

Deviance and Social Control (SOC 4442)

CRN#10277

Spring 2015

SSB 2021

Friday 2:00 – 4:45pm

Instructor: Chandra Ward

Office hours: T, TH 3:30 – 4:30 or by appointment SB 4005

Email: cward61@kennesaw.edu

Course Catalog Description:

A survey of the nature, causes, and consequences of deviant behavior. Provides an analysis of the problems of definition, identification, explanation, and social reaction to violations of institutional expectations. Presents techniques of social control.

Broader Course Description:

This course offers a general survey of the sociology of deviance and social control, which emphasizes *perspectives* on deviance: ways of looking at deviance and deviant behavior, as well as approaches to controlling that behavior. As a general rule sociologists are less concerned with particular *types* of deviance (e.g. marijuana use, homosexuality, atheism, tax fraud, anorexia) than with *ways of understanding* deviance.

Course prerequisite:

SOCI 2201

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Understand how sociological theories explain deviance.
- Be able to present opposing viewpoints in the area of deviance and social control.
- Describe and apply some basic theories or theoretical orientations in at least one area of social deviance.
- Be able to present your understanding of a specific deviance issue and sociological perspectives that explain deviance in an academic paper following guidelines.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Required reading** (reading should be done before the class day for which it is assigned):

a. Adler and Adler. 2012. *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction*. 7th Edition. Wadsworth/Cengage Learning.

b. D2L readings: A number of articles are on D2L

2. **Participation:** Participation will be assessed by quizzes, in class assignments and group discussions. On three occasions you will have a quiz over select D2L readings. These quizzes will be multiple choice questions over the content of the readings. Each set of readings addresses a topic on deviance. Once you have completed the quizzes demonstrating that you have read and understood the readings you will be put into groups to discuss the broader controversy that the readings address. You must participate in this group discussion to receive extra credit for the quiz. I will ask a representative of your group to share your group's perspective with the class. This group exercise will be used to determine not only that you have read the assigned material, but that you have integrated the ideas and thought critically about them. In general the assignment is for you to use the readings, your critical thinking skills, and your classmates to help you develop informed opinions on varying issues of deviance. These quizzes/group discussions will comprise the majority of your participation grade (90%). The remainder of the participation points will be derived from random attendance checks and in class assignments.

3. **Exams:** Two in-class exams will be given (a midterm and a final). The exams will be multiple choice questions. The exams will require the students to address issues using the assigned readings and lecture notes. The final exam is not comprehensive.

4. **Paper:** Students will be required to write one critical paper for the course. The papers should draw from course material covered in the class via lecture, and your required texts. You may choose from one of the two paper options below.

1.) Current Event: The current event can be any news story you see or read about from news media. The papers must be well supported with explicit use of course content applied to current events. If you have any questions about what constitutes a current event, please email me or see me after class. You will be expected to critically convey and engage your thoughts on how the current event is related to the sociological topic or perspective you have chosen to write about.

2.) Media analysis

For this project, you should choose a form of media—magazine, TV, movie or radio, song/CD, computer/video game, or website—and analyze its content for the ways in which deviance is depicted. Again, support your analysis of the media with course content such as lecture notes, and your textbook D2L readings.

The paper should be carefully, cohesively, and logically written void of grammatical errors. The essays must be 5 pages, typed in 12 point font and double-spaced with 1 inch margins. Sources should be referenced in a work cited page. **Emailed papers will not be accepted. Hard copies only, please. 10 points will be taken off each day a paper is late.**

These essays are meant to engage you in the theories of deviance and social control, allow you creativity and autonomy in your choice of topic and how you want to discuss it. They are also meant to encourage you to think critically about your position, or others, as a social agent reproducing, resisting, or otherwise engaging in the social arena. I encourage the writer to reflexively engage in the content they are writing about. In other words, try to be aware of any bias you may have given your social positioning in society when writing. How does your identity as a college student (just one of

potentially many positions of privilege you may possess) affect your perspective of what it is you are writing on as opposed to a non-college student, for instance.

