

The University of Tennessee at Martin
Department of Behavioral Sciences

SOCIOLOGY 305: Sociology of Deviant Behavior
FALL 2015: SECTION 001

Instructor: Justin A. Martin, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri.: 11:00am –1:00pm
Tues., Thurs.: 9:00am – 11:00am
Other times by appointment

Catalog Description:

Theoretical analysis of the relation of deviant behavior to social and cultural standards of value, convention, and law.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course...

...students will be able to define and describe deviance from sociological perspectives & explain how people come to be described as deviant and what happens to them as a result.

...students will be able to apply course concepts to an understanding of marginalized/stigmatized/deviant groups

...students will educate themselves about their own (potential for) deviance

...students will empathize with deviant others marginalized by society

...students will have learned how to value diversity and identify commonalities across groups of stigmatized people

...students will have learned how to identify and assess important sources of information regarding stigmatized groups

Grading Criteria:

Your grade for this course will be determined based on the following criteria:

Participation	40 points
Discussion prep sheets	80 points
Assessments (Mid-term and final exams)	200 points total
Term paper	<u>100 points total</u>
	420 total points

Students who earn 90% or more of the points will earn an “A.”

Students who earn 80% to 89% of the points will earn a “B.”

Students who earn 70% to 79% of the points will earn a “C.”

Students who earn 60% to 69% of the points will earn a “D.”

Students who earn less than 60% of the points will earn an “F.”

Attendance & Participation:

This is an interactive course. I will be lecturing – some. Most of the course is comprised of discussions – both small group discussions & full class discussions – and in-class exercises. You are expected to attend each class meeting, and I will take attendance each time. I realize, however, that adults have responsibilities which will from time to time cause them to miss class. Therefore, I will allow three (3) missed classes for any reason before absenteeism will negatively affect your attendance grade. Excuse of an absence is at the instructor’s discretion and may require documentation. Any exercise completed in class will count toward your participation grade. However, if you are not present for an exercise, you will forfeit the ability to earn those points.

Assessments:

Exams: There will be two (2) take-home, essay exams. Further information regarding these exams will be announced in class.

Discussion prep sheets: For each of the nine (9) days that there is an assigned reading posted to Blackboard you will read the assigned reading and prepare a set of questions/outside connections based on the readings. These readings will be discussed in class, and, in order to facilitate the discussion, it is expected that you will have read the assignment and prepared at least one discussion question. Although the readings will be discussed in class as a group, you will be assessed on your individual performance, preparation, and participation. **Prep sheets are due on the day of the scheduled discussion.** Late prep sheets will **NOT** be accepted. You are required to complete eight (8) of the nine (9) assigned prep sheets. You may complete all nine for ten (10) points as extra credit. Prep sheets will be submitted on Blackboard, should be approximately one page in length, and pose one discussion question that can be shared with the group.

Term paper & presentation: You will complete a paper which will be due near the end of the semester, and which you will present to your peers. Further information regarding this paper and presentation will be announced in class.

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Statement:

Students who have a disability that requires accommodation(s) should make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services at (731) 881-1689 to discuss their specific needs.

Acknowledging Differences:

During the semester, students will have the opportunity to share thoughts, opinions, and beliefs about their life experiences. The differences in these perspectives that each student brings to the discussion will add to the richness of the course. Students should communicate in ways that acknowledge and respect such differences. While it is natural and expected that many of us will have differing opinions, we must always respect our fellow students in the class and the opinions they hold. I expect and encourage students to be critical of each other's ideas, but it is unacceptable to be dismissive or and/or combative with other students in the class.

Classroom Decorum:

I have an obligation to maintain a classroom environment that allows students to learn to the best of their abilities. While I encourage students to ask questions and make comments in class, I will not tolerate or permit behavior that is disruptive, distracting, or demeaning. If you cell phone must be on for medical, child care, or other reasons, please set it to silent or vibrate. Students disrupting classroom decorum will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Ethical Conduct:

By virtue of your enrollment at the University of Tennessee, you agree to abide by the standards of conduct as outlined in the following statement:

As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.

Instances of academic dishonesty will be turned over to the Office of Student Conduct.

Required Course Materials:

Goode, Erich. 2015. *Deviant Behavior*, 10th Ed. New York: Pearson

Additional readings on Blackboard

Tentative COURSE SCHEDULE

(Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.)

TOPICS & READINGS

Week	Date	Topic	Reading assignment
1	25-Aug	Class orientation	
	27-Aug	Introductions	
2	1-Sep	What is deviance?	Ch. 1
	3-Sep	Functionalism & deviance	Ch. 2
3	8-Sep	Critical theory & deviance	
	10-Sep	Interactionism & deviance	Ch. 3
4	15-Sep	Deviant subcultures	
	17-Sep	Reading 1	TBA
5	22-Sep	Poverty, stigma & structure	Ch. 4
	24-Sep	Reading 2	TBA
6	29-Sep	Mid-term Exam – No class	
	1-Oct	Crime	Ch. 5
7	6-Oct	Reading 3	TBA
	8-Oct	White collar crime / Elite deviance	Ch. 6
8	13-Oct	Reading 4	TBA
	15-Oct	Deviant belief systems	Ch. 10
9	20-Oct	Fall Break – No class	
	22-Oct	Reading 5	TBA
10	27-Oct	Drugs	Ch. 7
	29-Oct	Reading 6	TBA
11	3-Nov	Race / Ethnicity	Ch. 13
	5-Nov	Reading 7	
12	10-Nov	Deviance & the body	Ch. 12
	12-Nov	Reading 8	
13	17-Nov	Deviance of sex / sexuality	Ch. 9
	19-Nov	Reading 9	TBA
14	24-Nov	Papers due - No class	
	26-Nov	Thanksgiving break	
15	1-Dec	Positive / authentic deviance	TBA
	3-Dec	Course wrap-up	
16		Finals Week	TBA