

	Department of Sociology, Social Work and Family Sciences SOC3014 – Juvenile Delinquency 3.0 Units
Spring 2022	

Meeting days: Wednesdays	Instructor title and name: Prof. Glen Laster
Meeting times: 3:00-5:30pm	Phone:
Meeting location: Remote with mandatory weekly Zoom meetings	Email: glaster@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: TBD	Virtual Office hours: By appointment only via the Zoom

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and

service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

As followers of Christ, our mission is to nurture servant scholars who critically and empirically evaluate social systems, cultural patterns, and basic human needs to constructively engage as agents of hope with individuals, families, and communities.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Juvenile Delinquency is a 3-credit course designed to help students understand the history, nature and extent of juvenile delinquency, the suspected causes and environmental influences of delinquent behavior, and societal responses to delinquent youths, including the approaches and current strategies being used to control or eliminate delinquent behavior. This course examines recent legal cases, research studies, and critical issues and policies surrounding juvenile justice, including the police, the courts, and the juvenile correctional system.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- You will possess a general knowledge of the establishment of both historical and current legal statutes relating to juvenile procedure.
- You will have a general understanding of law enforcement practices and how specialized units within those agencies function in addressing juvenile delinquency.
- You will be able to articulate various theories relating to the cause of juvenile delinquency.
- You will have an understanding of various crime prevention practices and methods of engaging youth in an effort to improve society.
- You will have a general understanding of how juvenile courts and youth correctional institutions function within the United States.
- You will have the ability to evaluate current events relating to juvenile delinquency and the criminal justice system response from an operational perspective with an awareness of media/societal bias.
- You will have an understanding of various career options within the juvenile justice system and the criteria for entry level employment.
- You will have an understanding of the challenge to live as a Christian witness within a criminal justice related career.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- Larry J. Seigel and Brandon C. Welch, *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law* (Wadsworth: 13th ed. 2018). ISBN: 9781337091831

How to Study the Main Textbook:

To help you accomplish the course objectives effectively and efficiently, make full use of the many distinctive features of the textbook by Siegel & Walsh, *Juvenile Delinquency: Theory, Practice, and Law*. Note that each chapter has an outline and a list of learning objectives at the beginning of the chapter. The definitions of certain concepts and web links are provided in the margins and several case profiles, charts, graphs, and tables illustrate important ideas. Each chapter has a summary, lists of key terms, viewpoint, questions for discussion, and notes at the end of the chapter. Review these before reading the chapter. The information contained in the summary and discussion questions will assist you in studying the material in the chapter.

The text has four parts. Part I contains two chapters and serve as an introduction and overview of delinquency in the United States. Parts II through IV deal with the theory, practice and law of juvenile delinquency. Part II has four chapters that examine theories of delinquency. Part III has six chapters that discuss the social, community, and environmental influences on delinquency. Part IV has five chapters that focus on the juvenile justice system, including the history of juvenile justice, police work, the juvenile court, and corrections. A final chapter on delinquency and juvenile justice outside the United States will be covered as time permits.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request. (Based on 37.5 hours of student engagement per credit hour.)

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Book Reports

It is expected that each student will complete one book report from a list of recommended reading that will be presented in class. Book reports are due prior to the class session on April **6, 2022**. Students seeking extra credit may elect to submit a second book report to improve their overall score. In any case, optional book reports will be accounted for no more than three percent (3%) of the student's total grade. Book reports are to be a minimum of five pages (excluding title page) and no more than ten pages in length.

Case Study

Each student will complete a case study profiling a historical case of juvenile delinquency and postulate the causation of the illegal behavior in the case chosen. The purpose of this case study is to gain a greater understanding of a single facet of juvenile behavior and the juvenile justice system. Options for the case study will be discussed in class. Completed case studies will consist of a **written report** between eight (8) and fifteen (15) pages in length accompanied by a Summary Presentation to be defended during the final exam. The **deadline** for the written portion of case studies is **Wednesday, April 27, 2022**. Case studies will not be accepted after this date unless previously approved.

Note:

- Book reports and case studies will be evaluated for content, writing and mechanics. Content is defined as the strength of the information and analysis that you incorporate in your papers. Writing is how well you convey your ideas and/or information. Mechanics are defined as presentation or formatting, citations, bibliography or other articles of academic writing.
- All written assignments will be double spaced a font size of 12. Margins will be set at 1" on all edges of the page. Cover pages do not qualify as a portion of the page count.
- Case study discussions (depending upon class size) will range from eight to fifteen minutes in length. PowerPoint and other electronic presentation aids are encouraged, however presentation time cannot be replaced by video recordings and/or movie clips.

Mid-Term and Final Examinations

The mid-term examination for SOC 3014 is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 16, 2022**.

The final examination for SOC 3014 is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 4, 2022**.

Failing to attend the mid-term will result in a 20% grade reduction. Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Note: Clearly define a grading policy to avoid any confusion concerning expectations. It is most helpful if at least two things are present: 1) a point distribution and 2) a grading scale.

Student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book no later than midnight on Tuesday of each week beginning in Week Two of this course. It is important to read the comments posted in the grade book as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted within one week of the end of the class. Grades will be based on the following:

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in at the beginning of the class session when they are due. Late assignments will be graded with an automatic reduction of 5% for each day that the assignment is late. Exceptions may only be considered in cases of serious illness or crisis and with contemporaneous approval by the instructor.

PUBLIC DISCOURSE

SOC 3014 is designed to be a cooperative exchange of ideas while examining the American juvenile justice system and theories of juvenile delinquency. Classroom discussions as well as open feedback to written work and presentations will occur on a regular basis. All communication in class is considered to be "public discourse" without expectation of privacy. Remaining enrolled in SOC 3014 will be construed as tacit acknowledgement that your work will be viewed by others associated with this course.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to conduct themselves as adults (albeit fun-loving), actively engaged in an adult learning environment. Prohibited activities include sleeping during class (unless of course the teacher is sleeping as well), talking, texting, gaming, internet browsing, reading non-course related materials. All pagers, cellphones, and other electronic communication devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. Tablets and computers are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Arriving late and leaving early are strongly discouraged and disruptive to the class.

Respect each other's opinions. Be considerate while your peers are speaking and actively engage them only when they have completed their point. Discourteous comments and side conversations will not be tolerated and will be addressed openly and directly by the instructor. If a student's behavior becomes disruptive to the productivity of the course they will be asked to leave the classroom and not receive credit for attendance.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all synchronous class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered

asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#)

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

The table below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.