WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
COURSE SYLLABUS

FACULTY MEMBER:       TERM:       

COURSE TITLE: Sociological Perspectives of Delinquency

COURSE NUMBER: SOC 459

OFFICE HOURS/ METHOD OF CONTACT:

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on the sociological perspective of at-risk youth in society- and its core question: *To what extent does society shape youth behavior?* Juvenile delinquency will be explored focusing on individual theories such as choice and trait theory, bio-social theories, and psychological theories; sociological perspectives/ social structure perspectives of delinquency such as social disorganization, anomie/strain theory, critical theory, and cultural deviance theory; social process theories such as family relations, school, and peers; and developmental perspectives such as life course, latent trait, and trajectory theories. Also explored will be gender differences in delinquency.

MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A: Explore how society shapes youth behavior.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

A-1: Explain the risks faced by youths in American culture.

A-2: Describe differences between delinquency and status offending.

A-3: Discuss how gender affects delinquency status.

GOAL B: Explain the individual theories of delinquency.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

B-1: Choice theory

B-2: Trait theory

B-3: Bio-social theories

B-4: Psychological theories

GOAL C: Explain sociological theories of delinquency:

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

C-1: Social factors theory

C-2: Social structure theories
C-3: Social process theories
C-4: Critical theory

GOAL D: Explain developmental theories of delinquency.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
D-1: Life course view
D-2: Age graded theory
D-3: Latent trait theory/propensity view
D-4: Trajectory theory

GOAL E: Students will use appropriate written and oral communication skills.
E-1: Write clearly, concisely, and appropriately using correct English grammar, punctuation, usage, mechanics, structure, and vocabulary.
E-2: Use appropriate APA format for scholarly writings.
E-3: Research, prepare, and deliver professional presentations.

METHODOLOGY:

A. TEACHING METHODS:
B. EVALUATION PROCEDURES:

COURSE SCHEDULE AND CHECKLIST:

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: