University of Central Oklahoma  
School of Criminal Justice  
Spring 2013  
CJ5423-Child Abuse and Neglect Law (CRN 28869)  
Class meets Thursdays 5:30-8:15pm at the Downtown Consortium (OKC Public Library)

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 4:15-5:00pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:30am, Thursdays 3:00-4:30pm and by appointment

Course Description from 2012-2013 Catalog:
This course is designed to give the student an overview of the development of unique terminology, laws, institutions, social service agencies, police units, procedures and courts to protect abused/ neglected children in Oklahoma and the United States.

Course Objectives:
- Students will be able to use the different terminology used for abused and neglected youth
- Students will be able to identify the different institutions and social service agencies designed to help abused and neglected youth
- Students will be able to identify and understand court procedures and laws designed to protect abused and neglected youth

Transformational Learning Objectives: The University of Central Oklahoma is a learning-centered organization committed to transformative education through the “Central Six,” which include Discipline Knowledge; Leadership; Problem Solving (Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities); Service Learning and Civic Engagement; Global and Cultural Competencies; and Health and Wellness.

This course addresses two of the university’s transformative learning goals: discipline knowledge and leadership. This course addresses leadership through public speaking opportunities, as well as gaining confidence to discuss difficult issues and contemplate many different solutions. The ability to speak effectively to a group is an important feature of leadership. Additionally being willing to listen and be open to all points of view of critical issues are key qualities of a good leader.

Required Text for Course:


(2) Research articles available online which are assigned throughout the course. A full citation list along with the hyperlinks for the articles can be found at the end of this
syllabus and are also online in the course management software. Please report links that aren’t working to Prof. Maier as soon as possible. All links were working as of the start of this semester.

Course Format:
This course will consist of lecture and class/group discussion. On several occasions, a video or guest speaker will be used to supplement the course material. All material covered in class could potentially be on an exam. Multiple times throughout the course there will be an in-class activity for students to complete. These activities are based on class readings and lecture. They ask students to apply what they have learned and are completed during class time. The activities are either individual or group. They are worth varying amounts. The in-class activities cannot be made up unless the student missed class for an excused absence.

Course Assignments:
Exams - There will be two exams for this course (midterm and final). Each exam is worth 100 points and will consist of matching, multiple choice, true & false, short answer, and essay questions. The essay portion of the exams is take-home and will be given to students a week in advance of each exam. The essays are then due at the exam. A review sheet detailing exactly what material will be on each exam will be provided to students a week in advance of the scheduled exam.

Research Article Critiques – Each student will read the assigned research articles and critique five of them. Students can select which five articles he/she critiques, with one restriction. Students can only critique one article from each week’s readings. Exactly what is meant by article critique is provided in the assignment sheet in D2L. Each critique is worth 25 points (total of 5 = 125 points).

Newspaper Article – Each student will read the Pelzer book (required text). Each student will write a newspaper article about Dave and his abusive mother. The article should include reactions of other family members, neighbors, and classmates. Remember to answer the who, what, when, where, and why questions in your article. This assignment is worth 50 points and is due Feb. 7th in class.

Organizational Agency Profile1 – Students will identify, visit (if/when possible), and gather information on a local, state or regional community agency that serves children and/or families dealing with issues of child abuse or neglect. Based on the student’s research, he/she will develop an organizational profile about the agency’s mission and services to turn in and share with the class. A more detailed assignment sheet can be found in D2L. Students must be in class on April 4th to discuss their agency and receive credit for the oral portion of the grade. The written portion is worth 50 points and the oral portion is 20 points.

State Research Project and Presentation – Each student will select a state, other than Oklahoma, and research its child abuse and neglect laws, social services, etc. and present that information to

1 Borrowed from Dr. Karen Budd, DePaul University’s PSY 368 course.
the rest of the class. In addition to presenting that information, each student will write a briefing paper and give it to Dr. Maier. Please see detailed instructions in D2L. The written portion is worth 75 points and the presentation is worth 30 points.

