

The University of Calgary
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Sociology
Sociology 325(L60)-Introduction to Deviance and Social Control
Course Outline, Summer 2011

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Introduction

Why do members of society use force and fraud? That is, why do not people simply use socially acceptable means of attaining their wants and needs? This course will introduce students to salient theories constructed in the sociology of deviance and social control. What is deviance and who has the ability to define it? Does this definition change over time? Do we try to control seemingly harmless types of deviance? From our readings and congenial class discussions, we will explore these issues by considering how various sociological theories approach them. As I expect students to be active producers rather than passive consumers of ideas, classes will involve a measure of informal discussion rather than just formal lecturing. Students are warned that, at times, this class deals with graphic and violent themes in both lectures and videos.

Required Readings

The following **text** will be used:

White, R., Haines, F., & Eisler, L. (2009). *Crime and criminology: An introduction*. (Canadian ed.). Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

A **reader** accompanies the text:

Heiner, R. (Ed.). (2008). *Deviance across cultures*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Please review the reading schedule below. Students will be expected to carefully consider each assigned reading before class and make use of the slide show notes available on Blackboard. Blackboard PowerPoint files do not represent an exhaustive set of notes and are not an alternative to attending class regularly. They are *intended* only to provide a brief outline of what will be covered in lectures and it is expected that you will need to take additional notes during class.

Evaluation

There are three requirements to complete this course.

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|--|
| Mid-Term Exam | 35% | July 21 st |
| Assignment | 25% | July 28 th |
| Final Examination | 40% | TBA, scheduled by the Registrar's Office |

Based upon lectures and assigned readings, exams will be in multiple choice and short answer format. It is important that you complete all assigned readings before every class. The assignment is a five to six page long (double-spaced) paper. Students will identify and select a crime story in the media and analyze it using one of the sociological theories we examine. More information about the assignment will be given in class. All requirements must be completed in order to pass this course.

Grading Scheme

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| A+ > 90% | B+ 77%-79.99% | C+ 67%-69.99% | D+ 57%-59.99% |
| A 85%-89.99% | B 73%-76.99% | C 63%-66.99% | D 53%-56.99% |
| A- 80%-84.99% | B- 70%-72.99% | C- 60%-62.99% | F <53% |

**The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.*

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule is offered to you as a general guide. It is expected that some topics and readings may deserve further treatment and consequently, additional class time.

“T” refers to the White, Haines and Eisler text

“R” refers to the reader by Heiner

| Date | Topic | Chapter(s) to have read |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| July 5 th | Outline Review Definitions of Crime and Deviance | T Chapter 1 R On the sociology of deviance R Conceptions of crime and deviance |
| July 7 th | Knowledge Construction | None |
| July 12 th | Demonic and Classical Perspectives | T Chapter 2 R The Devil goes to day care R Penis panics R Nones on the run R Suicide bombers |
| July 14 th | Pathology | T Chapter 3 R Why Ritalin rules R Paraphilias across cultures R Schizophrenia in the Third World |
| July 19 th | Functionalism/Strain | T Chapter 4 R The normal and the pathological R Social structure and anomie |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| July 21 st | Mid-Term Examination | None |
| July 26 th | No Classes – Reading Day | None |
| July 28 th | Social Disorganization and Learning theory | R Healthy nightclubs and recreational substance abuse: From a harm minimization to a healthy settings approach R Techniques of neutralization |
| August 2 nd | Control Theories | T Chapter 8 R A control theory of delinquency |
| August 4 th | Societal Reactionism | T Chapter 5 R Moral panics in history R On being sane in insane places R The classic moral panic |
| August 9 th | Conflict Theory | T Chapter 6 R Regulation, white-collar crime and The Bank of Credit and Commerce International R Corruption scandals in America and Europe: Enron and EU fraud in comparative perspective |
| August 11 th | Feminist Theories | T Chapter 7 R Women in Lesotho and the (Western) construction of homophobia R Prostitution and the status of women in South Korea |
| August 16 th | Critical Criminology | T Chapter 11 |

Other Administrative Information

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by *Social Science Food Court*.

Deferrals

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel

arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

Deferred Final Exam Form:

Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at:

http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus

Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation: Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor’s office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.