams, and other methods of evaluation, with due dates where available):
Attendance 6% (10 pts.) (recompute %’s with 200 base w/ optional paper)
Quiz 6% (10 pts.)
Paper Assignments 12% (20 pts.)
First Exam (Feb 20th): 24% (40 pts.)
Second Exam (Apr. 3rd) 29% (50 pts.)
Final Exam (May 13th): 29% (50 pts.)
Possible Extra Credit: +6% (10 pts.)
[Optional Research Essay 10% (20 pts on 200 pt. scale)]

Final Exam/Paper:
http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/

May 5th (4 p.m)