

SOCIOLOGY 313H1S: SOCIAL CONTROL
Spring 2015
Wednesday 11:00 am -1:00 pm

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Course Description

This course examines how society has gone about controlling specific types of deviants (e.g., gang members, sex and drug offenders) and acts of deviance (e.g., white collar crime, deviance by agents of social control). In examining these individuals and acts, attention is also directed to why they are defined as deviant and sanctioned, and why some types of deviance are less likely to be detected and sanctioned relative to others. Finally, consideration is also given to a range of sanctions that have been used to control deviance and the empirical evidence on their effectiveness.

Course Objective: To provide students with a forum for critically evaluating our conceptions of what is deviant behavior and the methods used to control it.

Course Policies

Prerequisites: The prerequisite to take this course is SOC212H. Students without this prerequisite will be removed at any time they are discovered.

Attendance

Attendance is required and students are responsible for ALL material presented in class. Students who are unable to attend class on a given day are responsible for obtaining from their classmates notes on all material covered, as well as information regarding any announcements made in class

Course Web Site

The course website prepared on the Blackboard system will contain the syllabus, course announcements and readings for the second semester. Students are responsible for the content of all course materials and for checking their official utoronto.ca email address regularly.

Grading and Evaluation

1. There are three in-class tests. The first two tests are EACH worth 30% of your grade; the last test is worth 15% of your grade. These in-class tests will cover the assigned readings and all class materials (lectures, in-class discussions and films) for the designated section of the course. The tests are **not** cumulative and they

- will consist primarily of multiple choice questions. Test dates are highlighted on the syllabus.
2. Essay assignment: The details of this assignment are appended to this syllabus. This assignment will be worth 25% of your grade and it is due on the last day of class. You have the entire semester to work on this assignment. You should draw on your readings for this class and class lectures and discussions to formulate your essay.

Make-up Exams, Late Papers and Medical Excuses

Students who miss a test or fail to hand in an assignment due to medical illness must provide a written medical excuse within one or two days of the missed test/assignment. The only form accepted will be the University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate. The medical form can be obtained from the U of T website:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/health/medcert.htm>, or from Health Services in the Koffler Student Centre.

Doctor’s notes are not acceptable substitutes. Dates for make-up tests will be announced in class. For the last test, the date for the make-up will be posted on Blackboard. For the essay assignment, grades will be lowered by 5% per day for every day they are late. If the essay is turned in later than 7 days after it is due, no credit will be given for this assignment.

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit:<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>. If you have documentation that you are a special needs student, please see me as soon as possible to discuss how best to assist you in the course.

Required Reading: The readings for each week will be available on Blackboard

Weekly Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
7 January	Gangs	Venkatesh Miller
14 January	Sex Offenders [Hunting for Bobby Oatway]	Scully Lawson
21 January	Drug Offenders [Black Tar Heroin]	Jackson-Jacobs Beckett et al.
28 January	Gender and Social Control	Kruttschnitt & Carbone-Lopez Weiss & Colyer
4 February	Test #1 (70 points; 30% of your grade)	No Reading

DATE	TOPIC	READING
11 February	Organizational Offenders [Frontline: A Dangerous Business]	Benson Shover
18 February	READING WEEK (Feb. 17-20)	(work on essay)
25 February	Social Control Agents as Deviants	Marx Worley & Cheeseman
4 March	Medicalization of Deviance	Rosenhan Conrad & Potter
11 March	Social Control as Deterrence	Crank & Brezina Sitren & Applegate
18 March	Test #2 (70 points; 30% of your grade)	No Reading
25 March	Managing Stigma	Ward & Wood Roschell & Kaufman
1 April	Social Control as Amplifying Deviance Test #3 (35 points; 15% of your grade) ESSAY DUE (60 points; 25% of your grade)	Braithwaite Tewksbury

Essay Assignment:

Choose one of the following questions for your essay:

1. *Behaviors that are regarded as deviant are part of a more extensive social process.*
Explain this statement and give one or more examples based on the types of deviance we have examined in this class.
2. You have been asked to make one type of deviant behavior a crime. Explain why you have selected this behavior and what are the benefits, and what might be the unintended consequences, of criminalizing it. Make sure to draw on materials covered in either your assigned readings or class lectures to support your arguments.

In answering your question construct a logic argument and cite evidence for your claims. The evidence can come from citing specific articles in your assigned readings for the course, class notes or additional **academic** sources (that might have been **cited in your reading and which you, in turn, have read**). This is not a research paper so you should not spend lots of time trying to find new sources to support your claims but you must use your existing sources to demonstrate your points. Your bibliography should have a complete reference to any sources you cite in your paper. Please follow the format listed here for your citations in the paper and your bibliography:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/document.html>

This assignment is worth 25% of your final grade. The essay must be 5 pages (not including the bibliography) typed, 12 point font, double spaced on 8.5 x 11 paper with one inch margins on all four sides and stapled (NO BINDING please). **The essay is due at the beginning of class on APRIL 1.** Papers handed in after the due date will have 5% deducted from the grade for each day they are late (including the weekend). If the essay is turned in later than 7 days after it is due, no credit will be given for this assignment.

