

SOCIOLOGY 4GG3
Special Topics in Deviance – Sexual Deviance
Winter 2018

Instructor: Dr. Rhona Shaw

Lectures: Tuesday 2:30 – 5:20

Lecture Hall Location: KTH 106

Office Hours: Tuesdays 5:30–6:30pm

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Course Description

This course introduces students to a socio-historical understanding of sexual difference otherwise known as “sexual deviancy”, or as “the paraphilias”. The approach taken will differ significantly from psychological and psychiatric approaches in which sexual difference is understood as pathology and/or perversion. By taking a socio-historical approach, we will be able to chart how certain sexual desires and behaviours have been conceptualized and categorized as unnatural, deviant and in need of regulation. Particular focus will be paid to sociological understanding of sodomy, masturbation, homosexuality, prostitution, and BDSM.

Course Learning Objectives

This course addresses three University Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (see, <http://ell.mcmaster.ca/COU/pdf/Undergraduate%20Degree%20Level%20Expectations.pdf>).

First, sociological theories of deviant sexuality are multiple and diverse in their conceptualizations and truth claims. Acquiring knowledge of these diverse theories will expand students’ depth and breadth of knowledge of this field of inquiry. Second, there is no single theory (including sociological theories) that has been accepted as the final or best approach to explaining the complexities of how to study human sexuality and its manifestations. As such, this course requires that students consider and critically evaluate all competing theoretical approaches. In so doing, students will gain an awareness of the complexities and limits of knowledge regarding deviant sexuality. Finally, this course will encourage students to discuss theoretical and practical issues in class. Grading for this course will involve 3 projects (listed below) and class participation and regular attendance. In each case, the student’s communication skills will be challenged as well as enhanced.

Required Readings:

- (i) Links to course articles will be posted on AVE. Students are expected to read a minimum of 2 of the weekly articles per week. These same articles will also be used as the presentation articles. Each student is to choose 1 article from this list to summarize and present in class.
- (ii) Additional weekly required readings may be made available on AVE.

Evaluation:

1. Class participation and regular attendance – 15%. Please note attendance is **MANDATORY**.
2. Paper Proposal – 10% **(Due February 14th, beginning of class)**
3. Article summary and presentation – 25%
4. Major term paper – 50% **(Due April 4th, beginning of class)**

Additional Information on Assignments

Presentation:

In an attempt to provide a broader understanding of sexual deviance, students are required to present in class a summary of an article from a list of weekly readings posted on AVE. You will have approximately 30mins to present your summary and may use any format you prefer – e.g. PowerPoint or lecture style. You will be required to submit to a copy of your presentation to me for grading. The intent of this exercise is to teach you how to properly summarize a scholarly article, as well as help you develop presentation skills that you will need for graduate school or the workplace.

Review of Marks

I will be diligent in marking all assignments fairly and accurately. Nonetheless, on occasion, students disagree with the marks they receive. When this occurs, I will be happy to review the mark of any assignment or exam, if the procedure outlined below is followed. ***Please note that when a mark is reviewed, the new mark may be lower than the original.***

To request a review of a mark, write a 1-page memo (on paper, not email) describing in detail the nature of the perceived marking error. Submit this memo, with the original marked assignment to me. You may submit requests for review no sooner than one week and no later than one month after assignments/exams are handed back to the class.

For late assignments without approved excuses, you must make arrangements directly with me to submit the assignment. Assignments will be marked down **5 percentage points** for each day it is late, including weekend days and holidays. **I will NOT accept late papers that are 3 or more days late. If your paper is 3+ days late, you will be given a mark of 0 for the assignment.**

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. In assignments, complete citations are required for all quotes and paraphrases. Consult the required writing style guide for information on how to properly cite the work of others.
2. Improper collaboration in group work. In this course, I encourage students to work together to understand concepts, discuss ideas, study for exams, etc. Improper

collaboration would be defined as using the work of others to get out of doing your own work, claiming the work of others as your own, etc.

3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Do NOT fax assignments. Please see your instructor for the most appropriate way to submit assignments. The Sociology staff do NOT date-stamp assignments, nor do they monitor the submission or return of papers. The McMaster Student Absence Form (<http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>) is a self reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report absences that last up to 3 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work. Please note, this tool cannot be used during any final examination period.

You may submit a maximum of 1 Academic Work Missed request per term. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up with your instructor immediately regarding the nature of the accommodation. If you are absent more than 3 days, exceed 1 request per term, or are absent for a reason other than medical, you MUST visit your Associate Dean's Office (Faculty Office). You may be required to provide supporting documentation. This form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence.

