

SOCI 3322-601: Juvenile Delinquency

Instructor Information

- Dr. Danny Malone Jr.
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- Office Hours: Tuesdays from 12p-2p (virtually) or by appointment

Course Information

- Spring Term (March 16-May 6)
- Course Description
 - This course is designed to be an introduction to Juvenile Delinquency. We will focus on the functioning and process of the juvenile justice system and explore the historical foundations and contemporary juvenile justice system. We will assess how juvenile crime is measured, examine various theories of delinquency, and identify pathways and risk factors of delinquency. Finally, we will examine potential solutions to delinquency, weigh the costs and benefits of these various actions, and discuss how to rehabilitate youths committing low level and serious and chronic offenses. To achieve these objectives, I have chosen a textbook that focuses attention on pathways and prevention of juvenile delinquency.
- Prerequisite: None
- Online (Asynchronous) Coursework on Blackboard Ultra

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- Describe and apply key operational terms and concepts of the juvenile justice courts and juvenile justice process.
- Identify how the history of juvenile justice in the United States has been a series of distinct stages.

- Describe how the data on juvenile crime and victimization are collected and identify its strengths as well as limitations in discerning an accurate profile of youthful offending.
- Understand the theoretical issues and differences used in explaining crime and delinquency.
- Describe the common risk factors that increase the likelihood of youth engaging in delinquency and becoming involved with the juvenile court.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of preventative programming for key delinquency risks and the desired outcomes.
- Identify the core principles of effective delinquency prevention for youths committing offenses.

Course Requirements

Course Readings and Materials

Mallet, C. A., & Tedor, M. F. (2026). Juvenile delinquency: Pathways and prevention (2nd ed.). SAGE Supplementary course material will be available on Blackboard Ultra.

How to Access Course Materials

- Log into Jagwire: <https://jagwire.tamusa.edu>
- Click on Blackboard Ultra
- Under "My Courses," locate our course and click on it.
 - Material (slides and readings) are copyrighted for personal use only and should not be distributed online or in other mediums.

Communication

I often send notices and announcements through Blackboard Ultra to your email accounts, so you will need to be adamant about checking your email. If you ever need to contact me, I am best reached by email and will make every effort to respond within 48 hours (usually sooner). Remember, these are professional correspondences so your emails should have a subject line identifying yourself and the class you are enrolled in, a salutation (Hi Dr. Malone) before the body of the message, and an ending. Emails without the bare minimum may not receive a response.

Online Course Etiquette

The online classroom is a learning environment and an academic community. We all have a special obligation to preserve an atmosphere conducive to the freedom to teach and to learn. I foster a **culture of respect** that honors the rights, safety, dignity, and worth of every individual to preserve the integrity of each person. For that reason, all members of this community are expected to show courtesy, civility, and respect for one another.

Course content can be complicated, sensitive, quite often controversial, and sometimes emotionally charged, we will encounter different perspectives, theories, and interpretations about various groups and concepts – some you may agree with and others you may have reservations about. However, it is paramount that we be mindful in crafting responses and respect each other's points of view while maintaining a critical but open mind. I encourage and maintain a classroom dynamic that is conducive to honest and open discussions about topics that are sometimes uncomfortable to talk about. This environment of openness is created and maintained when we respect and listen to one another.

Class Participation and Assignments

Given this is an 8-week online, asynchronous course, participation is extremely paramount in your academic success. Thus, it is important that a part of your grade captures your participation in the course. Students are expected to complete assigned readings and assignments by the respective due dates. Failure to do so is considered an absence.

Class participation includes weekly chapter quizzes, discussion forums, and weekly exams. For discussion forums, each student should have an original post responding to the prompt in entirety for full credit. I have detailed instructions on Blackboard Ultra.

Reading Quizzes

In this course, for accountability purposes, there will be weekly reading quizzes for assigned chapters. You have unlimited attempts until the due date.

Discussion Forums

In this course, there will be activities that will include write-ups and discussion forums to help keep students engaged throughout the 8-week course. The write-ups will serve as primers to check for reading and engaging course material. Discussion forums are used for students to engage course material (course readings and documentaries) with each other and the instructor. Each student must write an original post from my initial post and respond to at least two peers' responses. All components should be completed by the due date listed on Blackboard.

