

SOCIOLOGY 212H: CRIME AND DEVIANCE
FALL 2015
[11:00-1:00 Tuesday]

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Course Description

This course is designed to give you an overview of the study of crime and deviance. We will examine how scholars have gone about studying crime and deviance: the methods and statistics they use to study these phenomena and the primary sociological explanations for crime and deviance. We will also consider the empirical evidence as it relates to the validity of these explanations and some of the policy implications of different theoretical approaches.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to the range of theories sociologists use to explain crime and deviance.
2. To critically evaluate the different quantitative and qualitative methods used to assess crime and deviance.

Course Policies

Prerequisites: The Prerequisite to take this course is SOC101Y or SOC102H or SOC103H. Students without one of these prerequisites 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.

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're a special needs student, please see me as soon as possible to discuss how best to assist you in the course.

Course Web Site

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

Grading and Evaluation

There are three in-class tests. The first is worth 40% of your grade and covers the first four lectures; the second is worth 35% of your grade and covers the next four lectures. The third and final test is worth 25% of your grade and will be held during the second hour of the last day of class. All of the tests will cover the assigned readings and all class materials (lectures, in-class discussions *and films*) up to the date of the test. None of the tests are cumulative. The tests are comprised of multiple choice questions. The in-class test dates are highlighted on the syllabus. **THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THE FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD.**

Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree that you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement, and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves. Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>). It is the rule book for academic behaviour at the U of T, and you are expected to know the rules. Potential offenses on tests include, but are not limited to:

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone
- Looking at someone else's answers
- Letting someone else look at your answers
- Misrepresenting your identity
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading

Make-up Tests and Medical Excuses

Students who miss a test due to medical illness must provide a written medical excuse within one or two days after the missed test. The only form accepted will be the **Verification of Student Illness or Injury form (available at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)**. Doctor's notes are not acceptable substitutes. The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor and submitted in class or during the instructor or TA's office hours.

If a **personal or family crisis** prevents you from taking a test when it is scheduled, you must get a letter from your college registrar. The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor and submitted in class or during the instructor or TA's office hours.

Dates for make-up tests will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. The date for the make-up for the last test will be posted on Blackboard.

Required Reading: available at the University of Toronto Bookstore

Deutschmann, Linda B. **Deviance and Social Control**, 4th edition. Nelson, Thomson Limited Canada.

Weekly Schedule

| DATE | TOPIC | READING |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 15 September | Course Introduction & Who Defines Deviance | Chpt. 1 |
| 22 September | Frontline: "A Hidden Life" Different Methods for Studying Deviance | Chpt. 3 |
| 29 September | Conventional Approaches to Measuring Crime and Deviance | Chpt. 2 |
| 6 October | Review of Classical Theories of Deviance (and early explanations of crime and deviance) | Chpts. 4 & 5 |
| 13 October | TEST #1 (40%) | NO READING |
| 20 October | The Chicago School & Social Disorganization | Chpt. 7 |
| 27 October | Functionalism & Strain Theory | Chpt. 8 |
| 3 November | Subculture & Learning Theories Frontline: "The Interrupters" | Chpt. 9 |
| 10 November | FALL BREAK: NO CLASS | |
| 17 November | Test 2 [35%] | NO READING |
| 24 November | Interactionist Theories | Chpt. 10 |
| 1 December | Control Theories | Chpt. 11 |
| 8 December | Conflict & Radical Theory Test 3 [25%] | Chpt. 12 pages 367-388 |