

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**CRMJ – 212 Juvenile Justice**

**I. Basic Course Information**

- A. Course Number and Title: CRMJ – 212, Juvenile Justice
- B. New or Modified Course: Modified
- C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2018
- D. **Effective Term:** Fall 2019
- E. Sponsoring Department: Business and Public Service
- F. Semester Credit Hours: 3.0
- G. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 3  
Laboratory: 0  
Out of class student work per week: 6.0 hours
- H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None
- I. Laboratory Fees: None
- J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: Anne Marie Anderson, annemarie.anderson@raritanval.edu, Dean Terrance Lynn Terrence.Lynn@raritanval.edu

**II. Catalog Description**

This course examines the juvenile justice system with an emphasis on New Jersey Law. It includes an overview of the major issues in the field of juvenile justice including causation and treatment and the relationships between delinquency and the family, socio-economic factors, school, and peers.

### **III. Statement of Course Need**

- A. This course is part of a comprehensive criminal justice curriculum. This course analyzes the complex juvenile adjudication process through examination of their components. Towards this end, this course plays an integral part towards understanding the concepts and theories of delinquency, the juvenile justice system, the principal actors, and the rights and responsibilities of children under the law.
- B. This course does not have a lab component
- C. This course generally transfers as a Criminal Justice program elective.

### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for Criminal Justice AA, and as an elective for Human Services/Pre-Social Work AS, Human Services AAS, Human Services Certificate, and Human Services Certificate of Completion.
- C. To see transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

### **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. An overview of juvenile justice in the United States
- B. The history of juvenile justice and origins of the juvenile court
- C. Theories of delinquency and intervention programs
- D. The legal rights of juveniles
- E. Juveniles and the police
- F. Intake and pre-adjudicatory processing
- G. Prosecutorial decision making in juvenile justice
- H. Classification and preliminary treatment: waivers and other alternatives
- I. The adjudicatory process: dispositional alternatives
- J. Nominal sanctions: warnings, diversion, and alternative dispute resolution
- K. Juvenile probation and community-based corrections
- L. Juvenile corrections: custodial sanctions and aftercare

### **VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes**

#### **A. General Education Learning Outcomes:**

**At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Evaluate the ethical issues of the treatment of juvenile offenders. (GE-NJ ER)
2. Produce works that reflect critical thinking and an understanding of the roles of the various components of the juvenile justice system. (GE-NJ 5\*)

## **B. Course Learning Outcomes:**

**At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Analyze and illustrate the significance of the contemporary juvenile justice system as it relates to the overall criminal justice system.
2. Explain the major structure, process, and operation of the juvenile justice system.
3. Describe and explain the legal and historical background of delinquency in America.  
(\* Embedded critical thinking)

## **C. Assessment Instruments**

The following instruments may be used to assess the student learning outcomes referenced above:

- A. Objective tests and quizzes
- B. Essays
- C. Research Papers (Required)
- D. Class Presentations
- E. Class Discussions

## **VII. Grade Determinants**

The factors that may enter into the determination of the final grade include:

- A. Objective tests and quizzes
- B. Essays
- C. Research Papers
- D. Class Presentations
- E. Class Discussions

Modes of teaching and learning used in the course:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. computer-assisted instruction
- D. guest speakers
- E. student oral presentations

## **VIII. Texts and Materials**

Juvenile Justice System, The: Delinquency, Processing, and the Law, by Merlo, Benekos, and Champion, published by Pearson, latest edition.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

## **IX. Resources**

N/A

## **X. Honors Options**

N/A