Exams

You are responsible for taking 4 exams in this course. Each exam will evaluate you on the material covered directly prior to the exam. Exams are not cumulative. Exams are available through Blackboard Ultra. Approach taking your online exams as if Dr. Malone were right next to you. This means you are to receive no outside assistance nor use notes. You will have 75 minutes to complete the exam. If technical issues arise, please contact me as soon as possible.

Grading Assignments

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

Assignments/Activities	% of Final Grade
Discussion Forums	10.5%
Reading Quizzes	14.5%
Exam #1	18.75%
Exam #2	18.75%
Exam #3	18.75%
Exam #4	18.75%

Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Points
A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	<60

Attendance and Tardiness

Attendance in our online class is noted by timely submission of assignments. Late submissions are considered absences. However, unexpected events do arise which may prevent you from attending. For this reason, you will be allowed 3 unexcused absences or what I call "self-care" days. All additional unexcused absences will result in a one-letter grade penalty per absence.

There may be occasions (inclement weather or other unforeseen events) when Dr. Malone cancels class and/or TAMUSA is closed. In these events, I will communicate at my soonest convenience to students via email directing you to Blackboard Ultra where alternative coursework will be available.

Late Assignment

All assignments are due by the specified time on Blackboard Ultra. Any assignment turned in after the deadline is considered late and will receive a standard deduction of 10 points. After 1 late day, the assignment will be a "0" unless there is a university excused reason.

Students who do not have a university-excused absence will not be allowed to make up a missed examination. You must have written documentation for the absence and have notified the instructor within 24 hours of the absence to be able to schedule a make-up exam. No exceptions.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty includes any unapproved activity that compromises the integrity of ANY portion of assignments. This includes, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism (which includes self-plagiarism), or failing to appropriately cite sources. This also includes Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content, which is not original. Any form of academic dishonesty is incompatible with Texas A&M-San Antonio's mission and generally understood standards of ethical academic behavior.

Disability Disclosure Statement

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us <https://www.tamusa.edu/Disability-Support-Services/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The purpose of the following statement is to enumerate the essential provisions of students' freedoms and responsibilities to learn at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. All students are required to follow all policies and regulations as set forth by The Texas A&M University System, including the A&M-San Antonio Student Code of Conduct

Students' Rights

- A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no university rule or procedure that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression,

petition, and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.

- Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the university, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
- Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university students' rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

- A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and staff, and the administration.
- A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted and compliant with the University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, on our website, and in the University Catalog.
- A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
- A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
- A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official University notifications.
- We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual

harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Course Resources

Academic Learning Center

The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the Tools section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

The Jaguar Writing Center

The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center is in Central Academic Building, Suite 208. The Writing Center can be reached by emailing writingcenter@tamusa.edu or calling 210-

784-1222. Students can also make appointments with the Writing Center under the Student Services tab in JagWire.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources

As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information on SCC services visit tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').

Additionally, the TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to include support for in the moment distress, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.

Emergency Preparedness

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/emergency-management/>.

Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Meeting Basic Needs

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE referral (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

Military Affairs

Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots' Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances

Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided with an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

Course Schedule- Next Page

Content may be subject to change based on pace of course.

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Week 1, 3/16	Introduction to Juvenile Delinquency	Chapters 1-2	Introduction Discussion Forum Due (3/17) Chapter Quizzes (Due 3/20)
Week 2, 3/23	Measures of Juvenile Crime and Classical Theories of Crime Exam Week	Chapters 3-4 Exam #1	Chapter Quizzes (Due 3/27) Documentary Discussion Forum (Due 3/28) Exam #1 (Due 3/29)
Week 3, 3/30	Modern Sociological Theories of Crime and Delinquency Risks	Chapters 5-6	Chapter Quizzes (Due 4/4)
Week 4, 4/6	Juvenile Justice Policies and Zero Tolerance Exam Week	Chapters 7-8 Exam #2	Chapter Quizzes (Due 4/10) Exam #2 Due (4/12)
Week 5, 4/13	Trauma, Delinquency and Mental Health	Chapters 9-10	Chapter Quizzes (Due 4/17) Documentary Discussion Forum (Due 4/18)

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Week 6, 4/20	Evidence-Based Risk Prevention and School Safety Policies Exam Week	Chapter 11 Exam #3	Chapter Quizzes (Due 4/24) Exam #3 Due (4/26)
Week 7, 4/27	Rehabilitation of Youth (Low Offending and Serious Offending)	Chapters 12-14	Chapter Quizzes (Due 5/2)
Week 8, 5/4	Exam Week	Exam #4	Exam #4 due Wednesday (5/6)