

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
SOCIOL 341-001
Sociology of Deviant Behavior
Monday/Wednesdays 2:00P.M.-3:15 P.M.

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Office Hours: By Appointment (Before or After Class)

Course Texts:

The Relativity of Deviance (ROD): 1st Ed. John Curra
Investigating Deviance (ID): 1st Ed. Bruce A. Jacobs
Sociology of Deviant Behavior (SDB) , 12th Ed. Marshall B. Clinard

Optional Text: Readings in Deviant Behavior 3rd Ed. Alex Thio

CLASS POLICIES: THERE IS NO EXTRA CREDIT AVAILABLE FOR THIS COURSE.

THE COURSE: This course is based on sociological theory. Subsequently, we will review, discuss, and analyze the various theories as they apply to Social Deviance. More precisely we will examine deviance as it appears in society as a social interaction. We will not look for solutions to deviance but rather attempt to become analytical and enhance your ability to discuss and understand deviance.

It is important to know that we will be looking at and reading about real life situations that can include some raw subject matter. This matter will contain offensive language, insensitivity towards certain social and racial groups, sexual themes and criminal conduct. As students of the Sociology of Deviance you will be asked to put aside your moral judgements and examine the various topics dispassionately. If you cannot do this or cannot discuss topics of this nature you should probably choose a different course. Upon successful completion of the course the student will have an understanding of deviant behavior as it applies to theories, motivations and continued involvement in the behaviors discussed.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: This course is an upper level sociology course and assumes knowledge already gleaned in lower division sociology courses. The amount and level of reading is guided by the fact that this is an upper division course. Students must come prepared to discuss the readings assigned and will be graded on their ability to discuss and analyze the topics at hand. There will be one brief written assignment of five to seven pages for this course. It is titled the **Deviant Act Project**. This project is worth 25% of the final grade.

There will be a three exams in this course. Each exam will cover only the material covered during that segment of the course. Each exam is worth 25% of the final grade. No make up exams will be given unless a doctors excuse or a excuse from your dean is provided. Exams may

be take home and will be announced the week prior to the exam date. Take home exams are due the date of exam, late exams suffer a 5 point decrease each day the exam is late.

The written assignment will be typed (double space) and have standard margins (1 in. left, right, top and bottom) and 12 font size. Assignments will not be accepted unless they meet the aforementioned criteria. Spelling, grammar, punctuation all count (5%). Topic presentation, content and explanation account for the remainder of points. Performing illegal acts will reduce the paper grade. (See me for insight regarding illegal acts.) The paper is due on the date assigned. Extensions will not be given. **Late papers will be reduced by three (3) points for each day the paper is late.**

Requirements will be weighted as follows:

Deviant Act Project	25%
Exam One	25%
Exam Two	25%
Exam Three	25%

ALL REQUIRED WORK MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A GRADE IN THIS COURSE.

DEVIANT ACT PROJECT:

This project involves your planning and executing a deviant but not illegal act and with luck getting sanctioned for it. This experience is to result in a five to seven page paper in which you discuss, 1) Why the act was deviant, 2) who the audience was, 3) what specific norm(s) was (were) broken, 4) who might be interested in enforcing conformity to the norm, 5) why the act might not be deviant in another situation, 6) how you felt while completing the act, 7) who sanctioned you, 8) what the purpose of the sanction was (shame, ridicule, to achieve conformity), 9) what form the sanction took, etc. Obviously, the relevant questions to be addressed in your paper will vary with the nature of the deviant act committed, but the questions above should give you the general idea. This is not a research paper but rather a report on your actions etc. **SEE ME TO DISCUSS TOPICS OF CONCERN TO YOU.** Pictures, videos are acceptable attachments to the papers but are not a replacement and only add to the understanding of the project. **ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE REPRINTED, PUBLISHED, OR REVEALED TO ANY OTHER SOURCE AND WILL BE RETURNED.** Feel free to talk with me about any questions you might have on topic. Have fun with it! Wearing a Santa Claus Suit, a mask, smoking are not the good topics, consult your texts for pertinent topics or once again **SEE ME!** We will discuss this point in class.

WARNING: YOU ARE TO COMMIT A DEVIANT BUT NOT ILLEGAL ACT. I WILL NOT BAIL YOU OUT OF JAIL NOR TESTIFY ON YOUR BEHALF NOR COME TO YOUR RESCUE IN ANYWAY SHOULD YOU BE FOOLHARDY ENOUGH TO COMMIT AN ILLEGAL ACT AND GET APPREHENDED FOR IT. FINALLY IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS ACT BE COMMITTED IN A SELF-CONSCIOUS WAY. THEREFORE YOU MAY NOT WRITE ABOUT AN ACT FROM THE PAST. SOMETHING NEW AND NOT DONE OR EXPERIMENTED WITH IN THE PAST IS WHAT I AM LOOKING FOR IN THIS PAPER.

Exams: Can be short answer, multiple choice, essay, matching, true or false, or take home. Take home exams would be announced the week before the exam date. Content of exams will consist of questions or inquiries regarding lectures, readings, class discussions, videos and any pertinent information provided by students during discussions.

ATTENDANCE: AFTER THREE CLASSES ARE MISSED YOUR GRADE IS REDUCED BY ONE WHOLE GRADE LEVEL FOR EACH CLASS MISSED (AFTER THREE). AN "A" TO AN "A-" OR A "C" TO A "C-". SIX UNEXCUSED ABSENCES YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS. EXCUSES MUST BE FROM A MEDICAL DOCTOR OR THE DEAN OF YOUR SCHOOL.

DATES AND ASSIGNMENTS: 2004

9/8	Introduction:
9/13&15	SDB: Chapter One, ID: Part One
9/20&22	SDB: Chapter Two, ROD: Chapter One
9/27&29	SDB: Chapter Three, ID: Chapter 11, ROD: Chapter 2
10/4&6	SDB: Chapters Four & Five, ID: Chapters: Six, Seven, Eight, Fourteen
10/11	<u>EXAM ONE EXAM ONE EXAM ONE</u>
10/13	SDB: Chapters Six & Seven, ID: Part Five (V), ROD: Chapters 4 & 5
10/18&20	SDB: Chapter Seven & Eight, ID: Part Seven (VII), ROD: Chapter 7
10/25&27	SDB: Chapter Nine, ID: Chapter 18, ROD: Chapter 9
11/1&3	SDB: Chapter Ten, ROD: Chapter 8
11/8	<u>EXAM TWO EXAM TWO EXAM TWO</u>
11/10 &15	SDB: Chapters Eleven & Fourteen, ID: Part Six (VI), ROD: Chapter 3
11/17&22	SDB: Chapters Eleven & Fourteen ID: Chapter 49
<u>11/22/04</u>	<u>DEVIANT ACT PROJECT DUE</u>
11/24	No Class Thanksgiving
11/29&12/2	SDB: Chapters Twelve & Thirteen, ROD: Chapter 6
12/6&8	SDB: Chapter Fifteen, ID: Chapters 40, 41, & 45
12/13	<u>FINAL EXAM FINAL EXAM FINAL EXAM</u>