

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



SO 302 – SOCIOLOGY OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE FALL 2018

Department of Social Sciences
MWF 10:00 A.M. – 10:50 A.M./SSB-14

Instructor: Theresa V. Rash **Office:** Social Sciences Q **Office Phone:** 662-254-3014
Email: tvrash@mvsu.edu

Office Hours:

Monday: 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Tuesday: 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Wednesday: 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Friday: 12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

All other office visits are by appointment only.

Required Text:

Clinard, Marshall B. & Meier, Robert F. 2016. Sociology of Deviant Behavior, 15th Edition.

Additional Reading will be assigned throughout the semester.

It is also recommended that students purchase a copy of the following text to aid in the formatting of written assignments:

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed.* Washington, DC: American Psychological Assn.

Course Description and Purpose (3 credit hours):

This course presents a sociological approach deviant behavior. The course has been organized into two parts: Part I presents a general approach to social deviation, describing and defining various forms, and introducing a number of key concepts (sociological, psychological, and socio-psychological). Additionally, various theories of social deviation are examined. Part II presents detailed analyses of selected forms of social deviation.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Requirements:

The textbook is required. Attendance is required. Homework and assignments are due at the beginning of class. **No late submissions will be accepted.** It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on assignments and requirements. It is your responsibility to hold yourself accountable for your own performance. Poor study habits plus failure to complete reading assignments = poor performance. Students must have a copy of this syllabus in their possession during each class meeting and may be required to produce this syllabus at any time without notice.

The objectives of this course will be pursued through required readings, class discussions, presentations, and written assignments. To that end, students must come to class prepared and actively participate in all class discussions. Preparation includes: 1) completing assigned readings prior to class, 2) noting questions or academic issues to address in class, 3) promptly attending each class session, 4) independently researching topics, and 5) submitting all assignments on time. Final evaluation of student work will be based on the quality of contributions to class discussions and performance on all assignments/exams. It is expected that all assignments be completed by deadlines indicated in the syllabus.

Course Objectives/Expected Student Learning Outcomes:

1. To analyze the sociological history of deviance, which includes ways in which societies have defined and treated those considered deviant. We will spend considerable time examining the multiple definitions of the term “deviance” and related theories/frameworks.
2. To survey various groups that have been, and/or currently, defined as deviant based on objective, sociological criteria.

Class Format and Activities:

Every reasonable effort will be made in this course to help you be successful. Class meetings will be organized on a lecture/discussions basis, with questions, comments, and discussion encouraged during all class meetings. Class meetings may also be including activities, such as videos, guest speakers, group discussions, homework assignments, and students’ presentations. Learning through instruction and self-motivation and intellectual challenge are mutual goals for professor and students and the responsibility must be mutually shared. Students must take charge of their educational goals and be fully prepared to engage in the process of learning.

Performance Evaluation:

Final Grades in SO 302 will be based on the following:

- Class Attendance and Participation,
- Required activities including, but not limited to: in-class and group discussions, oral presentations, pop quizzes, articles, gathering and analyzing information and keeping all work for future reference, and
- Assignments detailed below.

Quizzes/Exams: There will be five quizzes given during the course of the semester on the chapters/readings you are required to read. The quizzes will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true-false, matching, listing, and essays. There will be two exams (**Mid-term and Final Exam**) given this fall semester as scheduled on the course outline. The exam will be given on the same format as the weekly quizzes. Test questions will come from lecture, textbook, PowerPoint presentations, quizzes, etc.

Important Note:

All papers must be typed, double-spaced with one inch margins, maximum 12 point font, and APA style. Your paper will receive an automatic 0 if the margins or the font exceed the above limit. This means that I will not read the paper. A well-written paper successfully conveys your message. Poor grammar, sentence construction, organization and/or spelling errors make it difficult for your instructor to understand intended message and could also affect your grade.

ALL PAPERS MUST HAVE A TITLE PAGE. A reference is required only if you use your textbook and other sources (articles, books, magazines, etc.). The internet is NEVER required as a source.

