

Sociology 240
Social Deviance

Instructor: Joseph E. Williams, LCSW, ACSW
Office: PPHAC 310 (610)861-1318

Spring Term 2011 (M-Wed. 1:10-2:20pm)

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Text; Clinard, Sociology of Deviant Behavior, 14th ed.

Course Objectives and Goals:

This course is designed to present both a theoretical and empirical overview of the nature and meaning of Social Deviance from a Sociological perspective. Students will develop an understanding of the role played by various forms of deviance as it effects our society. Students will be encouraged to discuss varied forms of deviance and the impact it may have for them and their primary social groups. We will also explore the impact the label of deviant has on the individual receiving the label and the socialization process involved. Social Deviance is an inescapable feature of our modern complex society.

Information and Requirements:

1. Office Hours: The instructor is available to students on an appointment basis or during regular office hours which are **Monday and Wednesday 12:30-1pm**. Please call the office to arrange for help as needed. Help is better sought earlier in the semester than later.
2. Tests: There will be two midterms and one final examination. Dates of the midterms are **Monday Feb 14,2011** and **Wednesday March 23, 2011**. The date of the final will be announced at a later time. The final is not cumulative and is simply the last test. Makeup tests will not be given without documented need and may be of an alternative form such as an oral exam.
3. An optional term paper is a possibility to help improve the final grade. Guidelines for the paper will be distributed separately. The paper is due **Monday April 11, 2011**.
4. Class attendance and participation is essential to learning. Class participation that is both regular and quality will help to improve the final grade. Students who have more than two unexcused absences will drop one final grade level—for example, a B to a B-. Excused absences include illness, family emergency, job interview, jury duty, etc. Documentation of the excuse will be requested for verification.
5. Grading: The *final grade* will be based on the average score of the examinations and the paper if done. Class participation can alter the final grade by as much as three points based on regularity and quality. The instructor reviews class participation at midterm and at the end of classes, and assigns 0-3 points based on his evaluation of quality. Grades are based on the numeric score on tests, for example 80-83 B- 84-86 B 87-89B+
6. The Academic Honesty Policy outlined in the Student Handbook will be followed as per procedures stated in that document.