

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY**Department of Sociology****SOCIOLOGY 2BB3**

Fall 2017
 Monday-Wednesday 2:30-3:20 pm
 Class Location: BSB-B136

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 Hours: Wednesdays 11-12
 OR BY APPOINTMENT

SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE

What is deviance? Who is deviant? Is deviance a matter of definition? Why do some people choose to conform – or not? What role does society play in generating deviance? How is deviance in society socially controlled? What are the consequences of being seen as a deviant? This course introduces you to how sociologists think about these and related questions. Drawing on classic and current research, the course will cover sociological perspectives on deviance and deviant behaviour.

Text

Michelle Inderbitzin, Kristin Bates and Randy Gainey. *Deviance and Social Control: A Sociological Perspective*. Second Edition. LA: Sage.

Evaluation1. **Mid-term Examination** (30%)

The mid-term examination will cover lectures, required readings and films. The exam will consist of multiple choice questions. The exam will take place on **Wednesday, October 25th**.

2. **Assignment** (30%)

Briefly, this assignment will involve collecting news reports that illustrate the concepts we discuss in class and cover in our readings. A handout will be provided on Avenue to Learn. The assignment is due in class on **Wednesday, November 22nd**.

3. **Final Examination** (30%)

The final examination will follow the same format as the mid-term exam. It will consist of multiple-choice questions. The exam will include questions on only the material (lectures, required readings, films) covered in the course since the mid-term. The exam will be scheduled during the final examination period **December 8th – 21st**.

4. **Tutorial Work** (10%)

The final component of your grade will be based on your attendance at, and performance in, weekly tutorials. Your teaching assistants (TAs) will provide further details.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.

Course Learning Objectives

This course addresses four of the University Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (see: <http://c1l.mcmaster.ca/COU/pdf/Undergraduate%20Degree%20Level%20Expectations.pdf>)

By the end of the course, you will:

- Understand the basic assumptions, concepts, research approaches and methods of major sociological perspectives in the study of deviance. This will expand your depth and breadth of knowledge.
- Appreciate the strengths and limitations of these perspectives as well as the connections between them.
- Be able to apply basic concepts learned to current situations and events in the community and around the world.
- Enhance your critical thinking, writing, and organizational skills through course assignments.
- Enhance your oral communication skills by discussing and debating class material in tutorials.

Submitting Assignments

Please submit your assignments (hard copies only) in class on the day that they are due. Your assignments should be typed and double-spaced in either 10 or 12 point Times New Roman or Arial font.

Faxed assignments will NOT be accepted. Do not bring assignments to the main Sociology office. The Sociology staff do NOT date-stamp assignments, nor do they monitor the submission or return of papers.

Assignments will be returned to you in tutorials.

Late Assignments

The due dates for assignments are fixed and non-negotiable. There will be a deduction of 5% per day for all late assignments, unless you submit a McMaster Student Absence Form (<http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf>).

The MSAF is a self-reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report absences for medical or other reasons that last up to 3 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work worth less than 25% of your overall. In these cases students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”. Please note these regulations have changed beginning Fall 2015.

The form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence. This means that for this course, MSAFs must be submitted to later than the Friday in the week the assignments are due. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up on that day or sooner with the instructor regarding the nature of the accommodation.

If you are absent more than 3 days or exceed 1 request per term, you MUST visit your Associate Dean’s Office (Faculty Office). You may be required to provide supporting documentation.

Review of Marks

All assignments for the course will be marked carefully. On occasion, students disagree with the mark

they receive. If this occurs, we would be happy to review the mark, provided the request is serious and the following procedure is followed. Please keep in mind that when a mark is reviewed, the new mark may be lower than the original.

1. Write a one page statement describing in detail why you think a marking error was made.
2. Submit the statement (hard copy), along with your marked assignment to your TA.
3. The request for a re-mark can be submitted no sooner than one week and no later than one month after the assignment was returned to you.
4. The TA will review your mark and get back to you with written feedback.
5. If, after this review, you continue to dispute the mark, you may submit an appeal directly to me. Include a one page statement explaining why you feel your assignment deserves a higher mark. Submit it along with the original assignment and all written feedback provided by your TA.

Academic Dishonesty

McMaster University is an institution that takes academic integrity seriously and believes that any form of academic dishonesty is destructive to the values of the University. 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 http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm. The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism - the submission of work that is not one's own or for which permission has not been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Additional Information

Your final mark will be converted to a letter grade according to the scale used by the Registrar and available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

If you would like to explore strategies for successful learning and learn more about time management, note-taking, keeping up with readings, and taking multiple choice tests, you will find useful information at the web site for Student Accessibility Services (<http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>).

Communication

This course will use Avenue to Learn (<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/>). Please check the website frequently for class announcements and other important information.

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

Faculty of Social Sciences E-Mail Communication Policy

It is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to

instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

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.

TOPIC AND READING SCHEDULE

The following schedule is meant to provide a sense of order and direction. We may modify it slightly as we move through the material. Announcements about any such change will be made in class.

Week	Topic and Readings
September 6	Introduction
September 11-13	The Diversity of Deviance Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1 • Reading 1: Sick/Beautiful/Freak • Chapter 2 • Reading 5: Illness and the Internet
September 18-20	Anomie/Strain Theory Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4 • Reading 12: A General Strain Theory of Terrorism
September 25-27	Social Disorganization Theory Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 5 • Reading 14: Life and Death in the City
October 2-4	Differential Association and Social Learning Theories Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6 • Reading 18: Piracy on the High Speeds
October 9-11	MIDTERM RECESS – NO CLASSES
October 16-18	Social Control Theory of Deviance Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 7 • Reading 20: Online Consumer Misbehaviour
October 23	Review
October 25	MID-TERM EXAM

Oct 30 – Nov 1	<p>Labeling Theory</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 8 • Reading 23: On Being Sane in Insane Places
November 6-8	<p>Marxist and Conflict Theories of Deviance</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 9 • Reading 26: Two Nations, Revisited <p>Critical Theories of Deviance</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10 • Reading 27: Reflections on Women’s Crime and Mothers in Prison
November 13-15	<p>Social Control of Deviance The Criminal Justice System</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 11 • Reading 30: Lessons from a Juvenile Training School
November 20-22	<p>Social Control of Deviance Medicalization and the Helping Professions</p> <p>No Reading</p>
November 27-29	<p>Deviant Careers and Career Deviance</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 12 • Reading 32: Harry Potter and the Wise and Powerful Life Course Theorist
December 4	<p>Global Perspectives on Deviance and Social Control</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 13 • Reading 36: Making Sense of the Senseless
December 6	<p>Wrap Up and Review</p>