The University of New Mexico—Valencia
Syllabus for CJUS 1140/Juvenile Justice
Summer 2026, online

Introduction:
Hi, I'm Linda Silber and I'll be your instructor this term. Welcome to Juvenile Justice, CJUS 1140! I enjoy teaching this class; it's interesting and exciting because juvenile delinquency as well as juvenile crime have always been social issues that people are very concerned about. I enjoy that there are both majors and non-majors in the class as it adds variety, spice, and energy. I hope to arrange some Zoom talks with experts in the field, which I hope you will be able to attend. Also, feel free to call me Linda or Dr. Silber, whichever is most comfortable for you. I hope you enjoy the class. 😊

How to reach me:
Cell phone: (505) 227-1136
This is my cell phone number. Feel free to call me between 10 a.m.-7 p.m. any day of the week. I will get back to you as soon as possible and no longer than 24 hours. To be clear: I don't text with students, as it ends up taking more time and often doesn't resolve the issue.

Email: lsilber1956@unm.edu
I'm available by email every day of the week, but I have a slower turnaround time on the weekend.

Student Learning (office) Hours:
My student hours are from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Zoom on Tuesdays and I am happy to meet with you on Zoom at other times at your convenience. Generally speaking, I can make something work within a day or two. The student hours are optional but useful. If you have a life emergency, please contact me as soon as possible so that you don't fall behind in the class.

Brief check-in:
The optional check-in is from 7:00-7:15 p.m. on Zoom on Wednesdays. You can also do a brief check-in with me via email or over the phone if you can't make the Zoom meeting.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We will look at how juvenile delinquency and justice have been socially constructed as concepts, as well as sociological theories for explaining delinquency and crime. We consider how delinquency manifests itself in this time and place—and why. The reality is that while there have always been dangerous (and endangered) youth, what delinquency and justice look like today is quite different from what it looked like 50 or even 30 years ago. We will also spend some time looking at how and why delinquency is a gendered phenomenon. Finally, we will look at how juvenile delinquency and justice plays out in New Mexico: how serious a problem is juvenile delinquency and/or juvenile crime in our state? And why?

Also, this is a fully online class. The class operates on a schedule with deadlines, just as with face-to-face classes. And it will go fast since it's only eight weeks! If you miss assignments, you will fall behind. 😟 If you don't have time to devote to the class, consider taking it in the regular semester since this class is essentially "double time." I also know that "life happens," especially in our post-Covid world. If something has thrown you off and you need an extra day or two to turn in an assignment, let me know by the due date. I am happy to accommodate late work once or twice over the semester BUT not more than several days late.

Each week I send out an email to let you know what's up for the week, and I will also post it in the weekly module. I also post a short video. Please be aware that you can see one module (week) at a time. I don't open all the modules because I may be working on them, and because I don't like students working ahead since I don't give feedback until the assignment is due.

There is an optional 15-minute Zoom check-in meeting every week, which you will get credit for. The idea behind the weekly check-in is to make sure that people are on track, and to build community in our class. If you can't make the Zoom meeting, we can also do an email check-in.

I am a sociologist by training, and I have taught criminal justice classes on a regular basis since 2015. It's always fun to interact with students about the course material, which is both interesting and disturbing. YIKES!

Prerequisites: Students must meet prerequisites in English and mathematics by achievement of minimum placement scores on the Accuplacer or ACT or through completion of course work. However, there are no CJUS prerequisites for taking the class.

Required textbooks, in the order in which we will read them. Also, please note that both books are available electronically on My Shelf. They are not free but this is very convenient way to access the texts. Or you can buy them in the bookstore or online.