**Course Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2 x 100)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>(33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper Article</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>(8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>(8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Article Critique (5 x 25)</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>(21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Profile</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>(8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Profile Discussion</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Research Project</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>(13%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Research Presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>(5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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TOTAL: 600 points

A = 549-600 points (92-100%)
B = 489-548 points (82-91%)
C = 429-488 points (72-81%)
D = 369-428 points (62-71%)
F = 0-368 points (61% and below)

Extra credit may be offered at the discretion of the professor.

**Tentative\textsuperscript{2} Schedule:**

R Jan. 17 – Introduction to Course, Introduction to the world of abused and neglected youth

R Jan. 24 – Identification and Measurement of Different Types of Child Abuse & Neglect
(Three articles assigned: Fallon et al. article, Glaser article and Mennen et al. article)

R Jan. 31 – Laws
(Two articles: Hammond et al. article and Svevo-Cianci et al. article)

R Feb. 7 – Social Services and Discussion of Pelzer book
(Two articles: Barillas article and Scannapieco et al. article)

*Newspaper Article due in class*

R Feb. 14 – Law Enforcement
(Two articles: Bollenbacher and Sakagawa article, and Wright et al. article)

R Feb. 21 – Courts (Guest Speaker, ADA Gayland Gieger)
(Two articles: Choi article, Walsh article)

R Feb. 28 – Resources and review for midterm exam

R March 7 – Midterm Exam

\textsuperscript{2} This schedule is subject to change as the need arises. Students will be notified in advance of any changes to allow enough time for proper preparation.
R March 14 – Remedies
(Two articles: Sedlak et al. article and Vesneski article)

March 18-22 – *No Classes, Spring Break*

R March 28 – Oklahoma’s Situation

R April 4 – Local, State, and Regional Community Agencies
*Organizational Profile Due (paper and class discussion)*

R April 11 – International Situation
(Two articles: Eissa and Almunef article, and Parton article)

R April 18 – Student State Presentations
*State Research Project Due*

R April 25 – Student State Presentations

R May 2 – Student State Presentations and review for final exam

*Final Exam: Thursday, May 9th at 5:30pm*

**Online Course Management System = D2L (Desire to Learn)**
As you might be aware, UCO recently switched course management software systems. We will be using D2L during this semester. If you are unfamiliar with D2L or need assistance, please use the resources below for help.
Students access D2L through the "My Courses" tab inside UCONNECT (uconnect.uco.edu).
Below are the resources available for students:
- Learn@UCO Student Website: http://www.uco.edu/technology/student/d2l
- Full D2L Student Help Guide available in Learn@UCO
- Walk-up, phone, or email assistance is available through the UCO Service Desk.
  - Walk-up: Library, 1st Floor
  - Phone: 974-2255
  - Email: support@uco.edu

**Policies & Expectations:**
*Attendance:* As this is an upper level and graduate course it is assumed that students will attend class regularly. Any student who misses more than 30% of the legal class periods is subject to the grade of “F” regardless of assignment and test scores. In-class activities can only be made up if the absence is excused.

*Make-Ups:* Exams will be taken at scheduled times unless arrangements are made with the professor. Students who miss exams due to an excused absence (e.g. death in the family or documented illnesses) will be allowed to take a make-up exam. If at all possible the student should contact the professor within 24 hours of the original exam date. If possible, please notify
the professor before the scheduled exam. The professor reserves the right to make all make-up exams 100% essay exams. The professor also reserves the right to issue a zero to any student not adhering to this policy.

Late Assignments: Late assignments are accepted with penalties and only until one week after the original due date. Each day the assignment is late is worth a letter grade. For example, if the assignment is due at 1pm on November 4th, it is late at 1:01pm on 11/4 and the highest grade you could receive would be a B. If you turned in the assignment on 11/6, the highest grade you would receive would be a D. Assignments will not be accepted one week (7 days) after the original due date.

