

The University of Calgary  
Department of Sociology

**SOCIOLOGY 325.01**  
**INTRODUCTION TO DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL**

**Winter 2010**

INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Kevin Young
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T.A.	Don McKeown (SS 945; 220 3214; djmckeow@ucalgary.ca)
OFFICE HOURS:	Dr. Young: Tuesday, 11 a.m.-Noon, or by appointment Don McKeown: Wednesday 11 a.m.-1 p.m., or by appointment
CLASS TIME:	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30 a.m.-10.45 a.m.
CLASSROOM:	KNB 132
PRE-REQUISITE:	Soci. 201 or Consent of Department
COURSE OUTLINE:	<b>Students must print their own copy from the Dept. website/Blkbd.</b>

**COURSE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES**

**Sociology 325 is the major 'gateway' to and requirement for all 400-level Criminology courses.** As such, its goal is to be as panoramic as possible in introducing students to the main theoretical/explanatory approaches that have been used to understand aspects of *deviance and social control*. The course begins by analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of traditional approaches, including physiognomy and phrenology, medical approaches, socio-biological theories, anomie theory, and the approaches of the Chicago School. It then moves on to more contemporary approaches, including labelling and conflict theories, critical and postmodern theories, and feminist approaches. Although the focus of the course is principally theoretical, the practical application of these perspectives will be shown using empirical examples whenever possible. These examples vary from practices conventionally and broadly considered deviant or unlawful (such as murder or cannibalism), to those which may be statistically common but still unlawful (such as tax evasion or traffic offences), to practices which may be perceived as unusual or even threatening but which violate no laws whatsoever (such as the use of flamboyant attire or forms of body modification). **An in-depth and critical examination of the theoretical approaches and empirical illustrations is designed to encourage students to bring a sociological imagination to the manner in which human practices become deviantized and controlled socially according to different historical and cultural circumstances.**

**REQUIRED READING**

The course is organized around two core books\*. Both contain required reading:

- Deutschmann, Linda. 2007. Deviance and Social Control (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Toronto: Nelson.
- Atkinson, Michael and Young, Kevin. 2008. Deviance and Social Control in Sport. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.

\*Deutschmann is the main course text, and the class follows it closely. The Atkinson/Young book uses the world of sport to test the applicability of deviancy theories introduced in Deutschmann.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. A careful and punctual reading of the required material.
2. Regular attendance at lectures and participation in class discussions and questions. (The University of Calgary has no policy of mandatory attendance, but attendance is strongly recommended.)
3. Advance notice to the instructor or the Department of Sociology main office (403-220-6501) if unable to comply with the schedule of exams. Students who do not provide this advance notice may not be allowed to retake exams. Also see note on “Academic Accommodation” and “Policy for Students who Miss Exams” below.
4. Students are advised to familiarize themselves with University regulations regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Cheating is regarded as a serious academic offence. The University Calendar provides a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.
5. Students who are having difficulty with the course are advised to contact the instructor/TA immediately to discuss the situation.
6. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with changes (additions, deletions, shifts) to this outline made in class.
7. 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 403-220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around campus.
8. Please note the following:  
*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. Term 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, she/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.*
9. 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 subject’ research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

10. Keep this outline. It will be your course reference throughout the term. Most of the questions students ask are answered on it. **Once again, no hard copies will be provided.**

### **Academic Accommodation**

Students with a disability or who require academic accommodation need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, 403-220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to instructors no later than 14 days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the DRC and to request academic accommodation.**

### **EXAMINATIONS**

Two exams, dividing the course into two roughly equal halves, have been scheduled. They are based entirely on objective/multiple-choice questions. They are **not** cumulative. The first will be held in class and the second during the Registrar-Controlled exam period. The respective dates and values of the exams, and the material to be tested in each, are as follows:

1. Thursday March 4, 2010 (50%) – All material up to this point examined.
2. Final Exam period (TBA) (50%) – Material from Midterm to end of term examined.

### **POLICY FOR STUDENTS WHO MISS EXAMS**

You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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 problem rather than *after* recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements, holidays and misreading of the syllabus are *not* valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

### **GRADING SCALE**

Please be aware that the following grading scale may change from test to test:

A+ (95>) A (85-94) A- (80-84) B+ (77-79) B (74-76) B- (70-73)  
 C+ (67-69) C (64-66) C- (60-63) D+ (55-59) D (50-54) F (<49)

Letter grades assigned at the conclusion of the course will be determined by a grading schema and letter scale that will be (i) discussed in class, (ii) posted on Blackboard, and (iii) applied in precisely the same way to everyone. Grade “cut-offs” will be honoured in every case, including those where students miss the next letter grade by 0.1%. This is non-negotiable and, in the interests of fairness to everyone, no exceptions will be made.