Shoemaker, Donald. 2018. *Juvenile Delinquency*, 3rd edition. Rowman & Littlefield. ISBN for the paperback edition: 978-1-4422-7194-4

Hobbs, Jeff. 2023. *Children of the State: Stories of Survival and Hope in the Juvenile Justice System*. Scribner. I think this is the eBook edition but I am not 100% sure: 9781982116385

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT DO WELL IN THE CLASS WITHOUT READING THE TEXTBOOKS! IN FACT, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN PASS THE CLASS. THEY ARE AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY ON MY SHELF IN CANVAS, AND ON RESERVE IN THE UNM-VALENCIA LIBRARY.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify current practices and functions of the juvenile justice system
2. Analyze and evaluate this information using sociological and criminological theories, concepts, and research methods.
3. Compare U.S. practices and theories with that of other countries
4. Communicate an understanding of the juvenile justice system through academic research and written assignments
5. Apply sociological/criminological perspectives on juvenile delinquency and/or justice to your own life and experience.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Weekly papers**
   Everyone completes **seven out of eight of the weekly papers**, each of which should be two-three pages, typed double-spaced. **You decide which week to skip based on your schedule**. Each of the weekly papers is worth 20 points. I will post the questions for the papers on Canvas. The weekly papers are due Sunday by 11:59 p.m. Please note that these papers are super important for the basis of your learning as there are no tests or quizzes.

   My expectation is that you will use our text and only our text as you answer the weekly questions. The focus in this class is to show understanding of our textbooks, which I chose because I think they are both great. This means utilizing and citing our

texts, rather than using outside sources. If you use other sources, it will affect your grade negatively. ☹️

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE DATES FOR THE WEEKLY PAPERS ARE DIFFERENT IN WEEKS 7 AND 8 BECAUSE WE ARE GETTING CLOSE TO THE END OF THE COURSE AND I DON'T WANT ALL THE ASSIGNMENTS TO BE SCRUNCHED UP, MAKING IT HARDER FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE, AND MAKING IT HARDER FOR ME TO GRADE IN A TIMELY FASHION!

2. **Short response papers**
   Everyone completes four out of five short response papers in weeks 2-6. You decide which week to skip based on your schedule. These papers should be one-two pages, typed double-spaced. For each assignment, you read several articles or view media that are connected to the topic we're studying, then write a short 1–2 page response to it. Each short response paper is worth 15 points and is due Thursday by 11:59 p.m.

3. **Discussion board**
   Students participate in four out of five online discussion boards in weeks 2-6. You decide which week to skip based on your schedule. The discussion board is an opportunity to discuss a question from the text with other students to get their ideas and insights. The initial post should be between 100-200 words. Each student also responds to two other student posts. The responses to other students should be between 50-100 words in length.

   You should submit the initial post Friday by 11:59 p.m., and the two responses are due Saturday by 11:59 p.m. The reason to have the initial post submitted by on Friday is so that people have time to interact with each other. The discussion boards are worth a possible total of 20 points each.

   PLEASE NOTE: IF THE POSTS ARE LATE, YOU WON'T GET CREDIT SINCE THE POINT IS TO INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER. ☹️

4. **Reflection paper**
   Everyone completes a reflection paper in which they apply a particular aspect of juvenile justice and/or juvenile delinquency that we are studying to their own life, or the life of someone they know well. The paper should be four-five pages, typed double-spaced. Please note that this is not a research paper; it is a paper in which you apply the relevant information, concepts, or theories to your own life, or the life of someone you know well. The first draft is worth 25 points, while the final draft paper is worth 55

points. There are reflection paper samples on our website as well as guidelines. You must use one or both of our texts, and you may use up to three outside sources, which must be correctly referenced. However, you don't have to use outside sources.

The first draft is due Sunday July 19 by 11:59 p.m. while the final draft is due Sunday July 26 by 11:59 p.m.

I WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY ASSIGNMENTS AFTER SUNDAY JULY 26 AT 11:59 P.M. because I need time to grade assignments and calculate final grades. Thanks for your understanding!

5. **Optional weekly check-in**
   Participate in an OPTIONAL weekly check-in for 15 minutes each week for 2 extra credit points per week. The purpose of the check-in is to make sure that your questions and concerns about the course are addressed, and to build community in the class. The weekly check-in via Zoom is on Wednesday from 7:00-7:15 p.m.
   This will count as extra credit and I will add the points manually each week.

