UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
INSTITUTE OF FORENSIC STUDIES

BA IN CRIMINOLOGY (HONS) 2006/7

FRS207 YOUTH AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR (4ECTS)

FRIDAY 8TH JUNE 2007
15.30-17.30 hrs

Answer any two (2) questions:

1. Discuss how the social contexts of the peer group, the family and the school may contribute to delinquent development in the transitional period of adolescence and youth.

2. Discuss the role of cognition in the commission of delinquent behaviour by juveniles.

3. "Delinquents are made, not born". Comment on this statement by contrasting biosocial and social process explanations of delinquent involvement.

4. Social control theory asserts that young people break the law as a result of weakened bonds with society. How might the labeling of juveniles contribute further to this process?

5. One may contend that in contrast to biological and psychological perspectives, sociological theories of crime (consensus, conflict and symbolic interactionism) identify the external social environment as the root cause of delinquency. Discuss.

6. Two main traditions in sociology are the consensus and conflict perspectives. Both present interesting interpretations of crime and delinquency in society. Compare the main themes inspired by these traditions.