

COURSE OUTLINE - SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE - SOC 320
CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
FALL 2001

INSTRUCTOR: David B. Johnson, Ph.D.
TIME/PLACE: Tuø, Thurs, 9:30AM
COURSE TEXT: THE SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR
Clinard and Meier

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Sociology 320 investigates the field of sociology of deviance, introducing the student to the various theories and research related to conformity and deviance. The student will become familiar with social structure, such as roles and normative expectations encompassed in various social institutions, as well as the processes of conformity and deviance relating to social norms. Various theories of social control and influence will be explored, including functional, conflict, and interaction theories. The functions and dysfunctions of compliance and deviance will be explored. Various examples of social behaviors considered deviant will be discussed in terms of their causes and effects as well as in terms of those who engage in the deviant behavior and those who might be affected by it. Methods of research will be discussed, with students encouraged to conduct projects utilizing these methods. Cross-cultural aspects of deviance and conformity will be discussed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to read the assigned text chapters prior to the scheduled class discussion. Class discussion on the text will generally be held on Tuesday class. Thursday classes will involve class group discussions on various issues and topics to be announced, as well as student presentations.

There will be two exams during the term. Each exam will be on a specific portion of the text reading materials, as indicated in the class schedule. Exam questions will include sociological terms defined in the text and will include some of the concepts and processes described in the text. The exams will be take-home, long-essay type. Exams will be evaluated on: accuracy, completeness, creativity, clarity of discussion and appropriateness.

Students will be expected to complete a course project. This project is intended to expose the student to a topic of interest in the area of deviance and/or conformity, permitting the student to gain an in-depth understanding, not possible from the reading assignments and class discussions alone. The student may obtain guidance from the instructor regarding appropriate topics, methods of research and sources of information. Also, the instructor is available to review drafts of the project paper. The term paper is to

be from 10-12 pages (double spaced, typed, 12 pt) with the following sections identified: introduction, methods, findings, discussion, conclusion, references. The project can include a primary research effort (survey, case study, content analysis, experiment) and/or a library research effort on an appropriate topic. The paper will be due on Nov 27th (see schedule). The course project will be evaluated on: organization, appropriateness, completeness, scholarship, and creativity.

Extra credit of up to 5% can be earned by students who arrange with the instructor to present a guest speaker or a video on a relevant topic (with student commentary) on one of the Thursday classes during the term. The student will be expected to make all the advance arrangements for the guest as well as any audio-visual equipment needed, and to reserve the time with the instructor in advance.

Each unit of the course will utilize a variety of learning techniques to maximize the student's participation and involvement. There will be lecture-discussions of the text material on Tuesdays, with group discussions on most Thursdays. Students are encouraged to consult with the instructor regarding the written assignments and presentations. Students can meet with the instructor before or after class, or make an appointment.

GRADING:

The course grade will be assigned as follows:

Course project	50%
First exam (mid-term)	25%
Second exam (final)	25%
Optional extra credit class presentation	up to 5%
Attendance (to resolve ties between two grades)	

POLICY ON ATTENDANCE, LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

The instructor reserves the prerogative of assigning a one-grade penalty for late exams and course projects. The due dates are on the class schedule. Ordinarily a student is not expected to inform the instructor of an absence from class. However, if the student is unable to attend class for an extended period (2 weeks or more) it will be wise to contact the instructor or to leave a message in the instructor's (phone or mail box at West Oahu) explaining the circumstances. This is particularly important when the absence will delay receipt or turning in an exam or paper on the scheduled date. Students are responsible for assuring the instructor receives assignments on time. The attendance role will be used to determine grades only when the earned grade is equally between two letter grades (it will be used to break the tie).

SCHEDULE OF COURSE MEETINGS AND SYLLABUS:

<u>WK/DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT:</u>	<u>READING ASSIGN</u>
1 Aug 28	INTRODUCTION This unit discusses the syllabus and course schedule and requirements, including a discussion on the course project paper expectations.	
	NATURE OF DEVIANCE This unit defines the nature and meaning of deviance. It discusses deviance as a process of social interaction. There will be a discussion of examples of deviance as well as attempts by society to exert social control.	Chapter 1
2 Sep 4	DEVIANT EVENTS AND SOCIAL CONTROL This unit discusses deviant roles and places. It covers the concept of social control and the informal and formal (such as the law) forms.	Chapter 2
3 Sep 11	THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF DEVIANCE There will be a discussion of trends in urbanization and the social consequences. Urban life will be viewed as a social context for norms, conflict, deviance and social change, as well as materialism, individualism and the increased concern for social control. Various sources of deviant attitudes will be explored.	Chapter 3
4 Sep 18	BECOMING DEVIANT This unit discusses the process of socialization and social roles and how deviance can occur in roles. It also looks at deviance from the perspective of the deviant. There some individualistic or psychological explanations of deviance that are covered.	Chapter 4
5 Sep 25	GENERAL THEORIES OF DEVIANCE Several general sociological theories that attempt to account for deviance will be discussed including: social pathology, social disorganization, anomie, learning. Various strengths and weaknesses of these theories will be discussed in terms of their applicability toward explaining deviant behavior.	Chapter 5

WK/DATE SUBJECT: READING ASSIGN

- 6 Oct 2 CONTEMPORARY THEORIES OF DEVIANCE Chapter 6
This section will discuss the assumptions, concepts, strengths and weaknesses of various contemporary theories of social deviance, including: control, conflict, and labeling theories. There will be discussion on how these theories can be empirically tested as well as some of the current research findings.
- 7 Oct 9 FORMS OF DEVIANCE
CRIMES AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE Chapter 7
This section will discuss how crime is defined as a form of deviance. There will be detailed consideration of assault, murder, family violence and rape as forms of deviant behavior. Also, there will be a discussion of various reactions society has toward these types of deviance.
- 8 Oct 16 NON-VIOLENT CRIMES & WHITE COLLAR CRIME Chapters 8, 9
This unit covers occasional property offenders and conventional criminal careers, political offenders, organized crime and professional offenders. It also covers white collar, computer and corporate crime.
- HAND OUT FIRST EXAM (Text Chapters 1-9)
DUE ON October 23rd.
- 9 Oct 23 DRUG USE AND ADDICTION Chapter 10
Using drugs will be considered in terms of how it is deviant, as well as socially acceptable forms of use. There will be a discussion of various forms of drug use, their causes and effects on users as well as other members of society. Various approaches to prevent and control the use or abuse of illegal drugs will be discussed.
- MID-TERM (FIRST EXAM) DUE
- 10 Oct 30 DRUNKENNESS AND ALCOHOLISM Chapter 11
This section discusses the deviant nature of alcohol abuse and some of the socially accepted aspects of use. The effects, social, biological and psychological on the user and society will be discussed, along with consideration of prevention, treatment and control.

WK/DATE	SUBJECT:	READING ASSIGN
11 Nov 6	<p>HETEROSEXUAL DEVIANCE</p> <p>Ways in which heterosexual behavior is considered deviant and conforming will be discussed. Sexual norms, roles, and identity will be considered. Various forms of heterosexual deviance will be discussed along with social control measures and their effectiveness.</p>	Chapter 12
12 Nov 13	<p>SUICIDE AS DEVIANCE</p> <p>The various types and manifestations of suicide will be discussed along with possible causes and attempts to prevent and control. The effects of suicide attempts and successful suicide on persons, family and society will be discussed. Various moral aspects including euthanasia will be considered</p>	Chapter 13
13 Nov 20	<p>PHYSICAL DISABILITIES & EATING DISORDERS AS DEVIANCE</p> <p>How physical disabilities and eating disorders are defined as deviance and societal reaction will be discussed. Disabilities will be considered in terms of socialization and management. Eating disorders will be discussed in terms of a form of deviance versus illness.</p>	Chapter 14
14 Nov 27	<p>HOMOSEXUAL DEVIANCE AND HOMOPHOBIA</p> <p>Various aspects of homosexual deviance will be discussed including: causes, patterns, prevalence, manifestations and social reactions and attempts at prevention and control.</p> <p>HAND OUT FINAL EXAMS, Due on Dec 4th.</p> <p>TERM PAPERS DUE Nov 27th.</p>	Chapter 15
15 Dec 4	<p>MENTAL DISORDERS AS DEVIANCE</p> <p>Defining mental disorders as deviant along with various theories regarding causes will be discussed. Various types of disorders will be covered, along with some of the effects upon the person as well as other members of society. There will be a discussion on prevention, treatment and ways to cope with this type of deviance.</p> <p>FINAL EXAMINATION DUE</p>	Chapter 16