Students should check the web, the white board and the Undergraduate Bulletin board outside the Sociology office (KTH-627) for notices pertaining to Sociology classes or departmental business (e.g. class scheduling information, location of mailboxes and offices, tutorial information, class cancellations, TA job postings, etc.).

Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Religious, Indigenous and Spiritual Observances (RISO)

The University recognizes that, on occasion, the timing of a student's religious, Indigenous, or spiritual observances and that of their academic obligations may conflict. In such cases, the University will provide reasonable academic accommodation for students that is consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code. Please review the RISO information for students in the Faculty of Social Sciences about how to request accommodation.

Email

Please consider email equivalent to any other form of written communication. Students who write to their professors and teaching assistants are expected to follow rules of spelling, grammar

and punctuation. In addition, please include a proper greeting, such as "**Dear Dr. Shaw,**" and a closing that includes your full name, such as "**Sincerely, Anita Koctail.**" Emails failing to meet these standards may be returned unanswered. Email containing questions that can be answered by referring to this syllabus or to Avenue to Learn may not be answered. I do check the separate Avenue to Learn email, but only intermittently. *All email communication must come from your mcmaster.ca email account.*

Week No. Date	WEEKLY READINGS
Week 1 Jan 10 th	Overview of course & Assigning of readings for presentations Readings: (i) "The sociologist as Voyeur": Social Theory and Sexuality Research. (ii) Three Models of Sexuality: Drives, Identities, and Practices. Sociological Theory
Week 2 Jan 17 th Proposal discussion	Sociological Research on Sexual Deviance Readings: (i) Sexual Deviance in Contemporary America. (ii) Deviance as History: The Future of Perversion. Movie: Personal Services
Week 3 Jan 24 th (3) Presentations begin	PERVERSIONS Psychiatric Research on Sexual Deviance Readings: (i) Pathologizing Sexual Deviance: A History. (ii) Classifying Sexual Disorders: The DSM of the American Psychiatric Association. (ii) Are Paraphilias mental disorders? The case of the DSM.
Week4 Jan 31 st (3)	Psychiatric Research on Sexual Deviance – Selected Paraphilias Readings: (i) The ICD diagnosis of Fetishism and SM. (ii) The emergence of the paedophile in the late twentieth century. (ii) Nymphomania: The historical construction of female sexuality.
Week 5 Feb 7 th (3)	Sodomy Readings: (i) Sodomites, platonic lovers, contrary lovers: The backgrounds of the modern homosexual. (ii) "Things too fearful to name." Sodomy and buggery in 17 th C New England. (iii) Sex, gender and sexual identity in modern culture. Male sodomy and female prostitution in Enlightenment London.
Week 6 Feb 14 th (3) Proposal due Discuss paper	Sadomasochism Readings: (i) The state of our knowledge on SM. (ii) Differences & similarities between gay & straight individuals involved in the SM subculture. (iii) Layers of Leather: The identity formation of Leathermen as a process of transforming meanings of masculinity.
Week 7 Feb 21 st	READING WEEK- NO CLASSES

<p>Week 8 Feb 28th (3)</p>	<p>FROM PERVERSION TO SOCIALLY STRUCTURED FORMS OF SEXUAL DEVIANCE Masturbation (i) The Crime of Onan and the Laws of Nature. Religious and medical discourses on masturbation in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. (ii) Masturbation madness and the modern concept of childhood and adolescence. (iii) Rethinking the history of female circumcision and clitoridectomy: American medicine and female sexuality in the late nineteenth century.</p>
<p>Week 9 Mar 7th (3)</p>	<p>Homosexuality Readings: (i) The History of the Science of Sexual Orientation 1880 – 1980. (ii) The medical construction of homosexuality and its relation to the law in nineteenth-century England. (iii) Romantic friendships: The representation of lesbian pathology in 19thC America.</p>
<p>Week 10 Mar 14th (3)</p>	<p>Male & Female Prostitution Readings: (i) Inverts, Perverts and Mary Annes. (ii) The social integration of queers and peers. (iii) Female Prostitution: Current research and changing interpretations.</p>
<p>Week 11 Mar 21st (3)</p>	<p>Deviant Sex & Technology (i) Describing sexual behaviour in the era of the Internet: a typology for empirical research. (ii) Bodies, technologies, spaces: on ‘dogging’. (iii) “Do me please, she won’t”: An examination of personal ads posted by married men seeking sex from other men.</p>
<p>Week 12 Mar 28th (2)</p>	<p>Anonymous & Public Sex (i) Tearoom Trade: A research update. (ii) Spontaneous pleasures: sex between women in public places.</p>
<p>Week 13 Apr 4th</p>	<p>Last class and wrap up Term papers due</p>