SOCIOLGY 2205: THE SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE

Instructor: Salvatore Albanese  Office: B147E  Tel: 323-5723
Office Hours: MTWR 1030-1130 (or by appointment)  e-mail: salbanese@langara.bc.ca

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:
An examination of sociological theories of deviance, focusing on contemporary issues such as crime, juvenile delinquency, drug addiction, vandalism, the abuse of persons, prostitution, and mental illness. The institutional and informal systems of social control will be examined. 3:1:0

PREREQUISITES:
Two first-year Sociology courses with a minimum GPA of 2.5: Sociology 1120, and either Sociology 1121 or Sociology 1127.

COURSE CONTENT:
The word “deviance” lacks an exact meaning, both in ordinary conversation and in sociology. Roughly speaking, it means to depart from the “normal” in terms of the prevailing social rules or norms. The consequences of not conforming, or at least of being thought of as not conforming, evoke images of disrepute or disapproval as instances of attempted social control over real or imagined abnormal acts by individuals or groups. This course explores more specific definitions reflecting more specific theoretical leanings within the broad scope of the sociology of deviance. The sociological approach to deviance is intentionally wide-ranging and definitely not restricted to crime. Compared with criminology, in fact, the sociology of deviance is deliberately unconventional and therefore not entangled with institutions of the state or concerned with the making of policy. Contemporary sociological interest tends more toward critical intellectual stances rather than the empirical peculiarities of the phenomena studied.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
The successful student will be prepared to engage in further, more advanced study in the field of sociology by having acquired knowledge of:
1. The diversity of ideas about the concepts of deviance and social control
2. The logical structure of the sociological perspective in its theoretical variations
3. How each theory of deviance relates to other theories of deviance and social control
4. The chronological history of the development of sociological theories of deviance and social control
5. The major theories and perspectives, including functionalist theory, anomie theory, social disorganization theory, differential association theory, social control theory, labelling theory, and radical-Marxist-critical-deconstructionist theories
6. The reasons why deviance must be seen as a socially relative phenomenon
7. The theoretical literature and of general critical debates about deviance and social control
8. How to apply knowledge of the subject matter through direct application of sociological concepts and theories to a set of real life issues.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:
SOCIOLOGY 2205: COURSE OUTLINE


REFERENCE BOOKS ON RESERVE

OPTIONAL BOOKS
(Some of the following books can be purchased in the Langara Bookstore):
1) *Asylums* (Goffman)
2) *Stigma* (Goffman)
3) *The Barbarian Temperament* (Mestrovic)
4) *The Jack-Roller* (Shaw)
5) *Social Control in Canada* (Schissel and Mahood)

COURSE EVALUATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam I</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam II</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critique &amp; Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- There will be three examinations for this course. The first midterm exam will be worth 15 percent of the course grade; the second midterm exam will be worth 30 percent and the final exam 35 percent of the course grade. Each exam will consist of some combination of multiple choice, definition, or short-answer-type questions. Exams are intended to test for comprehension and ability to integrate material covered during the period of the semester immediately preceding the exam. In addition, the final exam will contain cumulative questions. Examinable material will include lecture and class discussion as well as required reading material from the textbook and the reader.
- The remaining 20% of course grade will be derived from a written evaluation of one of the readings in Traub & Little (15 percent of course grade) and a class presentation based on the same topic as the written report (5 percent).
- Additional information about writing topics and presentations will be provided in class.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95 – 100%</td>
<td>Distinguished Achievement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>87 – 94</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80 – 86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>75 – 79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B 71 – 74