CLASS POLICIES

Do not ask to make up any exam or quiz unless you have a doctor's note or an extreme extenuating circumstance such as a family emergency. Printer problems, oversleeping, car problems, arguments with a roommate or significant other, etc. are not extreme extenuating circumstances. If you do have an illness or extreme extenuating circumstance, you must bring it to my attention the day of the assignment or if that isn't possible, the following day. If you know you are going to miss an assignment ahead of time, you can arrange to make it up. You must meet with me to clear this. It is **your responsibility** to make sure you are here for exams and quizzes.

Accommodations

Students who wish to request accommodations for a disability may do so by registering with the Office of Disability Services. Students may only be accommodated upon issuance by the Office of Disability Services, of a signed Accommodation Plan and are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which an accommodation is sought. The Office of Disabilities Services can be contacted at 770-423-6443.

Academic Honesty

According to KSU's academic policy in the student handbook "No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior [that] a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas,

theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s)".

http://www.kennesaw.edu/student_life/forms/shb/ksushp14.pdf

**Plagiarism is only one example of academic dishonesty. Familiarize yourself with the above website concerning all aspects of academic dishonesty. Violation of the Academic Honesty policy will result in an F in the course and possible disciplinary action. All violations will be formally reported. Do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of the rules concerning this policy! Again, do not cheat, plagiarize, or violate any of these rules!

Withdrawal Procedures

The final day to withdraw from this class without incurring a "WF" (Withdrawal failing) is February 2nd. You must withdraw by this date in order to receive a "W." If you withdraw by February 2nd but are failing the course, you will receive a "WF."

Classroom Conduct

To help facilitate a classroom environment conducive to learning, students will be expected to adhere the following rules of conduct.

- Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared. Tardiness (as well as leaving during the middle of class) is a both a distraction to other students and myself, thus interfering with an optimal learning space. **If you need to leave early, please notify me before class, otherwise you will be counted as absent.**
- Please do not bring food to class to eat that is of a highly odorous nature that can permeate the room. For example, hot wings are a type of food that when brought into a room completely fills it with its smell. We will have a long break during

class, so if you cannot eat before class, you have the opportunity to eat during the break outside of class.

- Upon entering class, please put away your cell phone and put it on silent. Do not text during class. Please do not use your laptop or any other mobile device for anything other than class purposes while in class. If I find you checking Facebook or anything unrelated to the class while class is in session, I may request that you not bring your laptop to class for the remainder of the semester. Please be courteous. If you regularly talk to people in class or use mobile devices for unauthorized purposes during class, I will ask you to leave.
- I will not email final grades to individuals.
- Please be respectful of your other classmates during discussion. There will be controversial, thought provoking topics covered in this course. In order to be fair to everyone, please do not speak out of turn unless otherwise told and refrain from making personal insults to another student whose views may differ from yours. You should only critique another student's idea or argument. This is an intellectual environment, not the Jerry Springer Show. Discriminatory, hateful language will not be tolerated.

Phone Numbers That May be Useful

- **Teaching Support Numbers**
 - Writing Center: 770-423-6380

GRADING: Assignment Weighting / Assignment Points

Participation (three quizzes/discussions @ 30 pts=90 pts, 10 pts for attendance/in class assignments) 100

Midterm Exam 100

Final Exam 100

Final Paper 100

Total 400

Take your final points and divide by four for your final grade.

Grade distribution

A - 90% or higher

B - 80-89%

C - 70-79%

D - 60-69%

F - 59% or less

Reading Schedule

*This outline is tentative and subject to change at the professor's discretion.

January 9 Introduction to the course

What is Deviance?

1. Adler and Adler Part 1

January 16 What is Deviance?

1. Adler and Adler Part 1

January 23 Theories of Deviance

1. Adler and Adler Part 2

January 30 Studying Deviance

1. Adler and Adler Part 3

February 6 Constructing Deviance: Moral Entrepreneurs

1. Adler and Adler Part 4

February 13 Quiz 1; Review

February 20 Midterm

February 27 Deviant Identity

1. Adler and Adler Part 5 – Identity development

March 6 Social Organization of Deviance

1. Adler and Adler Part 6

March 13 Structure of Deviant Act

1. Adler and Adler Part 7

March 20 Quiz 2

D2L Readings

March 27: Deviant Careers

1. Adler and Adler Part 8

April 3: Guest Speaker

April 10: Spring Break

April 17 Guest Speaker

April 24 Last Day of Class

May 1st Final Exam 3:30-5:30