



**Department of Sociology
Sociology 2259 Section 530
Sociology of Deviance
Fall & Winter 2016-2017**

Instructor: Jennie Reynolds

E-mail: jnugent5@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 5:30-6:30

Class times: Mondays 2:30-5:30

Class location: MRW 152

Course Description

In this course we will discuss the meaning of inclusion and exclusion in the everyday world. We will examine the ways in which individuals, and groups, become labeled and treated as “deviant” or “deviants” and the reasons behind society’s need to distinguish between deviance and normalcy.

We will examine a variety of sociological theories and debates regarding conformity and deviance, as well as key contemporary issues in the field – for instance, physical appearances, body image, mental illness, violence, gender, and sexuality. We will place our emphasis not only on looking at formal mechanisms and institutions of social control, but also at looking into the informal modes of social control (labeling) at play in distinguishing between the deviant and the non-deviant.

In this course, students are encouraged and expected to be reflective about how they participate in deviance, both as conformists and deviants, as to be critical of the social construction of normalcy.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use their sociological imagination and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between social control and deviance.
2. Distinguish between objectivist and subjectivist approaches to studying and explaining deviance.
3. Apply sociological theories and ideas to specific types/examples of deviance.
4. Engage critically with text, film, and in-class discussions of deviance.

Prerequisite(s):

1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level.

Required Texts:

Bereska, Tami M. 2014. *Deviance, Conformity, and Social Control* (4th Edition). Toronto: Pearson.

Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on each of the following evaluation components of the course:

(1) Participation (10%)

In order to receive marks for participation, you must partake in class discussion throughout the term. It is essential that you come to class prepared, having reviewed your notes from the previous week, and having read the required readings for the week. It will be difficult to engage in the discussion if you have not adequately prepared for class, so please ensure you do so.

With the exception of legitimate medical/personal excuses (documentation required) students are expected to attend at least 75% of the class meetings for this course. A passing grade in the course cannot be obtained without meeting this requirement.

(2) Documentary Critical Reflections (2 x 7.5% each = 15%)

There will be a number short films and documentaries shown in class throughout the course academic year. You must write a critical reflection on 2 of the films/documentaries shown, wherein you think critically while analyzing the issue outlined in the movie, ensuring that you relate it to course material. To do well on this assignment, you are expected to go beyond a comprehensive overview of the documentary and delve in to the issues at hand. Your ability to critically engage in this manner will be very useful when it comes time to write, and submit, your Stigma Paper (see below).

Your assignments should be written in essay form and should be approximately 3-4 typed pages (double-spaced). Documentary analyses are due ONE WEEK after the film is shown in class. These will be discussed in more detail early on in the Fall 2016 term.

(3) Stigma Paper (20%)

A detailed outline of this assignment will be posted online and discussed in-class.

In addition to the final draft copy, you will be required to submit a quick online 'proposal' by Feb. 13th. Doing this will help you to get thinking about the assignment prior to the due date, and will allow you to receive feedback on your topic prior to the submission of your final paper.

(4) Exams (Exam 1: 15%, Exam 2: 20%, Exam 3: 20% = 55%)

There will be THREE exams written throughout the course of the academic year. The questions will include multiple choice, short-answer and essay type questions.

The examinations will cover a variety of course material (lectures, assigned readings, films, etc.). Students are responsible for material covered in class regardless of whether they are present for each class. It is important to note that you are responsible for taking lecture notes/accessing notes from fellow students. It might be helpful to make contact with a colleague early in the course in case it becomes necessary for you to miss a class.

Conduct and Expectations

Lectures in this Course

By 4:00 PM on the day before each weekly class, the PowerPoint slides for that class will be posted on the OWL course site. You should print out a copy and bring it to class. Lectures assume that students have done the readings listed for each week in advance of class.

Accordingly, lectures will be paced assuming that everyone has hardcopies of the slides in front of them, and are capable of making additional notes as the lecture proceeds. The format also leaves ample time and opportunity for questions and discussion.

Policy on Laptops in Class

If you own a laptop, it can be a very effective tool for taking notes in class. Unfortunately, past experience suggests that some students who bring laptops to class use them to access the Internet. This can prove very distracting to the students around them. Accordingly, using your Laptop to access the Internet will be considered disruptive behavior and a violation under the Student Code of Conduct. Students caught violating this policy may be expelled from class lecture.

Policy on Cell Phones

Kindly turn off your cell phones and other electronic devices during lecture. You will have more than sufficient time during the break to check your messages. Students who are warned about their cell phones and persist in using them during lecture may be expelled from class.

FALL SEMESTER:

Date	Topic	Required Readings
<i>Sept. 12</i>	Course Introduction & Defining Deviance	
<i>Sept. 19, Oct. 3</i>	Objectivist vs. Subjectivist Approaches to Understanding Deviance; Social Typing Film: Burning Times	B: Ch. 1 & 4 Readings on OWL
<i>Oct. 10</i>	THANKSGIVING (NO CLASS)	
<i>Oct. 17, 24</i>	Positivist Theories: Biological, Psychological, Functionalist, Learning Theories	B: Ch. 2 (pp. 32-59)
<i>Oct. 31</i>	Social Control Theories	B: Ch. 2 (59-64) Readings on OWL
<i>Nov. 7</i>	Interpretivist & Critical Theories of Deviance Film: Lost in the Struggle	B: Ch. 3 (80-85; 86-91)
<i>Nov. 14</i>	EXAM #1	Covers Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Nov. 21, 28</i>	Stigma & The Labeling Process	Goffman
<i>Dec. 5</i>	Physical Appearance Film: Lookism	B: Ch. 7

WINTER SEMESTER:

Date	Topic	Required Readings
<i>Jan. 9</i>	Feminist Theories: Constructions of Masculinity and Femininity Film: Tough Guise	B: Ch. 3 (85-86) Readings on OWL
<i>Jan. 16</i>	Sexuality & Deviance I: Deviant Sexuality	B: Ch. 5
<i>Jan. 23, 30</i>	Sexuality and Deviance II: Woman Abuse, Sex Trade Workers Film: Human Trafficking in Canada	Readings on OWL
<i>Feb. 6</i>	EXAM #2	
<i>Feb. 13</i>	Deviant & Youth Subcultures Film: The Real Toronto **STIGMA PROPOSAL DUE**	B: Ch. 6
<i>Feb. 20</i>	READING WEEK – NO CLASSES	
<i>Feb. 27, Mar. 6</i>	Moral Entrepreneurship Medicalization of Deviance Film: D. Reimer Story	B: Ch. 9 (268-281)
<i>Mar. 13</i>	Mental Illness Film: Selling Sickness	B: Ch. 8
<i>Mar. 20, 27</i>	Course Conclusions: Different Ability, Transformation, Reintegration	B: Ch. 10
<i>Apr. 3</i>	Reserved for Guest Speakers/Catch up/Make-Up **STIGMA PAPER DUE**	
TBA	Final Exam	

2016-17 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html> The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html>)

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>)

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.