6. **Formatting:**
   All writing assignments must be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12 pt. Times New Roman font. **Also, papers must be submitted to Canvas as either a Word.doc or .pdf. Google Docs are not compatible.**

GRADING

Grading will generally conform to the following:

140 POINTS	WEEKLY PAPERS (7 @ 20 points each)
60 POINTS	SHORT RESPONSE PAPERS (4 @ 15 points each)
80 POINTS	DISCUSSION BOARD (4 @ 20 points each)
25 POINTS	FIRST DRAFT OF THE REFLECTION PAPER
55 POINTS	FINAL DRAFT OF THE REFLECTION PAPER
10 POINTS	SYLLABUS QUESTIONS
10 POINTS	INTRODUCTION
10 POINTS	MID-SEMESTER SURVEY
10 POINTS	COURSE EVALUATION
400 POINTS	TOTAL

Grade	Percent	Points
A	100-90	400-360
B	89-80	359-320
C	79-70	319-280
D	69-60	279-240
F	59% and below	239 and below

Attendance and Participation Policy

• Attendance and overall participation will be measured by how often (and whether) you are on Canvas. I want to stress that everyone submits assignments on a schedule; it is not a class in which you can turn in all the work in the last week. That would be an impossible workload for anyone! Also, I totally understand that "life happens" from time to time. Send me an email by the due date if you need a one or two day extension. However, this should not be something that happens more than once or twice over the semester.

• Students who miss the first two weeks of class, which include several weekly papers as well as others assignments, may be dropped from the course. If you fall behind it can be hard to catch up since the course is only 8 weeks! YIKES!!!!

Late Work Policy (thanks to Fabiola Torres)

You should plan to submit work on time, but if you are unable to, late work will be accepted with a penalty of 10% deduction per day. However, if you think that you may have a problem getting work in on time, contact me no later than the due date to let me know, and then we can talk about a solution. Also, in general, I have no problem with people occasionally (once or twice a semester) submitting work up to two days late as long as they notify me by the due date. I know that "life happens" to all of us from time to time! If you have an emergency, for example you are in the hospital, please reach out as soon as possible.

Also, I won't accept any work after July 26 at 11:59 p.m. regardless of circumstances. At that point, I calculate grades and the semester is over.

Academic Integrity

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Here is the link to the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy: https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html.

The policy states:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic Dishonesty is defined as:

"Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

AI Policy:

I've decided to make my assignments AI free. What does this mean? You don't need to use outside sources, nor should you. What happens if you do? It will affect your grade negatively, since I am grading based on students using course texts to complete their assignments rather than outside sources. AI also includes programs such as Grammarly. My focus is on content rather than style. When students use such applications, the applications often change the content as well as the style, which then becomes a problem.

Course Communications

Please communicate with me using your UNM email address rather than other email addresses. My email address is lsilber1956@unm.edu. You can expect a response from me within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends to course messages, email messages, or phone calls. When you receive a communication from me, you should attempt to reply within 48 hours. You can also call me on my cell phone at (505) 227-1136 between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. any day of the week but I don't text. On weekends and holidays, I will get back to you within 48 hours, and during the week I will get back to you within 24 hours. I have noticed that Canvas email can be slow. If you want a quicker response from me, email directly to my UNM email address at lsilber1956@unm.edu.

My goal is to grade your work within several days so that you get feedback on a regular basis. I may sometimes fall short of this goal, but it is important to me so I will try my best. Generally, I don't email about grades, but I am happy to talk about them virtually or over the phone.

Each week I will send out an email to let you know what's up for the week, and I will also post it in the weekly module. I will also post a short video. Please be aware that you will only be able to see one module (week) at a time. I can't open all the modules because I am still working on them. If I'm able to open two modules/weeks ahead, I will do so.

