

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

CJUS 323

DELINQUENCY AND CRIME PREVENTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Explores various strategies for prevention of adult and juvenile crime with particular attention to the theoretical and empirical bases for these approaches. Students will develop a crime prevention plan.

RATIONALE

Almost everyone in the field of juvenile justice feels that much more can be done to control delinquency. Yet, the questions are often asked: How can delinquency be controlled or prevented? What is currently being done to control delinquency? To what extent do these agencies violate the rights of individuals and groups in their efforts to control delinquency? How effective are these agencies and what can they do to be more effective? In order to answer some of these questions, more questions need to be asked such as what is probably the most frequently asked question about delinquency: What causes juveniles to break the law? The four major sociological theories or explanations of delinquency will be examined: strain, social learning, control, and labeling theories. This requires that research is explored which examines the extent to which delinquency is caused by individual traits (e.g., low intelligence, negative emotionality), family factors (e.g., broken homes, poor discipline), school factors, delinquent peer groups and gangs, and other factors. The role of different social and criminal justice agencies—such as the media, school, neighborhood and police—in crime and delinquency prevention will be addressed. Successful prevention initiatives employed in other countries will also be examined in this course.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify key legal issues relevant to crime prevention.
- B. Identify key ethical issues relevant to crime prevention.
- C. Examine the various approaches of crime prevention.
- D. Explain the legal and ethical complexities in crime prevention.
- E. Justify legal and ethical decisions pertaining to discussions of crime prevention.
- F. Integrate biblical truths regarding an assessment of legal and ethical perspectives in crime prevention.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 500–700 words with at least 2 citations in current APA format to support the student’s opinions and assertions on the topic. The student will then reply to at least 2 other classmates in at least 200–300 words. The thread and 2 replies must be in current APA format.

- D. Article Review

The student will select a peer-reviewed journal article that assesses a crime prevention program or method. If there is a particular crime prevention method discussed in the text that interests the student, he/she is encouraged to choose an article related to this topic. The student will read the article and write a 2-page review that includes a brief description of what the article addresses, a summary of what the article is trying to accomplish (what hypothesis the article is testing), the major findings of the article, and whether the findings show that the hypothesis is correct, incorrect, or inconclusive. The assignment must follow current APA format.

- E. Policy Proposal Project

The purpose of this project is to analyze all the methods of crime prevention reviewed in this course and design a policy proposal that will holistically address crime. The paper must be 3–5 pages and include a title page, in-text citations, and a reference section at the end of the paper using current APA format. The crime prevention policy proposal must come from a biblical perspective incorporated throughout the paper, rather than simply citing Scripture references at the end.

- F. Reflection Paper

The purpose of this paper is to present a well-articulated perspective based on the selected crime prevention programs described in the course text. The 3–5-page paper must include 5–10 sources, a title page, and a reference section. The student must support the assertions made in the paper with proper in-text citations in current APA format and include the reference section at the end of the paper. Academic peer-reviewed journal articles, relevant news articles, the course textbook, and the Bible are all appropriate sources.

G. Exams (2)

Exam 1 will cover material from Modules/Weeks 1–4 and contain 10 short-answer questions. Exam 2 will cover material from Modules/Weeks 5–8 and contain 10 multiple-choice and true/false questions. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes (but the student cannot collaborate with anyone) and have a 2-hour time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 50 pts ea)		200
Article Review		100
Policy Proposal Project		200
Reflection Paper		100
Exam 1	(Modules 1–4)	200
Exam 2	(Modules 5–8)	200
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. CJUS Policy

The nature of the criminal justice community demands that persons involved be of a high level of integrity, and education is not merely academic in nature, but is holistic. Students enrolled in CJUS courses will be held to a high standard. Self-control is imperative for CJUS practitioners. If not “merely” to honor Christ, your family, and this academic institution, on a purely pragmatic level, in anticipation of future employability in the career field of your choice, conduct yourselves so as not to place yourselves in difficult and embarrassing situations.

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

CJUS 323

Textbook: Lab, *Crime Prevention: Approaches, Practices, and Evaluations* (2016).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Lab: chs. 1–3 1 presentation 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 50
2	Lab: chs. 4–6 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	50
3	Lab: ch. 7 1 presentation	Article Review	100
4	Lab: chs. 8–9	Exam 1	200
5	Lab: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	50
6	Lab: chs. 13–14 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 4	50
7	Lab: ch. 15 1 website	Policy Proposal Project	200
8	Lab: ch. 16 1 presentation 1 website	Reflection Paper Exam 2	100 200
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.