

Syllabus
Juvenile Law
BLB - 3
Professor Marrus

Fall 2017

Mondays and Wednesdays – 1:00 – 2:30

Office – TUII – 230

713-743-0894

emarrus@uh.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays – 2:30 – 3:30 PM

And by appointment.

Book:

Ellen Marrus and Irene Merker Rosenberg, CHILDREN AND JUVENILE JUSTICE, Carolina Academic Press, 2nd edition.

Supplemental materials will be distributed in class.

Objectives:

1. Students will learn the constitutional principles that guide state juvenile justice systems.
2. Students will consider practical and ethical issues that arise in the practice of juvenile law.
3. Students will be able to integrate their knowledge of juvenile law, nationally, into the practice of law and development of juvenile justice policies.

Assignments:

All assignments are subject to change. Any changes will be distributed as quickly as possible. Page assignments on the syllabus are from the casebook. Be sure to read all notes. Additional materials will be distributed in class, electronically, or posted by my office.

Class Attendance:

All students are expected to be on time. Persistent problems with attendance and/or tardiness can result in a grade deduction OR being dropped from the class rolls. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late to class you will be counted absent for that day. Students are not allowed to miss more than four (4) class sessions.

Grading:

Your grade in this course will be based on the following:

60 Points – Class participation. This does not mean just attending class

and contributing once in awhile. To receive all 60 points you must make meaningful contributions to the majority of classes and actively participate in any role plays to which you are assigned. Each student will be responsible for participating in at least one mock hearing.

30 Points – A short paper, no more than six (6) pages, which will be based on your court and/or facility observations. More information about this assignment will be distributed early in the semester. This assignment will make up for two cancelled classes in September.

200 Points – A final exam that will include one policy based question (distributed during the semester and due the last class session) and one practice based question to be given at the scheduled exam time.

Students With Disabilities:

The faculty, staff and administration of the Law Center want to provide every reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, including learning disabilities. For detailed information, please obtain a copy of the disabilities handbook available through Student Services. I will be happy to work with that office and you to make any necessary accommodations.

Additional Student Services:

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the “Let's Talk” program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html

Reading Assignments:

August 21st and 23rd

The Juvenile Court System in the United States
Pages 3 – 33.

The Supreme Court's Constitutional Domestication of the Juvenile Court
Pages 35 – 45.

August 28th and 30th

The Supreme Court continued
Pages 35 – 84.

September 4th
No Class – Labor Day

September 6th
The Supreme Court continued
Pages 86 – 109.

September 11th and 13th
No classes

September 18th and 20th
The Supreme Court continued
Pages 109 – 191.

September 25th and 27th
The Supreme Court continued
Pages 208 – 220, handout on adolescent development, and 191-208.

October 2nd and 4th
The Supreme Court continued
Pages 220 – 260, Supreme Court handout, pages 265 – 268.

Right to Counsel and the Role of Counsel in Juvenile Court: Theory and Practice
Pages 269 – 297
Review Standards (NJDC – Supplemental materials).

October 9th and 11th
Role of Counsel continued
Role plays

Delinquency Proceedings
Read pages 299 – 331 and reread *Michael C. v. Fare* and *J.D.B.*

October 16th and 18th
Delinquency Proceedings
Pages 331 – 379, reread *Schall*, 379 – 399
mock detention hearing
Read handout on competency materials.

October 23rd and 25th
Delinquency Proceedings
Read and 399 – 450
Mock dispositional hearing

October 30th and November 1st

Constitutional Restraints on Practices in Juvenile Correctional Facilities

Pages 461 – 495.

Waiver and Blended, Determinate, and Extended Jurisdiction Sentencing

Read pages 533 – 589

November 6th and 8th

Waiver and Blended, Determinate, and Extended Jurisdiction Sentencing

Read pages 589 – 623

Mock hearing.

November 13th and 15th

Additional topics in juvenile justice:

Collateral consequences

Race

Gender

Specialized courts

Adult courts and facilities

Ethics

Read handouts

November 20th

Additional topics continued

November 22nd

No class, Thanksgiving break.

November 27th

Wrap up, review, submittal of short detention paper and policy question.

Final Exam – December 11th 1:00 – 4:00 PM