SOCIOLOGY 2205: COURSE OUTLINE

B- 68 – 70
C+ 64 – 67 Average
C  59 – 63

C-  52 – 58 Insufficient for Advancement
D  48 – 51

F < 47 Fail

LECTURE TOPICS AND READINGS


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Ch. 1; Traub, XIII-XX (PF: Ch. 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02-04</td>
<td>Explanations of Deviance Past and Present</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Chs. 2, 3, 4, 5,6 (PF: CHs. 2-4; Su: 34-67)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Social Disorganisation Theory</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Ch. 7; Traub, Ch. II (G: 38-45; Sa: Ch. 6; PF: Ch. 5; Su: 80-84; T: 110-115/123-125)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Differential Association &amp; Subculture Theories</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Ch. 9; Traub, Ch. IV (G: 46-74; H: 89-94; PF: Ch. 8; Su: 130-136; T: 126-133)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Functionalist &amp; Anomie Theories</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Ch. 8; Traub, Ch. I and Ch. III (G: 66-77; H: 81-89; PF: CHs. 6-7; Sa: Ch. 2; Su: 15-33/101-11/126-136; T:67-90/92-110/172-192)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Social Control Theory</td>
<td>Deutschmann, Ch. 11; Traub, Ch.V (G: 112-142; H: 94-103; Sa: Ch. 7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOCIOLOGY 2205: COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 09   | Interactionist Theories | Deutschmann, Ch. 10; Traub, Ch. 6  
(G: 143-155; PF: CH 9; Sa: Ch. 3, 5; Su: 167-207; T: 140-171) |
| 10   | Cultural & Plural Conflict Theories | Deutschmann, Ch. 12; Handout; Traub: Ch. VII  
Sa: Ch. 4; Su: 105-110; T: 237-267) |
| 11-13| Marxist Theories & Emerging Theories | Deutschmann, Ch. 12 and Ch 13; Traub, Ch. VII and Ch. VIII  
(H: 136-145; PF: CHs. 10-11; Sa: Ch. 9; Su: 221-224/258-261; T: 209-236) |

Nota bene: This schedule of topics and readings may have to be changed for a variety of reasons beyond anyone’s control. Such changes could happen at any point during the semester. If a change is made it will be announced in class. There will be NO written notice provided and it is every student’s responsibility to keep informed of all announcements made in class, including dates of exams as well as changes to the teaching schedule.
COURSE POLICIES

1. Class attendance is mandatory. Regular attendance will likely be reflected in course grades. I will not provide remedial lessons or my lecture notes to any student who misses a class for any reason whatsoever. If you have to miss a class, you should ask a classmate for lecture notes or other information.

2. I expect students to complete the reading assignments on time and to participate in class discussions. I expect that students participating in these discussions will be respectful of their peers and the instructor.

3. If you miss an exam due to illness, mandatory religious observance, or other unavoidable circumstances, it is your responsibility to advise me as soon as possible of the reasons for missing the examination, and to provide appropriate documentation.

4. Research Projects turned in after the due date/time will be downgraded one full letter grade (e.g., from "B+" to "C+"") for every 24-hour period until the assignment is received. The late submission of your project will be excused only if you provide appropriate documentation of illness or other unavoidable circumstances.

5. I will not accept assignments through fax or email.

6. My regular office hours are Monday to Thursday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Other times will be made available by appointment only. I do not return calls to students’ home or cell phones.
Sociology 2205/Albanese

Presentation and Research Project Topic Confirmation Sheet

Instructions: Complete and return to the instructor for approval no later than September 22, 2003.

NAME: __________________________________________ DATE: _____________________
STUDENT NUMBER: __________________________

Research Project Topic:
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
(Must include written outline containing: 1) description of the topic and thesis statement; 2) discussion of findings; 3) conclusion).

Oral Presentation Topic (to be derived from Research Topic):
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
(To be based on one of the articles in the Traub and Little textbook. The Review you write must include: 1) a statement of the main idea of the article; 2) a list of important facts that the author
uses to support the main idea (minimum of 3 facts); 3) a description of information or ideas discussed in the article that are also discussed in Deutschmann’s textbook or other readings that you have done; 4) a list of any examples of bias or faculty reasoning that you have found in the article; 5) a list of new terms/concepts (minimum of 3 terms/concepts) that were discussed in the article, and a short definition of each term/concept).