

Sociology of Deviance
SOC 303 section 001
Parkinson 108
MWF 12-12:50
Office: Faner 3425
Email: jdschrim@siu.edu
Office Hours:
Monday 1:30-3:30
Tuesday 1:30-3:30
Wednesday 1:30-3:30

Course Description

This course is designed to give students an overall understanding of various types and theories of deviance. This will not be a comprehensive course, it would be impossible to fit such a broad category of scholarship into a single semester. This course should open the door to those who want a glimpse into the broad scholarship of the sociology of deviance, and for those who want to explore it further; this should be a good starting place for such an exploration.

Text

Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction. 6th Edition. By Patricia Adler and Peter Adler

Grading

Points Grade

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

Below 60 F

The grading scale is non-negotiable. Grades are achieved by point accumulation (see following section). If you do not make the points to receive a B, you will not receive a B. You will receive the grade that corresponds with the number of points you accumulate.

Accumulation of points

Opportunity	Number	Points	Total
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Class Presentation	1	20	20
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Movie Reviews	2	10	20
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Assignments	8	5	40
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Class Participation	-	-	20
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Class Presentations.

Each student will be required to present one of the readings from the book. Each presentation should be no less than 10 minutes and no more than 15 minutes and should include summary, major ideas, and 3-5 discussion questions.

Movie reviews. *

Deviance is all around us. Since I cannot verify any event or behavior you may claim to have seen, I cannot be sure that it is not being made up the night before a paper is due. I do however have a wide variety of movies, and a movie rental plan at a number of different venues. Therefore, I require that you watch two movies during the course and write 5-7 page papers detailing the deviance you observed in these movies and discussing it using the sociological insights on deviance you will develop during the course. You must give a very brief discussion (no more than two pages) of the deviant behavior you find in the films, addressing why it is deviant, and what the norm for that situation may be (or a number of optional norms that could be used). I have provided a list of preapproved movies that you may choose from without checking with me first at the end of the syllabus. I must approve any movie that is not on the list prior to you turning the paper in. Any paper I receive on an unapproved source will be given a grade of zero. I may be willing to allow alternative media (TV Series, Web Series, Plays, Radio Dramas, etc.) However, any series must encompass an entire season or story arc, as with anything not on the list, be sure to contact me before deciding to use these.

Assignments. *

The book we draw our readings from has eight sections. These sections are clearly marked in the table of contents for the book. For each section, you will choose one of the readings and write a 3-5 page paper. Each paper must include a summary of the reading (at least one page, but not more than 2 pages) and must draw on the theories and ideas we have discussed in class. All papers must be typed; I will not accept hand-written work. All papers must be turned in on the due date or before; I will not accept late papers unless you can provide me with convincing documentation that you could not possibly have turned in the work by any means (including email or by sending it with a friend). Hospital or Police records are preferred, but barring that I will accept a personal visit from your doctor, or the arresting officer. Corrupted files sent in email are not considered work turned in. As soon as I get a corrupted file from you I will let you know. Send me a good file before the work is late, or better yet, bring the paper copy to class.

Class Participation.

This is a junior level class. Upper division classes are supposed to get students prepared for the world they will eventually live and work in. Although much communication in today's world is mediated through technology, many good ideas still come out through discussion. This is not a lecture-based class. Each of you will participate in some significant way this semester. It does not have to be every day, but it needs to be frequent. If I have not heard from you in a few classes I will ask you questions, you should be able to answer them. Each of you need to read all the readings and be prepared for the class discussion. This participation can be in the form of asking questions, answering questions, commenting (in a meaningful way) to someone's statement, or by making statements of your own.

Extra credit.*

Each assigned paper you turn in is an opportunity for extra credit. For each time you turn in a paper copy of your assigned paper at least one class session before the due date, you will be given 1 point of extra credit.

Any or all of the readings that we will not cover in class (listed below) are additional sources for extra credit work. In order to get this extra credit you must turn in a 3-5 page paper on one of the articles that we do not cover in class. This paper must include a summary of the reading of at least 1 page but not more than 2 pages, and must draw upon theories and ideas that have been covered in the class prior to the readings in question. Any questions regarding the content of the extra credit should be directed to me before turning in a paper for extra credit. Due dates for extra credit assignments will be listed in the class schedule.

