

# Social Deviance Syllabus (Fall 2017)

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INSTRUCTOR	EMAIL	COURSE #
ZACH RUBIN	<a href="mailto:zcr34b@mailmissouri.edu">zcr34b@mailmissouri.edu</a>	SOCIOLOGY 1650
OFFICE	OFFICE HOURS	TA
320 MIDDLEBUSH HALL	THURSDAYS 1-3	NONE

## **Textbook**

Deviance and Social Control: A Sociological Perspective, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Michelle Inderbitzin, Kristin A. Bates, Randy Gainey. SAGE Publications, ISBN: 9781506327914.

## **Course Description**

This course is a survey of approaches to the study of identities and behaviors commonly regarded as deviant. It will cover the broad perspective of sociological theory on deviance as well as several specialty areas including race, gender, sexuality, class, crime, health and deviant subgroups.

## **Methods of Evaluation**

### ***Papers***

Throughout the semester, you will have 3 short papers. The prompts will be revealed approximately 2 weeks before they are due. You will be expected to call upon articles from the readings or topics from lecture in order to answer critical questions about the topic of deviance.

### ***Exams***

There will be three exams in this class. All of them will be multiple choice and designed to test your recall of the articles covered and your ability to think critically about the topics presented in the class. Yes, they are comprehensive, in as much as topics learned in each part of the class build upon each other and carry forward.

### ***Attendance and Participation***

This is a minor part of your grade, but enough that if you don't show up or don't contribute to the class it will be near impossible to get an A. This will be filled in by attendance sheets I pass around most days. You can miss up to 5 days and still get a perfect attendance grade. After that many absences, your grade goes down by (# of attendance days/# of class days) points. For example, if I take

attendance 40 times and you miss 6 classes, that would be half a point per day, and 3 points total.

### ***In-Class Activities***

In several of the weeks, you will have an in-class writing activity that reflects the material for the week, and that you will complete either individually or in groups with classmates. These will usually take the entire class period, and require you to have done the reading/attended the chapter's lecture in order to competently complete. I will drop the lowest of the activity grades from your overall score.

### **Late Policy**

Project organization, time management, and contingency planning are essential to success in this and all college courses. Thus, it is expected that assignments will be submitted by their respective due date. To encourage personal commitment to learning and to maintain focus on the achievement of the student learning outcomes, late work is accepted with consequences.

The following will be in effect for assignments submitted late:

- One day late results in 20% off the points earned.
- Two days late results in 40% off the points earned.
- Three days late results in 60% off the points earned.
- Four days late results in 80% off the points earned.
- Five or more days late results in zero points earned.

Assignments are not accepted after the last day of the semester.

There is no make up work or extra credit in my course.

*That being said, stuff happens. If there are one or more personal emergencies that happen you find yourself in a crunch, email me **before** something is due and we might be able to work out a plan, depending on the circumstances.*

### **Classroom Safe Space Policy**

There is likely to be a good deal of discussion and participation, despite this being a larger class size in a big room. Take care to treat your classmates with respect. Any words or actions inside or outside the classroom that create a hostile learning environment for someone on the basis of race, gender, sexuality, class, geographic origin, immigrant status, or any other characteristic with the potential for discrimination could be grounds for dismissal from the classroom or even removal from the course. No space can be made entirely safe to all views and vulnerabilities, and the best outcome in an offending situation is a response that engages and changes minds rather than retreats and accuses.

Normally, I would give a trigger warning whenever a lesson comes up with content that could be potentially troubling to people with related past trauma. This class, however, deals almost every single day with controversial and sensitive topics. Should a topic have the potential for triggering effects for you, you are encouraged to exercise independent decision making about whether you want to attend. You will still be held accountable to the material covered in that lecture, but may obtain the notes either by coming to office hours or borrowing them from someone else in the class.

### **Tips for Success**

- Turn your cellphone off during class, and refrain from getting lost shopping or Facebooking on your laptop if that's what you use to take notes. Do not be that person that I have to stop the class for or who distracts the people behind them with a YouTube video.
- I will not be posting the powerpoints on Canvas. Be here and take notes. If you have to miss class, get the notes you missed from someone in the class, or come see my during office hours.
- I reserve the right to change or update this syllabus as I see fit, with forewarning of course.
- There will be no make up exams. If you know you have to miss a class, contact me well beforehand so we can work something out.
- I may send out email from time to time over Blackboard, so be in the habit of checking your email, it is a good habit to have.
- If you've made it this far in the syllabus, congratulations! Send Zach a picture of a pug dog from the internet and you will receive 4 extra credit points on the first Wednesday of class. That is the *only* extra credit in the whole class.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student

rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director; the director of the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities; the MU Equity Office, or [equity@missouri.edu](mailto:equity@missouri.edu).

All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible. If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Disability Center (<http://disabilitycenter.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573- 882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

## Point Distributions

Points	Min %	Grade	Points	Min %	Grade
372	93	A	292	73	C
360	90	A-	280	70	C-
348	87	B+	268	67	D+
332	83	B	252	63	D
320	80	B-	240	60	D-
308	77	C+			F

Category	Points
Papers	75
Attendance	50
Class Activities	50
Exam 1	75
Exam 2	75
Exam 3	75
<i>Total</i>	<i>400</i>