

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
(<http://soci.ucalgary.ca/>)

Sociology 325.01: Introduction to Deviance and Social Control

Winter, 2013

Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Erin Gibbs Van Brunschot
Class Time:	T/R, 12:30 – 1:45 pm
Room:	ST 148
Office:	SS 952
Phone:	403-220-3218
Email:	begibbsv@ucalgary.ca [administrative questions]
Office Hours:	Tuesdays, 2-3 pm or by appointment.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to and understanding of the theoretical issues in the sociology of deviance and social control using substantive examples to highlight these issues. Rather than attempt to fully explore the entire range of what might be considered 'deviant' or 'deviance', this course will focus on the sociological explanations and descriptions of specific phenomena that may be included in this broad category. A variety of factors come into play in the determination of how behaviours are categorized – including the characteristics of those observing the behaviour, the characteristics of the actors themselves, and the networks and web of relations that observers and actors may be a part of. Further, the process of naming behaviour as deviant or otherwise unfolds within particular historical contexts that vary widely – certain parties may wield more or less influence in determining deviance; the numbers of people participating in particular behaviours may vary; and there may be more or less resources (both formal and informal) available to deal with various activities.

Course Goals and Objectives:

1. To critically assess definitions of deviance noted in the public sphere and to question definitions of deviance.
2. To gain insight into the factors that play a role in how it is that deviance is defined.

3. To understand the range of sociological explanations that may be used to explain deviant behaviour and processes by which deviance is labelled as such.
4. To understand the importance of context in how we understand behaviour.

Required Texts:

Downes, D., P. Rock and C. McCormick. 2013. *Understanding Deviance (Second Edition)*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Ksenych, E. 2011. *Exploring Deviance in Canada: A Reader*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Please note that this schedule represents a “best case” scenario. Weekly course content may be subject to change.

	WEEK/DATE: (Tuesdays and Thursdays)	TOPIC:	READING/TASK:
1	January 8 January 10	Confusion and Diversity	Ch. 1, Downes et al Introduction, Ksenych
2	January 15 January 17	Sources of Knowledge about Deviance	Ch. 2, Downes et al Ch. 2, 21, 27, Ksenych
3	January 21 January 24	The University of Chicago School	Ch. 3, Downes et al
4	January 29 January 31	Functionalism, Deviance and Control	Ch. 4, Downes et al Ch. 5, 8, Ksenych
5	February 5 February 7	Midterm Examination #1 Anomie	Ch. 5, Downes et al Ch. 2, Ksenych
6	February 12 February 14	Deviance, Culture and Subculture	Ch. 6, Downes et al Ch. 24, 25, Ksenych
	February 19 February 21	Reading Week	
7	February 26 February 28	Symbolic Interactionism	Ch. 7, Downes et al Ch. 10, 11, 33 Ksenych
8	March 5 March 7	Symbolic Interactionism	
9	March 12 March 14	Midterm Examination #2 Phenomenology	Ch. 8, Downes et al Ch. 13, Ksenych

10	March 19 March 21	Control Theories	Ch. 9, Downes et al Ch. 12, 26, Ksenych
11	March 26 March 28	Radical Studies of Deviance	Ch. 10, Downes et al Ch. 30, Ksenych Videos Due March 28
12	April 2 April 4	Feminist Approaches to Deviance	Ch. 11, Downes et al Ch. 28, Ksenych
13	April 9 April 11	The Metamorphosis of Deviance?	Ch. 12, Downes et al
14	April 16	Review	
	April 19-30	Final Examination Period	

Evaluation:

Formal course evaluation consists of four components: two midterm examinations, a final examination and a video highlighting a concept related to the study of deviance.

- 1. Midterm examinations (two @ 25% each):** The first examination is scheduled for **February 5th**. This exam will cover all material covered to date – readings and lectures. The format for the exam will be primarily multiple choice. The second midterm is scheduled for **March 12th**. Each of these exams is non-cumulative and closed-book.
- 2. Video presentation (20% of final grade):** Video presentations will highlight a concept or a question raised by the material in our class. Students may work together on this project – groups must be formed and “registered” as a group by March 5. The length of the video must be (minimum) 2 to (maximum) 4 minutes. Grades for the video will be based on meeting required components including: a focus on a relevant sociological topic having to do with deviance, reference to at least one theory or theorist, and a written script to be turned in with your video (including references). More information will be provided to you about this project in class.
- 3. Final examination (30% of final grade):** The final examination will be scheduled by the registrar during the final exam period. The format for the final exam will be primarily multiple choice questions.

Grading Scale:

Percentage	Final Grade
95-100%	A+
90-94%	A
85-89%	A-
80-84%	B+
75-79%	B

70-74%	B-
67-69%	C+
63-66%	C
59-62%	C-
55-58%	D+
50-54%	D
0-49.9%	F

The grades for any course component may be scaled.

Course Notes:

1. **Interaction:** Interaction and exchange are encouraged as much as possible, though there are clearly constraints that such a large class necessarily places on us. You are encouraged to participate as much as possible in appropriate and respectful ways. Questions will be posted on the Blackboard Discussion Board from time to time, for example.
2. **Grade Reappraisal:** Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining why reconsideration should occur. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned, then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
3. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters.
4. **Academic Misconduct:** Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>
5. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned to directly during class or office hours. It is most likely that marks for the video assignment will be returned electronically. "If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."
6. **Ethical 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.
7. **Deferrals:** If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or complete/turn-in assignments 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 health issue 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://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.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).

8. **Student Representation:** The 2012-13 Students’ Union VP Academic is Kenya-Jade Pinto; email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca. The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>
9. **Emergency Evacuation:** In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at the Professional Faculties Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
10. **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.
11. **Academic Accommodation:** Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, must register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 293, phone 403-220-8237). Please provide academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.