Technical Needs Computer Requirements

Since this course is taught online, frequent use of a computer is required. You must have access to a computer and to the internet, and you need to be familiar with the use of a browser such as Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, or Firefox. Access at least part time to a broadband (high speed) internet network, such as DSL, cable, wireless, or satellite, is strongly recommended since some of the assignments involve audio and video clips. You can access broadband networks at many libraries and on campus. Some minimum hardware and software are required to complete the course. You may find this link helpful: http://it.unm.edu/support/

UNM Computer Account Policy

You are required to have an UNM campus account (NetID). You will use this account to access this course via Canvas, which is the learning management system for UNM. You will also use this account to register for classes through MyUNM, http://my.unm.edu. This account is also used to read and send e-mail (the UNM email address looks like NetID@unm.edu), print transcripts, check financial status, and check degree progress. The NetID and password for Canvas is the same as your login for your UNM Main Campus account. For this class, you should check your UNM email (LoboMail) periodically, as this is the main communication method used by the university. You can access your email via MyUNM by clicking on the "MyUNM" link on either the Main Campus web page (http://www.unm.edu), or by typing in the web address http://my.unm.edu. You must then log in using your NetID and password. Email is available on the UNM Email tab.

Support and Resources for Canvas, our learning management system

Here is how you access Canvas: https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/students/index.html. Note that Canvas works with a limited number of browsers and versions, so you should make sure you are using one of these. For all browsers, JavaScript and cookies must be enabled. If you need support, use this link: https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/support/index.html. Also, here is a link to UNM's policy on netiquette: https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/students/intro-to-canvas/netiquette.html, which refers to polite behavior while interacting with others either in virtual discussions or discussion boards.

Technical Support

If you are having technical problems with Canvas, you can contact free technical support in one of the following ways: ▪ Phone: 505-277-0857, Canvas support hotline on Main Campus. ▪ UNM-Valencia Technology Support: https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/technology-support/contact-ts.html.
You can also call Information Technology Support on Main Campus at (505) 277-5757 Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. https://it.unm.edu/get-support/index.html

Academic Support.

The Library at UNM has many electronic databases that you may find useful. You can link to the UNM-Valencia Library here: http://valencia.unm.edu/library/index.html.

UNM-Valencia Tutoring Services

Tutoring is available to you in math, science, writing, and other subjects through the Learning Commons: Learning and STEM Centers and Writing Center. In-person tutoring is in these centers in the LRC (the building that also has the library). Tutoring in Zoom and, for writing, through email, is also available. Making use of tutoring is a fantastic way to use your resources and set yourself up to learn deeply and well in your courses.

The webpage, with more details about available hours, is here: https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/pasos/pasos-resource-center/tutoring/index.html

Resources to support study skills and time management are available at the Center for Teaching and Learning: https://ctl.unm.edu/undergraduate-students/index.html

UNM Policies Drop Policy

If you decide to drop the class, it is your responsibility to do so; you should be aware of University-wide posted deadlines for tuition refunds and mandatory assignment of grades. You should not assume that I will drop you before a deadline if you simply stop attending a face-to-face class or stop logging in to an online class. Dropping a course may affect your financial aid status and/or tuition refund. A drop will result in a grade of "W." If you do not officially drop the class, you will receive the grade earned based on the syllabus grading criteria, which may be an "F."

Students' Online Classroom Participation May Be Monitored

The online classroom provides tools for the instructor to monitor students' participation in online classes. I have access to records of when you logged in, what course materials you opened during each session, and when you submitted coursework. This data allows

me to evaluate class participation and to help me identify students having difficulties using online classroom features.

Course Evaluations and Surveys

UNM requests that all students participate in course evaluations because the information they provide is helpful in improving courses for future students. Although I know they are a pain, surveys and evaluations are useful to me since I always want to improve. I offer 10 points for completing the course evaluation. Also, there is a mid-semester survey and I offer 10 points for completing it. Thank you!

