

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ADJ 105 - THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Presents the evolution, philosophy, structures and processes of the American juvenile delinquency system; surveys the right of juveniles, dispositional alternatives, rehabilitation methods, and current trends. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an overview of the juvenile justice system, juvenile delinquency, types of delinquency violations, causes of delinquency, and methods of rehabilitating juvenile offenders.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

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

- a) Explain the functioning of the juvenile justice system (law enforcement, juvenile court, and juvenile corrections).
- b) Describe the causes of youth crime and the role society in helping reduce juvenile delinquency.
- c) Describe the importance of rehabilitative and reductive efforts for juvenile crime.

Major Topics to be Included

- a) The history of juvenile crime and attempts by society to deal with juvenile offenders
- b) Philosophy of the American juvenile justice system
- c) Crime causation and theories of delinquency
- d) Role of law enforcement in preventing juvenile delinquency
- e) The juvenile court (judge, probation officer, prosecutor, intake etc.)
- f) Juvenile detention or corrections
- g) Child abuse and neglect
- h) Runaways
- i) Child pornography
- j) Significant Supreme Court decisions and their impact on the juvenile justice system
- k) Constitutional rights of juveniles
- l) Compare and contrast the juvenile justice system to the criminal justice system
- m) Youth gangs
- n) Gender differences in delinquency rates
- o) Peer group influences
- p) Family responsibilities

Extra Topics (Optional)

Related topics at the discretion of the instructor