

Sociology 3560, Deviance and Social Control
Fall 2014
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 - 10:15am
Dixie State University

Matthew Smith-Lahrman, Instructor
e-mail: lahrman@dixie.edu
Phone: (435) 652-7825
Office: MCD 230
Office
Hours: Monday-Friday 11:00am - 12:00pm
Or by appointment

The Course

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive sociological analysis of perceived deviant behaviors. We will analyze norm breaking behaviors that exceed the tolerance level of groups, communities, and societies and, as a result, to which negative sanctions are applied. Conceptually we'll look at deviance from some of the major sociological perspectives including labeling theory, differential association, strain, conflict, and functionalism, as well as ways in which deviance is defined, how deviant identities are constructed and maintained, how deviance is organized, and the careers of deviant individuals. Empirically, we'll examine such behaviors as crime, drug use, rebellion, and sexuality as forms of deviance.

Course Objectives

Students completing Sociology of Deviance and Social Control will:

- demonstrate an ability to identify the ideas, people, and events that are generally thought to be important by sociologists of deviance and social control;
- demonstrate an understanding of sociology as a scientific discipline (i.e. the gathering and analyzing of empirical data in a systematic fashion);
- demonstrate an understanding of basic sociological theoretical concepts relating to deviance such as conflict, functionalism, symbolic interactionism, labeling, and differential association;
- demonstrate an understanding of the major creators of sociological theories.

Text:

Patricia Adler and Peter Adler. 2012. *Constructions of Deviance*.

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on the following:

- Three In-Class Essays, each worth about fifteen percent of your final grade.
- Three Activity Papers, each worth about fifteen percent of your final grade.
- Attendance, worth ten percent of your final grade.

In-Class Essays:

You will take three In-Class Essays. The dates for the essays are September 25, November 4, and December 18; I will make the essay questions available one week prior to these dates.

Activity Papers:

You will write three Activity Papers in which you apply concepts we learn in class and readings to the "real" world. I will make Activity Paper assignments available on September 11, October 21, and December 4, each one is due one week later: September 18, October 28, and December 11. LATE PAPERS WILL BE GRADED DOWN ONE FULL GRADE.

Attendance:

I will take role every day. If you are here for 90% or more of the classes, you'll receive an 'A,' 80% or more you'll receive a 'B,' 70% or more you'll receive a 'C,' 60% or more you'll receive a 'D.' If your are here for less than 60% of the attendances you'll fail this portion of your grade.

NOTE: Your final grade is based on your letter grades, not on your accumulation of points.

ANOTHER NOTE: You must complete all essays and assignments to pass this class.

FINAL NOTE: I reserve the right to (a) adjust individual grades based on my evaluation of your participation and enthusiasm in the course and (b) make changes to the syllabus during the course if I feel it will benefit the class.

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE POLICY: Academic dishonesty in any form, including, but not limited to, plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes will not be tolerated at Dixie State College of Utah.

Teachers at Dixie State College have the right to manage their classroom environments to ensure a good learning climate.

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY

RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator (Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a dmail email account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to www.dixie.edu and select "dmail" for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your dmail email, so please check it often.

Course Schedule

<u>Week & Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
<u>Week #1</u> August 26 & 28 Defining Deviance	Part I
<u>Week #2</u> September 2 & 4 Defining Deviance	Part I
<u>Week #3</u> September 9 & 11 Theories of Deviance	Part II
Make Activity Paper Assignment #1 Available, Thursday, September 11	
<u>Week #4</u> September 16 & 18 Theories of Deviance	Part II
Activity Paper #1 Due, Thursday, September 18	
Make In-Class Essay #1 Questions Available, Thursday, September 18	
<u>Week #5</u> September 23 & 25 Studying Deviance	Part III
In-Class Essay #1, Thursday, September 25	
<u>Week #6</u> September 30 & October 2 Constructing Deviance	Part IV
<u>Week #7</u> October 7 & 9 Constructing Deviance	Part IV
<u>Week #8</u> October 14 & 16 Deviant Identity	Part V
No Class, Thursday, October 16	

Week #9

October 21 & 23

Deviant Identity

Part V

The Social Organization of Deviance

Part VI

Make Activity Paper Assignment #2 Available, Tuesday, October 21

Week #10

October 28 & 30

The Social Organization of Deviance

Part VI

Activity Paper #2 Due, Tuesday, October 28

Make In-Class Essay #2 Questions Available, Tuesday, October 28

Week #11

November 4 & 6

Structure of the Deviant Act

Part VII

In-Class Essay #2, Tuesday, November 4

Week #12

November 11 & 13

Structure of the Deviant Act

Part VII

No Class, Tuesday, November 11

Week #13

November 18 & 20

Deviant Careers

Part VIII

Week #14

November 25 & 27

Deviant Careers

Part VIII

No Class, Thursday, November 27

Week #15

December 2 & 4

Make Activity Paper Assignment #3 Available, Thursday, December 4

Week #16

December 9 & 11

Make In-Class Essay #3 Questions Available, Tuesday, December 9

Activity Paper #3 Due, Thursday, December 11

Last Class, Thursday, December 11

In-Class Essay #3

Thursday, December 18, 9:30-11:30am