Academic Integrity: Each student is expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not confined to: plagiarizing; cheating on tests or examinations; turning in counterfeit reports, tests, and papers; stealing tests or other academic material; knowingly falsifying academic records or documents of the institution; accessing a student's confidential academic records without authorization; disclosing confidential academic information without authorization; and, turning in the same work to more than one class without informing the instructors involved. Any student found responsible of academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action. Violation of these expectations, as specified above and in sections III, IV, and V of the Student Handbook, may result in penalties up to and/or including expulsion from the University.

UCO subscribes to the Turnitin.com plagiarism prevention service. Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com restricted access reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such assignments. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com website. Turnitin.com is just one of various plagiarism prevention tools and methods which may be utilized by your faculty instructor during the terms of the semesters. In the UCO Student Handbook, there is a process for contesting any plagiarism allegations against you.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services at (405) 974-2516. The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 309. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs by the end of the first week of class.
To access the Student Information Sheet and Syllabus Attachment, please go to:
http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/files/aa-forms/faculty/StudentInfoSheet.pdf

**Expectations**: Students are expected to come to class prepared. Students should have read the assigned chapter/material prior to that day’s class and be ready to discuss the material.

**Fatal Error Policy**\(^3\) – Students should know (or learn) how to write properly and in a professional manner. All written work should meet certain standards. For this course, there are three (3) main areas of writing that students will be expected to know. If students do not do as instructed, there will be consequences. The three areas are citations, following directions, and grammar and spelling.

- **Citations** - students need to properly cite their sources, quotations, etc. If they do not, it will result in an automatic zero for the assignment.
- **Following Directions** - students need to follow the directions for the assignment. Failure to follow the directions will result in an automatic 25% reduction in grade for the assignment.
- **Grammar and Spelling** - student’s work should be free of grammar and spelling mistakes. A few common mistakes include:
  - Misspelled word,
  - Sentence fragment,
  - Run-on sentence,
  - Capitalization mistake,
  - Serious error in punctuation,
  - Error in verb tense or subject/verb agreement.

If a student’s assignment exceeds the allowed number of grammar and/or spelling mistakes (see each individual assignment for that specified number), he/she will automatically receive a 25% reduction in grade for the assignment. Students could receive a total of 50% off an assignment if they do not follow directions and exceed the number of grammar and spelling mistakes allowed.

If you have trouble writing, please visit with writing center on campus (part of Tutoring Central). It helps to read your work out loud. You will catch many mistakes that way. Additionally it is always a good idea to have someone else proofread your work.

**Final Exam, Emergency & No-Show**: If a university emergency occurs that prevents the administration of the final exam, the student’s final course grade will be calculated based on the work in the course completed to that point. Final exams will not be rescheduled, and a grade of incomplete (I) will not be given as a result of the missed exam. If a student does not show up and take the final exam during the scheduled exam time, he/she will receive a zero for the exam.

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\(^3\) Modified from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville’s Fatal Error Policy--Adopted by the School of Business faculty on November 13, 1995. Retrieved 12/7/12 from http://www.siue.edu/business/current/policies_forms.shtml#fep
unless the student contacts the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled exam and provides documents detailing why the student had a legitimate reason for not taking the exam as scheduled.

**Research Articles Assigned for Child Abuse and Neglect Law**

Here are the full citations for the assigned articles in alphabetical order by author. Below each citation is the link to the article. To have the link work properly, you’ll need to access it from a UCO computer or while on UCO’s campus. You may access the articles from home via the UCO library homepage. If you experience problems with the links, you can search for each article using the citation information from the UCO library homepage.


Mennen, F.E., Kim, K., Sang, J., and Trickett, P.K. (2010). Child neglect: Definition and


http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0145213411002298#


http://cad.sagepub.com/content/56/3/436.full.pdf+html


http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?articleid=1571791&show=abstract