SOCIAL DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL
Lehigh University
CRN 14045 / SOC 141
Spring 2016

2:35-3:50 PM T/Th
Room: Coppee Hall 105

Professor: Danielle Lindemann
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Office: 223 Williams Hall
Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

What institutions exert control over human behavior, and what are the incentives for adhering to social norms? Why do some people break those rules? What are the consequences of rule breaking? And what about you? Are you “deviant” or “normal”? How do you know? This course is divided into two segments: theories of deviance/social control, and types of deviance/social control. After examining theoretical scholarship on non-normative behavior, we will apply those theories to real-world examples— for example, criminal activities and policing, drug use, sexuality, body modification, mental illness, and atypical behavior at school and work. We will largely focus on contemporary U.S. society, but students are welcome and encouraged draw cross-cultural comparisons during class discussion and in their writing. Grading will be based on two exams, in-class participation, a final project, and two “rule-breaking” exercises, in which students will breach minor social norms and reflect on their experiences…. Are you ready? Let’s get weird.

Grading & Policies:

Your grade will consist of the following components:

Two Exams (50% [25% each]) – Exam #1, which will be given in class on Thursday, March 10th, will cover material from the first half of the course. Exam #2, which will be given in class on Thursday, April 28th, will cover material from the course’s second half. We will do a review for each exam in the preceding class session. Please come to the reviews prepared with any lingering questions you have about the course material. See the “exam format” sheet on Coursesite for more details.

Rule-Breaking Exercises (20% [10% each]) – Students will do two exercises in which they violate a minor social norm or rule and then write a short paper (2-3 pages) reflecting on the experience. I must personally approve each rule-breaking exercise before you conduct it. If you do not get prior written approval from me for your rule-breaking project, you will receive a zero on the assignment. See the assignment sheet on Coursesite for more details.
Class Participation (15%) – “Class participation” means not only attending class but also doing the readings and engaging actively and constructively in discussion. Students who miss no more than two lectures and participate regularly in discussion will receive full credit for participation.

Final Project (15%) – In the final week of class, each student will give a PowerPoint presentation, linking one of our course readings to a cultural artifact (e.g. movie, TV show, song, news article, etc.) of his or her choice. The artifact should illuminate an instance of deviance and/or social control in contemporary society. I will give a sample presentation, and we will discuss potential project topics in class on Thursday, March 24th. Regardless of when you are presenting, your PowerPoint is due to Coursesite no later than 2:35 pm on Tuesday, May 3rd. See the “final project guidelines” sheet on Coursesite for more details.

Grading Scale:

93%-100% = A
90%-92% = A-
87%-89% = B+
83%-86% = B
80%-82% = B-
77%-79% = C+
73%-76% = C
70%-72% = C-
67%-69% = D+
63%-66% = D
60%-62% = D-
0%-59% = F

Grading Policies:

Papers:

Rule-breaking exercises are due to Coursesite prior to the beginning of class (2:35 pm, EST) on Thursday, February 18th and Thursday, April 7th. You will see “submit paper” links at Week 4 and Week 11. These links will only remain active until the paper deadlines (i.e. submit your papers on time! 😎). If you experience a technical issue, you may email me your paper at Danielle.lindemann@lehigh.edu before the due date. Any time after 2:35 p.m. will be considered “late.” You are still responsible for turning in your paper by the deadline if the course site is down.

I will deduct half a grade from your paper for each day it is late. I will not accept work that is more than three days late.
Exams:

Students must take the exams in class on the days they are given. Barring extreme circumstances (e.g. incapacitating illness with a doctor’s note), students who miss exams will NOT be allowed to make them up.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting accommodations, please contact both your instructor and the Office of Academic Support Services, Williams Hall, Suite 301 (610-758-4152) as early as possible in the semester. You must have documentation from the Academic Support Services office before accommodations can be granted.

The Principles of Our Equitable Community:

Lehigh University endorses The Principles of Our Equitable Community [http://www.lehigh.edu/~inprv/initiatives/PrinciplesEquity_Sheet_v2_032212.pdf]. We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.

Student Senate Statement on Academic Integrity:

“We, the Lehigh University Student Senate, as the standing representative body of all undergraduates, reaffirm the duty and obligation of students to meet and uphold the highest principles and values of personal, moral and ethical conduct. As partners in our educational community, both students and faculty share the responsibility for promoting and helping to ensure an environment of academic integrity. As such, each student is expected to complete all academic course work in accordance to the standards set forth by the faculty and in compliance with the University's Code of Conduct.”
Readings:

All course readings are available as PDFs through Coursesite (https://coursesite.lehigh.edu).

Syllabus:

SEGMENT 1: THEORIES OF DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL

Week 1:

Tuesday January 26th: Introduction
Course introduction and administration
There are no assigned readings for this class session.

Thursday January 28th: What Is Deviance?
Read for this class session:

Week 2:

Tuesday February 2nd: How Do We Decide Who Is Deviant?
Read for this class session:

Thursday February 4th: Where Does Deviance Fit into the Discipline of Sociology?

Week 3:

Tuesday February 9th: Sociological Theories of Deviance: An Overview
Read for this class session:
Thursday February 11\textsuperscript{th}: Functionalism

Read for this class session:


Week 4:

Tuesday February 16\textsuperscript{th}: Strain Theory and Anomie

Read for this class session:

- Durkheim, Emile “Anomic Suicide” in Traub and Little: 131-141.

Thursday February 18\textsuperscript{th}: Conflict Theories: Marxism and Feminism

Read for this class session:


Rule-breaking assignment #1 due to Coursesite by 2:35 pm today

Week 5:

Tuesday February 23\textsuperscript{rd}: Learning and Labeling

Read for this class session:


Thursday February 25\textsuperscript{th}: Labeling Theory, Continued

Read for this class session:

Week 6:

Tuesday March 1\textsuperscript{st}: Social Control: Symbolic Crusades

\textit{Read for this class session:}
\begin{itemize}
  \item Gusfield, Joseph R. “Symbolic Crusade” in Traub and Little: 454-462.
  \item Deyoung, Mary. “Moral Panics: The Case of Satanic Day Care Centers” in Adler and Adler: 160-168.
\end{itemize}

Thursday March 3\textsuperscript{rd}: How Do Deviants Respond to Stigmatization?

\textit{Read for this class session:}
\begin{itemize}
\end{itemize}

Week 7:

Tuesday March 8\textsuperscript{th}: Summary Discussion and Exam #1 Review

\textit{There are no assigned readings for this class session. Please come to class prepared with any lingering questions you have about the course material.}

Thursday March 10\textsuperscript{th}: Exam

\textbf{IN-CLASS EXAM #1}

\textit{There are no assigned readings for this class session.}

Week 8:

Tuesday March 15\textsuperscript{th} / Thursday March 17\textsuperscript{th}

\textbf{NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK}

\textbf{SEGMENT 2: TYPES OF DEVIANCE}

Week 9:

Tuesday March 22\textsuperscript{nd}: Street Harassment:

\textit{Read for this class session:}
\begin{itemize}
\end{itemize}

Thursday March 24\textsuperscript{th}: Mental Illness and Medicalization/Final Project Discussion

\textit{Read for this class session:}
\begin{itemize}
\end{itemize}

\textit{Come to this class prepared to discuss your ideas for your final project.}
Week 10:

Tuesday March 29th: Crime and Policing
Read for this class session:

Thursday March 31st: Crime and Policing (continued):
Read for this class session:

Week 11:

Tuesday April 5th: Sex, Drugs, and Rock n’ Roll
Read for this class session:

Thursday April 7th: Drug Use and Regulation:
Read for this class session:

Rule-breaking assignment #2 due to Coursesite by 2:35 pm today

Week 12:

Tuesday April 12th: Deviance at School
Read for this class session:
Thursday April 14th: Deviance at School (continued):

Read for this class session:

Week 13:

Tuesday April 19th: Deviance at Work

Read for this class session:

Thursday April 21st: Body Modification

Read for this class session:

Week 14:

Tuesday April 26th: Summary Discussion and Exam #2 Review

There are no assigned readings for this class session. Please come to class prepared with any lingering questions you may have about the course material.

Thursday April 28th: Exam

IN-CLASS EXAM #2

There are no assigned readings for this class session.

Week 15:

Tuesday May 3rd: Presentations

Student presentations begin. There are no assigned readings for this class session.

All PowerPoint slides are due to Coursesite by 2:35 pm today

Thursday May 5th: Presentations/Wrap-Up

Presentations continue, course wrap-up, and evaluations. There are no assigned readings for this class session.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER! 😊