Readings eligible for extra credit are as follows:

#16 *Blowing Smoke: Status Politics and the Smoking Ban*. P.166

#22 *Doctor's Autonomy and Power*. P.232

#35 *Gender and Victimization Risk among Young Women in Gangs*. P. 410

#37 *War Profiteering: Iraq and Halliburton*. P. 433

#42 *Fraud and the American Dream: The Ponzi Scheme*. P. 502

#46 *Shifts and Oscillations in Upper-Level Drug Trafficker's Careers*. P. 548

Each extra credit paper turned in can be worth up to 2 points toward your final grade.

*Software compatibility note: I only have the capability to open MS Word (.doc or .docx), RTF files (.rtf), Adobe Acrobat files (.pdf) or plain text files (.txt). Any files sent in other formats will be sent back to you. I have not received your work until I have received a file I can open. This includes corrupted files.

Additional Requirements

Attendance

Sociology of Deviance is a broad topic. We have a short time for you to gain some exposure to this information. It is important for your success in this class that you make it to class every day. Each section has an assignment attached to it, and the daily summary and discussion of these readings will help greatly in your ability to complete these assignments. This is much better than reading the material the night before it is due and trying to write the papers then. The movie review assignments will also use information that is discussed in class, so it is important that you are in class to hear this important information. Additionally, 20% of your grade is based on class participation; it is very difficult to participate when you are not present.

Classroom conduct

Certain behavior is not allowed in my classroom (or any that I know of). You are not allowed to have conversations among yourselves during the class discussions. If it is relevant and worth saying, say it to all of us. If you need to ask a question about the material, ask the entire class. This also applies to cell phone usage, including text messaging. If you need to talk to someone, leave, and take care of that outside of class. It is not only disrespectful to me but also to your fellow students. I understand that there will be times when you forget to turn a cell phone off, I might also. Please do not make a habit of it. If there is a

possibility that you may get a call that you would have to take immediately, let me know before class and sit near the door so that you can leave the room in order to take your call. However, in my experience as a student and an instructor people will try to get away with things (talking, texting, and even attempting phone calls during class) this is unacceptable to me, and against University policy. If you do this, you will be asked to leave for the day. I thank you in advance for your full cooperation in this matter.

Academic Honesty

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale is dedicated not only to learning, research, and the advancement of knowledge, but also to the development of ethically sensitive and responsible persons. The university seeks to achieve these goals through sound educational programs and policies governing individual conduct that encourage independence and maturity. By accepting membership in this university, an individual joins a community characterized by free expression, free inquiry, honesty, respect for others, and participation in constructive change. All rights and responsibilities exercised within this academic environment shall be compatible with these principles. Acts of Academic Dishonesty is a breach of the student conduct code. Dishonesty includes: 1. Plagiarism, representing the work of another as one's own work; 2. Preparing work for another that is to be used as that person's own work; 3. Cheating by any method or means; 4. Knowingly and willfully falsifying or manufacturing scientific or educational data and representing the same to be the result of scientific or scholarly experiment or research; 5. Knowingly furnishing false information to a university official relative to academic matters; 6. Soliciting, aiding, abetting, concealing, or attempting conduct in violation of this code. You should consult with me if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or test.

Any incident in which cheating or plagiarism is suspected, you will be shown the evidence and a grade of zero will be assigned for the work and I will forward the evidence to the University Judicial Board for further action. Please, do not cheat. I dislike the entire process.

Emergency Procedures

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down), and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Final note

Any and all sections of this syllabus are subject to change. All changes will be at the Instructors discretion and will be based on the needs of the Students and/or Instructor. All changes will be announced in class as soon as they are made final.

Pre-approved movies

American History X (1998) R
Chasing Amy (1997) R
Clerks (1994) R
Clerks II (2006) R
Empire Records (1995) PG-13
Failure to Launch (2006) PG-13
Fight Club (1999) R
Garden State (2004) R
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (2009) PG-13
I now pronounce you Chuck & Larry (2007) PG-13
Jersey Girl (2004) PG-13
Joe Dirt (2001) PG-13
Kick Ass (2010) R
Knocked Up (2007) R
Little Miss Sunshine (2006) R
Major Payne (1995) PG-13
Mallrats (1995) R
Miss Congeniality (2000) PG-13
My Best Friend's Girl (2008) R
Reign over me (2007) R
School of Rock (2003) PG-13
Seven Pounds (2008) PG-13
Sixteen Candles (1984) PG
Snatch (2000) R
Something's Gotta Give (2003) PG-13
The 40-Year Old Virgin (2005) R
The Breakfast Club (1985) R
The Hangover (2009) R
Yes Man (2008) PG-13
Zack and Miri make a Porno (2008) R