Accommodations

I can make appropriate accommodations that will support you in this class by collaborating with you and the Accessibility Resource Center (https://arc.unm.edu/). It is important that you take the initiative to inform me of your accommodations needs, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Credit Hour Statement

This is a three credit-hour course delivered online over eight weeks during the summer semester. Please plan for a minimum of 12 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments. Support: Center for Academic Program Support (CAPS). Many students have found that time management workshops can help them meet their goals (consult CAPS website under "services").

Title IX

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered “responsible employees.” This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: https://ceeo.unm.edu/programs/title-ix/index.html

Respectful and Responsible Learning: We all have shared responsibility for ensuring that learning occurs safely and equitably. UNM has important policies to preserve and protect the academic community, especially policies on student grievances (Faculty Handbook D175 and D176), academic dishonesty (FH D100), and respectful campus (FH

CO9). TUNM follows the UNM policies as stated in the Pathfinder – Student Handbook, which can be found at this link: http://pathfinder.unm.edu/.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS/READINGS

WEEK 1 June 1-7
Introduction to the course and one another
Introduction (chapter 1) and chapter 2 in *Juvenile Delinquency*
Paper 1 due June 7 by 1:59 p.m.
Introduction due June 3 by 11:59 p.m.
Syllabus questions due June 5 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 2 June 8-14
Chapters 3 & 4 in *Juvenile Delinquency*
Paper 2 due June 14 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 2 due June 11 by 11:59 p.m.
Discussion board initial post due June 12 by 11:59 p.m., the responses are due June 13 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 3 June 15-21
Chapters 5, 6 & 7 in *Juvenile Delinquency*
Paper 3 due June 21 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 3 due June 18 by 11:59 p.m.
Discussion board initial post due June 19 by 11:59 p.m., the responses are due Jone 20 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 4 June 22-28
Chapters 8 & 9 in *Juvenile Delinquency*
Mid-semester survey due June 28 by 11:59 p.m.
Paper 4 due June 28 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 4 due June 25 by 11:59 p.m.
Discussion board initial post due June 26 by 11:59 p.m., the responses are due June 27 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 5 June 29-Sunday July 5
Chapters 10 & 11 in *Juvenile Delinquency*

Paper 5 due July 5 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 5 due July 2 by 11:59 p.m.
Discussion board initial post due July 3 by 11:59 p.m., the responses are due July 5 by 11:59 p.m. because of Independence Day
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 6 July 6-12
Pages 3-64 in *Children of the State*
Paper 6 due July 12 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 6 due July 9 by 11:59 p.m.
Discussion board initial post due July 10 by 11:59 p.m., the responses are due July 11 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 7 July 13-19 **THE END IS NEAR**
Pages 65-129 in *Children of the State*
Paper 7 due WEDNESDAY July 15 by 11:59 p.m.
Reflection paper FIRST DRAFT due Sunday July 19 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

WEEK 8 July 20-26 **THE END IS HERE** 😊
Pages 133-207 in *Children of the State*
Course evaluation due July 24 by 11:59 p.m.
Paper 8 due WEDNESDAY July 22 by 11:59 p.m.
Reflection paper FINAL DRAFT due Sunday July 26 by 11:59 p.m.
Optional weekly check-in

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU SUCCEED

VETERAN SUPPORT SERVICES: For assistance, please contact the registrar's office at (505) 505.925.8580 or 505.925.8583, or go to the following link: https://valencia.unm.edu/students/veterans-dependents.html

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DIFFERENT NEEDS: In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you are a student with documented physical or learning disability, please contact me as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. If you have require accommodation in the classroom or other academic setting, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Equal Access Services at 505-925-8560.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: I welcome all students in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status and I respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. https://elcentro.unm.edu/

Course/Campus Resources:
Campus Police: (505) 925-8570
Career Services: (505) 925-8840
Technology Support: (505) 925-8911
Testing Center: (505) 925-8560
The Learning Center: (505) 925-8907
The Library: (505) 925-8990
The Wellness Center: (505) 925-8830
The Writing Center: (505) 925-8548
Get LoboGuardian & be safe: https://loboguardian.unm.edu/
Stressed? Call Agora Crisis Center at 505-277-3013 or 855-505-4505