### **RELEASE OF FINAL GRADES**

Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

### **LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

This is designed to be a flexible schedule. When and how certain topics are covered in class may change, and we will complete the following *only* if time allows. Students are strongly advised to attend class to keep informed of any changes that may occur. Video material, which may include content not identified below, will be used to complement lectures where relevant and available. Video content shown in class may be examined on the tests. The same is true of content from any guest lectures that take place.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>READING</b>
Mon. Jan. 11	<b>WINTER SESSION CLASSES BEGIN</b>	
Tues. Jan. 12	<b>Introduction to the course: objectives, topics, tests Concentration in Criminology, Deviance, and Social Control</b>	
Thurs. Jan. 14	PROBLEMS IN DEFINING DEVIANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiating between deviance and crime</li> <li>• The social construction of deviance</li> <li>• Deviance and social change</li> <li>• Legitimate/normative deviance</li> <li>• Methods for studying deviance</li> </ul>	LD - Chaps. 1&2 A&Y - Chaps. 1&2 Intro's to Parts I-IV
Tues. Jan. 19	Problems in defining deviance (continued)	
Thurs. Jan. 21	Problems in defining deviance (continued)	
Tues. Jan. 26	VIDEO: "Do Scientists Cheat?"	
Thurs. Jan. 28	EARLY APPROACHES TO DEVIANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classical and Positive Schools</li> <li>• Physiognomy, Phrenology, and Eugenics</li> <li>• Twin Studies and XYY Chromosomal theory</li> </ul>	LD - Chaps. 3, 4, 5 A&Y - Chap. 5 & TI's (Theoretical Intersections, see p. 6)
Tues. Feb. 2	VIDEO: "The Sterilization of Leilani Muir"	
Thurs. Feb. 4	Early approaches (continued)	
Tues. Feb. 9	CONSENSUS THEORIES (i) Functionalism and anomie theory	LD - Chap. 8 A&Y - Chap. 3 & TI's
Thurs. Feb. 11	(i) Functionalism and anomie theory (continued)	

February 14-21 **READING WEEK: NO CLASSES**

Tues. Feb. 23	(ii) Social disorganization theory	LD - Chaps. 7&9 A&Y - Chap. 4 & TI's
Thurs. Feb. 25	(ii) Social disorganization theory (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 2	(iii) Differential association and neutralization theories	
Thurs. Mar. 4	<b>EXAM #1 (50%)</b>	
Tues. Mar. 9	<b>Exam #1 Feedback</b> CONFLICT THEORIES (i) Interaction theories/ Labelling theory	LD - Chap. 10 A&Y - Chap. 6 & TI's
Thurs. Mar. 11	(i) Interaction theories/ Labelling theory (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 16	(i) Interaction theories/ Labelling theory (continued)	
Thurs. Mar. 18	(ii) Social control theories	LD - Chap. 11 A&Y - TI's
Tues. Mar. 23	(iii) Conflict theory	LD - Chap. 12 A&Y - Chaps. 7&8 & TI's
Thurs. Mar. 25	(iii) Conflict theory (continued)	
Tues. Mar. 30	GUEST CLASS/TBA	
Thurs. April 1	OTHER DIRECTIONS IN THEORIZING DEVIANCE Review of theories and the Micro/Macro link	LD - Chaps. 12&13 A&Y - TI's
Tues. April 6	(iv) Critical and postmodern theories	LD - Chap. 12 A&Y - TI's
Thurs. April 8	(v) Feminist approaches	LD - Chap. 13 A&Y - Chap. 6 & TI's
Tues. April 13	(v) Feminist approaches (continued)	
Thurs. April 15	Course review, conclusion, and implications for further study in criminology	A&Y - Chap. 9
Fri. April 16	<b>WINTER SESSION CLASSES END</b>	

**Registrar-Controlled Examination Period (TBA) – Exam #2 (50%)**

### A NOTE ON THE LINK BETWEEN THE TWO BOOKS

At the end of the six substantive chapters in Atkinson and Young (i.e., Chapters 3-8) there are sections called “Theoretical Intersections” (TI’s). The purpose of these sections is to highlight how 8 theoretical approaches, all well known in Criminology and all covered in Deutschmann, may be used to understand the sports-related topic of the chapter itself. While “Functionalism and Strain Theory” and “Classical Theory” relate to material in the first half of this course and the first Exam, all 6 other theoretical approaches relate to the second half of the course and thus the second and final Exam. Here is a complete list of the links between “Theoretical Intersections” in Atkinson & Young and the lectures they pertain to, as indicated in the Lecture Schedule:

- (TI) “Functionalism and Strain Theory” – “Functionalism and Anomie” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Conflict Theory” – “Conflict Theory” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Interaction Theory” -- “Interaction Theories/ Labelling Theory” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Social Control Theory” – “Social Control Theories” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Classical Theory” – “Early Approaches” and “Social Disorganization Theory” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Critical Theory” – “Critical and Postmodern Theories” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Gender and Feminist Theory” – “Feminist Approaches” (Lectures)
- (TI) “Integrated Theory” – “Other Directions in Theorizing Deviance” (Lectures)

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- At the completion of this course each student will be asked to complete a Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) form.
  - The course outline and principal ‘overheads’ used in lectures are posted on Blackboard. More information on pedagogical aids such as overheads is made available in class.
  - For more information about the Sociology Department (its faculty, funded and other research projects, and undergraduate and graduate programme), go to: [www.soci.ucalgary.ca](http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca)