

SOCIOLOGY 212H1F: CRIME AND DEVIANCE

Summer 2013

[3-5pm Monday and Wednesdays]

Instructor: Jenna Valleriani (jenna.valleriani@utoronto.ca)

Office: Room 225, Department of Sociology, 725 Spadina Ave.

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-3pm, by appointment

TA: Mark van der Maas (mark.vandermaas@mail.utoronto.ca)

Office Hours: by appointment

“The deviant and the conformist...are creatures of the same culture, inventions of the same imagination.”
— Kai Theodor Erikson

Course Description:

Our aim in this course is to further understand how all of us can develop a critical understanding of familiar and taken for granted social phenomena. A great deal of sociology of deviance attempts to add to, evaluate, and replace what we could call ‘common sense’ understandings of crime and deviance. This course is designed as an overview of the sociology of crime and deviance. We will start with the central theories and themes in the sociological study of deviance and discuss the historical and contested meanings of deviant labels. You will learn to identify the main theories to the study of deviance and the strengths and limitations of these. You will also learn to critically evaluate the different quantitative and qualitative methods used to assess crime and deviance. Through this, my hope is that you will also gain an appreciation for the limits of the concept of deviance itself and the role of power in constituting the category.

Our course objectives are as follows:

1. to introduce the central theories used in sociology to explain crime and deviance
2. to evaluate different methods (both qualitative and quantitative) which are used to assess crime and deviance
3. encourage students to develop a more critical perspective by which to analyze deviance and conformity in a historical perspective and in their daily lives

Prerequisites:

The prerequisites to take this course are SOC101Y or SOC102H or SOC103H. Students without one of these prerequisites will be removed at any time they are discovered.

Course Policies

1. Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory.

Thus, students are responsible for ALL material presented in class as well as their readings, including lectures, films, clips and guest lectures. Students who cannot attend class on a given day are responsible for obtaining their classmates’ notes on all material covered, as well as information regarding any announcements made in class.

**Proper documentation from a University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate or college registrar is required to justify an absence.*

2. Blackboard

We will be using Blackboard to keep up to date on course announcements, outlines of lectures, and the syllabus. Students are responsible for the content of all course materials and for checking their official utoronto.ca email regularly.

3. Grading and Evaluation

Test 1 --- 35%

Assignment (5 pages) -- 30%

Final Exam --- 35%

There is one in-class test comprising 35% of your final grade, and a final exam comprising 35%. These will cover the assigned readings and all class materials (lectures, in-class discussions and films) for the designated sections of the course. The final exam may draw on ALL theories from the course- but will focus on the latter half of the course (which you have not been tested on). Both tests will be multiple-choice questions. Test dates are highlighted on the syllabus. Instruction for the essay assignment will be posted to Blackboard and distributed in class on May 22, 2013. This assignment is worth 30% of your grade and it involves a brief (5-page) research essay addressing one of the questions provided.

4. Make up tests and Medical Excuses:

The make up tests may consist of short answer and/or essay questions. Students who miss a test due to medical illness must provide a written medical excuse before or within **THREE DAYS** after the missed test. You should contact the instructor as soon as possible. There will be no exceptions to this rule. ****The only form accepted will be the University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate.**** The medical form can be obtained on the UofT website <http://www.utoronto.ca/health/medcert.htm>, or from Health Services in the Koffler Student Center.

Doctor's notes are not acceptable substitutes. Dates for the make-up test will be announced in class, with the exception of the final exam. The date for the make-up test will be posted on Blackboard.

5. Accessibility Services

If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns please visit: <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>. If you have documentation that you are a student who requires accommodation, please see me as soon as possible to discuss how to assist you in this course.

6. Required Readings:

Available at the University Bookstore:

Deutschmann, Linda B. (2007). *Deviance and Social Control* (4th edition). Nelson.

Supplemental Reading (not required)

Downes, David, Paul Rock and Chris McCormick (2008) *Understanding Deviance* (Canadian edition). Oxford University Press.

7. Grade Appeals:

If you believe that an error or oversight in your grade has occurred, please follow these steps: (1) if it is a mathematical error, inform the instructor or TA of the error (2) if you believe you are entitled to a higher grade, submit the original assignment along with a formal, written statement, about half a page, explaining why you believe the grade should be altered to the teaching assistant. All appeals **must be submitted within 3 days of receiving your original assignment**. Appeals made after this time will not be considered.

