



Governing Iowa's Public Universities

In accordance with [Board of Regents policy 3.20](#), the following required information is available below:

Fall 2026

I. Course title and number as designated in the institutional course catalog

CRIM 2127 Juvenile Delinquency, 01

II. A course description including learning objectives that students are expected to achieve by the end of the course

A. Course Description:

This course critically examines juvenile delinquency and the adult correctional system in America. Students will be exposed to the theories that help professionals understand the development of delinquency and crime within the context of individuals, families, and communities. Understanding the mechanisms that contribute to offending is important for criminal justice professionals, as this understanding should directly guide the policies and practices of the justice system.

B. Course Level Learning Objectives:

1. Explain adolescence as a developmental stage.
2. Compare and contrast sociological theories of juvenile delinquency.
3. Describe specific forms of juvenile delinquency such as gangs, school violence, and gender differences in the causes and manifestations of delinquency.
4. Apply theories of juvenile delinquency to real-world scenarios.

III. A general outline of the topics to be covered throughout the course:

This course discusses the nature of juvenile delinquency and the treatment of juveniles within the juvenile justice system. Students will review the classical and modern definitions of juvenile delinquency while studying theories of delinquency as well as risk factors for delinquent behavior. We will also trace the history of the juvenile justice system and an overview of the various dispositions for adjudicated youth.

IV. List of required textbooks, readings, and other materials necessary for the course

Required readings for this course consist of instructor-created presentations that correspond to weekly topics, along with current news articles related to issues and developments in juvenile justice. These materials are designed to supplement class discussions and provide real-world context for the concepts being studied.

V. General description of the types of assessments used in the course (e.g., exams, papers, projects, experiential learning):



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Discussions, journal entries, midterm exam, and final exam.