Help and Information: For help, tips and advice on writing essays, contact the University of Toronto Writing Centre: <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing>

A Note on Plagiarism

From the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters:

It shall be an offence for a student knowingly:

(d) to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism.

Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on "knowing", the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known.

For helpful instructions on "HOW NOT TO PLAGIARIZE" go to:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing>

References for Assigned Readings for Winter 2015

(all readings will be posted on Blackboard)

Jan. 7: Gangs

- (1) Venkatesch, S.A. (1997) "The social organization of street gang activity in an urban ghetto." *American Journal of Sociology* 103: 82-111.
- (2) Miller, J. (1998) "Gender and victimization risk among young women in gangs." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 35: 429-53.

Jan. 14: Sex Offenders

- (1) Scully, D. and J. Marolla (1984) "Convicted rapists' vocabulary of motives: Excuses and justifications." *Social Problems* 31(5): 261-77.
- (2) Lawson, L. (2003) "Isolation, gratification, justification: Offenders' explanations of child molesting." *Issues in Mental Health Nursing* 24: 695-705.

Jan. 21: Drug Offenders

- (1) Beckett, K., K. Nyrop and L. Pflugst (2006) "Race, drugs and policing: Understanding disparities in drug delivery arrests." *Criminology* 44: 105-38.
- (2) Curtis Jackson-Jacobs (2004) "Hard drugs in a soft context: Managing trouble and crack use on a college campus." *The Sociological Quarterly* 45 (4): 835-56.

Jan. 28: Gender and Social Control

- (1) Kruttschnitt, C. and K. Carbone-Lopez (2006) "Moving beyond the stereotypes: Women's subjective accounts of their violent crime." *Criminology* 44 (2): 321-52.
- (2) Karen G. Weiss & Corey J. Colyer (2010) "Roofies, mickies and cautionary tales: Examining the persistence of the 'date-rape drug' crime narrative." *Deviant Behavior* 31: 348-79.

Feb. 11: Organizational Offenders

- (1) Benson, Michael L. (1985) "Denying the guilty mind: Accounting for involvement in white collar crime." *Criminology* 23 (4): 583-607.
- (2) Shover, N., G.S. Coffey and D. Hobbs (2003) "Crime on the line. Telemarketing and the changing nature of professional crime." *British Journal of Criminology* 43: 489-505.

Feb. 25: Social Control Agents as Deviants

- (1) Marx, G.T. (1981) "Ironies of social control: Authorities as contributors to deviance through escalation, nonenforcement and covert facilitation." *Social Problems* 28 (3): 221-45.
- (2) Robert Worley & Kelly Ann Cheeseman (2006) "Guards as embezzlers: The consequences of 'nonshareable problems' in prison settings." *Deviant Behavior* 27: 203-22.

March 4: Medicalization of Deviance

- (1) Rosenhan, D.L. (1973) "On being sane in insane places." *Science* vol. 179: 250-58.
- (2) Conrad, Peter and Deborah Potter (2000) "From hyperactive children to ADHD adults: Observations on the expansion of medical categories." *Social Problems* 47 (4): 559-582.

March 11: Social Control as Deterrence

- (1) Crank, Beverly R. & Timothy Brezina (2013) " 'Prison will either make ya or break ya': Punishment, deterrence and the criminal lifestyle." *Deviant Behavior* 34: 782-802.
- (2) Alicia H. Sitren & Brandon K. Applegate (2007) "Testing the deterrent effects of personal and vicarious experience with punishment and punishment avoidance." *Deviant Behavior* 28: 29-55.

March 25: Managing Stigma

- (1) Wood, Naaman & Susan Ward (2010) "Stigma, secrets, and the human condition: Seeking to remedy alienation in postsecret's digitally mediated environment." *Symbolic Interaction* 33 (4): 578-602.
- (2) Anne R. Roschell & Peter Kaufman (2004) "Fitting in and fighting back: Homeless kids' stigma management strategies." *Symbolic Interaction* 27 (1): 23-46.

April 1: Social Control as Amplifying Deviance

- (1) Braithwaite, J. (2001) "Reintegrative shaming." Pp. 242-51 in *Explaining Criminals and Crime* ed. By R. Paternoster and R. Bachman. Roxbury.
- (2) Tewksbury, R. and M. Lees (2006) "Perceptions of sex offender registration: Collateral consequences and community experiences." *Sociological Spectrum* 26 (3): 309-34.