

# Sociology 325-01: Introduction to Deviance and Social Control

## Fall 2009

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Office Hours for Fall 2008: W 13:00-14:45 or by appointment. You do not have to make an appointment during my regular office hours.

### Course Description:

This course concerns two fundamental and interrelated issues in sociology, namely, how "society" regulates individual behaviour, and what explains behaviour that violates those regulations. These issues constitute the topics of the sociology of deviance: the study of social rules (encompassing norms, laws, taboos, rules of etiquette, "unwritten" codes of interpersonal interaction, and other elements of the regulation and routineness of human social life), their sources, their enforcement, their violation, and responses to their violation. To address these issues we will engage three broad topics in this course: the nature of deviance, theories of deviance, and forms of deviance, including mental illness, homicide, drug use, prostitution, corporate misconduct, and others.

### Required Texts:

Clarke, Edward J, ed., 2007. *Deviant Behavior: A Text-Reader in the Sociology of Deviance*. **Seventh Edition**. New York: St. Martin's (EJC in course outline). **DO NOT PURCHASE PREVIOUS EDITIONS!**

Linden, Rick, ed., 2009. *Criminology: A Canadian Perspective*. **Sixth Edition**. Toronto: Nelson Education (RL in course outline). **DO NOT PURCHASE PREVIOUS EDITIONS!**

Both are available in the University Bookstore.

### Course Requirements:

Two term tests, each worth 25% of your final grade, and and a final exam worth 50% of your final grade, constitute the course requirements and the basis on which grades will be assigned. The term tests are not cumulative. Tests will comprise multiple-choice questions and may also entail essay

components. No fewer than five days before each test, I post to my website a study guide for it. It has been my experience that you will probably fail the test if you do not use the study guide and so it is imperative that you get it. I will announce its posting in lecture.

Your attendance is anticipated, and since I depend to a great extent on lecture material in producing test items, it is very much in your interest to attend every lecture. It is your urgent duty NOW to find one, or preferably more than one, person(s) to rely on for notes when you miss lecture. I will not share my own notes with anyone for any reason. Powerpoints of all lectures are posted at my website.

**Test Dates: Tuesday, October 13, and Thursday, November 19.**

**Any student may skip the first midterm** and instead to write the November 19 midterm for double its weight (50% instead of 25%), and this is entirely the choice of the student. You do not have to inform me of this decision and I do not have to see any documentation regarding your absence.

**Students missing the SECOND midterm have two options:** One is to elect to write a final exam worth 75% instead of 50%, and the second is to write the missed midterm at times that are departmentally scheduled.

In all cases, except for the final exam, **I do not want to see a "doctor's note" regarding absence from either term test.** There are several reasons for this: First, procuring these notes is a waste of our public health resources; second, the note itself does not require that you actually be ill; third, the vast majority of health complaints for which students miss tests don't actually require doctor visits; and fourth, a student with Norovirus or the H1N1 influenza is infecting untold dozens of people by visiting a public medical office. **I do not want doctor's notes.**

## **Grading Scale**

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A+	96-100
A	90-95
A-	85-89
B+	80-84
B	74-79
B-	70-73
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52

F 0-49

**Research Ethics :** 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:** cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. 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. 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 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, telephone 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 at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of 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 only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

## **Note on Course Outline:**

I have organized this course to encompass sixteen topics. I have not assigned dates to these, because I can never be certain that I will cover all of a topic on a particular date, or if/when I may have to be absent. Generally, I will cover one topic per lecture in the order listed, but instead of attaching a date to each, I simply refer to them as “sections” (the “§” symbol means “section”).

## **Readings and Lecture Topics:**

§1: Introductory.

Readings: None.

§2: Defining “Deviance.”

Readings:

1. Gibbs, ‘Conceptions of Deviant Behavior,’ ch 1 in EJC
2. Jones, "Criminal Law," ch. 3 in RL

§3: Contexts of Deviance.

Readings:

1. Spitzer, “The Production of Deviance in Capitalist Society,” ch. 5 in EJC
2. Conrad, “The Discovery of Hyperkinesis,” ch. 6 in EJC
3. Hartnagel, "Correlates of Criminal Behaviour," ch 5 in RL

§4 Quantifying Crime and Deviance

Readings:

1. Evans and Himmelfarb, "Counting Crime," ch. 4 in RL

§5: Functionalist Perspectives.

Readings:

1. Durkheim, “The Normal and the Pathological,” ch. 7 in EJC
2. Erikson, “On the Sociology of Deviance,” ch. 8 in EJC

§6: Social Disorganization Approaches and Social Structure Theories.

Readings:

1. Merton, “Social Structure and Anomie,” ch. 1 in EJC
2. Hackler, "Strain Theories," ch. 9 in RL

§7: Social Process Theories, Interactionist Theories and Deviant Socialization.

Readings:

1. Snyder et al, "The Consequences of Antisocial Behavior in Older Male Siblings for Younger

Brothers and Sisters," ch 23 in EJC

2. Becker, "Career Deviance," ch. 17 in EJC
3. Stebbins, "Interactionist Theories" in RL

§8: Conflict Approaches.

Readings:

1. Alexander and Gyamerah, "Differential Punishing of African Americans and Whites..."ch. 10 in EJC
2. Sellin, "The Conflict of Conduct Norms," ch. 9 in EJC
3. Dupont, "Conflict Theories," ch. 10 in RL

§9: Vocabularies of Motive and Other Cognitive Approaches.

Readings:

1. Sykes and Matza, "Techniques of Neutralization," ch. 11 in EJC

§10: Social Control Theory.

Readings:

1. Hirschi, "A Control Theory of Delinquency," ch. 15 in EJC
2. Linden, "Social Control Theory," ch. 13 in RL

§11: Managing Deviance: The Deviant "Career."

Readings:

1. Murphy, et al., "Drifting into Dealing," ch. 37 in EJC
2. Best and Luckenbill, "The Social Organization of Deviants," ch. 35 in EJC.
3. le Roux and Smith, "The Street Children Phenomenon," ch. 41 in EJC

§12: Managing Deviance: Agents of Social Control.

Readings:

1. Gustavson and MacEachron, "Criminalizing Women's Behavior," ch. 31 in EJC
2. Schmid and Jones, "Suspended Identity," ch 34 in EJC

§13: Violence and Violent Crime.

Readings:

1. Koenig and Linden, "Conventional or 'Street' Crime," ch. 14 in RL

§14: Organized Crime

Readings:

1. Stamler, "Organized Crime," ch. 15 in RL

§15: White-Collar and Corporate Crime

Readings:

1. Chirayath, et al., "Differential Association, Multiple Normative Standards, and the Increasing

- Incidence of Corporate Deviance in an Era of Globalization," ch. 39 in EJC  
2. Szasz, "Corporations, Organized Crime, and the Disposal..." ch.40 in EJC  
3. Hagan and Linden, "Corporate and White-Collar Crime," ch. 16 in RL

§16: Mental Illness, and Psychological Perspectives on Deviance

Readings:

1. Goffman, "The Moral Career of the Mental Patient," ch. 33 in EJC
2. Zapf, "Psychological Perspectives on Criminality," ch. 8 in RL

§17: Physical Disability, Brain Injury. Emotions, and Final Thoughts.

Readings:

1. Goffman, "Information Control and Personal Identity," ch. 21 in EJC
2. Manzo et al., "The Interpersonal Management of Crying..." [ON WEBSITE](#)