8. Academic Integrity:

Copying, plagiarizing, falsifying medical certificates, turning in previous work, or other forms of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Any student caught engaging in such activities will be referred to the Office of Academic Integrity for adjudication and punishment. Any student abetting or otherwise assisting in such misconduct will also be subject to academic penalties. By enrolling in this course, students agree to abide by the university's rules regarding academic conduct, as outlined in the Calendar. You are expected to have read and understood the on-line document "How Not to Plagiarize" (<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>). You are expected to be familiar with the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* and the *Code of Student Conduct*, which spell out your rights, your duties and provide all the details on grading regulations and academic offences at the University of Toronto. Links to these materials are included below.

www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm
<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/studentc.htm>

9. Turnitin:

Students will be required to submit their assignments to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. I will distribute the login information closer to the assignment due date.

10. Late Policy for Assignment #1

Your assignment is due Monday, June 17th in class. This means you must be present for lecture to turn in your assignment. If you come in at the end of class, your assignment will count as late. Your assignment must be submitted to turnitin.com by 11:59pm that evening. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** unless submitted with proper documentation. Medical documentation, as stated above, must include the University of Toronto's Student Medical Certificate (link above). The certificate is also available on the University of Toronto's website and may be completed by a Health Services physician or by your physician (**NO OTHER MEDICAL NOTES WILL BE ACCEPTED**). If you are planning to hand in your assignment late with documentation, please contact the instructor, if possible, before the due date.

Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day.

11. Course Schedule

Date	Topic and Assigned reading
Monday, May 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Intro: Defining Deviance • Deutschmann Ch. 1, 3-6
Wednesday, May 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Methods • Deutschmann Ch. 2
Monday, May 20	UNIVERSITY CLOSED
Wednesday, May 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Sources of Information • Deutschmann Ch.2 • <i>Assignment #1 distributed in class</i>
Monday, May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: The Chicago School • Deutschmann Ch. 7
Wednesday, May 29	TEST #1
Monday, June 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Functionalism and Strain • Deutschmann Ch. 8
Wednesday, June 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Subculture and Learning • <i>Frontline: The Merchants of Cool</i> • Deutschmann Ch. 9 • GUEST LECTURE: TBA
Monday, June 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Interactionism • Deutschmann Ch. 10
Wednesday, June 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Social Control • Deutschmann Ch. 11 • Ch. 12 pg. 388-400
Monday, June 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Conflict and Radical Approaches • <i>Frontline: Burden of Innocence</i> • Deutschmann Ch. 12 pg. 367-387 <p>Assignment #1 Due In Class (no exceptions: you must be in class for lecture otherwise assignments will count as late; must be submitted to turnitin.com by 11:59 pm)</p>
Wednesday, June 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Social Theory and Social Policy • Exam Review
Monday, June 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOPIC: Constructing Deviance: Stigma and Medical Marijuana Users • Reading will be emailed one week prior
Wednesday, June 26	FINAL EXAM- IN CLASS

GENERAL COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Students should expect to be treated with respect; comments or opinions that use or express discriminatory language or positions will not be allowed in this class. This class deals with topic areas that might challenge some students. As a place of learning, this class offers the potential for all of us to learn from mistakes and to stretch our thinking beyond our current experience.

Students should expect that the instructor will come to class prepared to contribute to student learning. Students should also come to class prepared to contribute to their own and their colleagues' learning through class and/or group discussion. This means that students are expected to have read the assigned material PRIOR to lecture. In order to facilitate an active, discussion based learning environment it is imperative that students come to class prepared to discuss and apply the course material.

Students may not video or audio record any portion of lectures with any form of electronic device without the PRIOR consent of the instructor and/or guest lecturer.

Cell phones, electronic devices (ipods, mp3 players, PDA's, computers (used for other than note taking), etc.), arriving late, packing up early, and side conversations are all disruptive to the class. Turn off all electronic devices - including cell phones - and remove all earphones prior to class. Be courteous to your colleagues by arriving on time, and not engaging in disruptive behaviours. Students using cell phones or other electronic devices, texting, surfing the net, emailing, or otherwise disrupting class maybe asked to leave.