Personal Definition of Crime and Deviance:

After we spent a few weeks discussing crime and deviance, students will devise a personal definition that sums up their idea of what is a crime or what is deviance. This definition should be no less than 50 words and no longer than 100 words. Special care should be taken in the development of such a definition as it can serve as your personal guidepost for the remaining class discussions. Granted there are no perfect definitions; however, make sure your definition is focused on the social world as it applies to sociology. You are also welcome to draw upon your own philosophical, theoretical, conceptual, and experiential ideologies to develop this core definition. The definition should be doubled-spaced, with a title page and a reference page (if needed). This assignment should be written using the APA format. **This assignment must be submitted through turnitin. This assignment is due Friday, September 14, 2018.**

Class Project/Group Project:

Students (group of three) are required to do a five-page research paper on a type of crime(s) that is/are occurring in our world today. Students are also required to present the paper in class using PowerPoint. You must have a minimum of five references. You **CAN NOT** use the internet as a reference. References must be in the form of peer-reviewed journal articles, magazines, newspaper, and books. **You are to submit your topic and group by Wednesday, September 12, 2018.** No one can have the same topic and the topic must be more than two words. For example, drug addiction or child abuse is not acceptable. Topics such as these may be used: How do/does crime(s) such as (list crime(s)) in the family or schools affect the community as a whole? Or, How do/does crime(s) (list crime(s)) in the community affect the family as a whole? Some crimes that we face daily are: sex trafficking, selling of drugs, domestic violence, etc..... Your topic must be approved by the instructor before you start working or writing on your paper. You must have a **title page** and a **reference page**. The title page and reference page do not count as part of the five-page research paper. **This assignment must be submitted through turnitin. The Final Paper is due Friday, November 9, 2018.**

Student Presentations:

Students (group of three) are required to present their research paper in class using PowerPoint. The presentation should be 15 minutes or longer. A minimum of 10 slides or more are required. The title page, reference page, pictures, charts or graphs are not required as part of the 10 slides for the PowerPoint. A rubric will be used to determine your grade for the presentation. A copy of your presentation must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of class on the same day of your presentation.

Articles Presentation:

Each student will present/discuss at least two articles in class that relates to crime or deviance. The articles must be a peer-reviewed article. No articles from the internet (Huffington Post, etc.) are required for this assignment.

Turnitin: You are required to submit your Personal Definition of Crime and Deviance and Research Paper through turnitin. The website is turnitin.com. To use turnitin, you must setup an account. If you already have an account, then all you have to do is login using your ID and password. Once you have created an account or if you already have an account, then you will need to submit the class ID and enrollment password for this course to submit your response paper. Your class ID is **18724978** and your enrollment password is **soccrimedev**.

NOTE: Failure to submit your Personal Definition of Crime and Deviance and Research Paper using turnitin will result in you getting an “F” on the assignments.

Make-up Policy: Students may make up assignments, quizzes, or exams under extenuating circumstances. The final decision regarding make-up work will be at the discretion of Professor Rash. There will be no drop grades in this class. There are no extra credit work in this class.

Grading Scale:

A total of 410 points is possible in this course.

Pop Quizzes (5 @ 20 points each)	100 points
Group Project Research Paper	50 points
Crime and Deviance Definition	20 points
Articles Presentation (2 @ 10 points each)	20 points
Group Project Presentation	25 points
Attendance & Class Participation	20 points
Mid-term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Total Points:	435 points

Grading Scale:

A= 90 – 100% = (391.5 - 435)

B= 89 – 80% = (348 - 390.5)

C= 79 – 70% = (304.5 - 347)

D= 69 – 60% = (261 – 303.5)

F= 59 – 0% = (217.5 - 260)

Attendance Policy:

A daily attendance sheet will be used to signify attendance. NO absence excuses a student from meeting assigned course requirements. Absences will be counted from the first day on which classes officially begin through the day on which the final exam is scheduled. Regular and punctual attendance is required for all classes and activities earning credit. Students must comply with class attendance policies set by individual faculty members and complete all work required for each course. Students who miss more than **3 classes will receive an automatic F in this class.** After the roll is signed or called, you are absent. If you leave early, you are absent. If you walk out to take a call on your cell phone, you are absent. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of absences. There will be no notification prior to being dropped from the class.

Faculty members are obligated to notify students in writing at the beginning of each semester of the policies and procedures on absences and make-up work. When students must be absent from class, they are required to make arrangements satisfactory to the instructor with regard to work missed. When students know in advance that they will be absent from class, instructors should be notified and arrangements made to secure assignments.

Students may obtain from the Vice President of Student Affairs an official excuse from class due to an emergency (illness, accidents, jury duty, or death in the immediate family) or for attendance at officially-authorized functions and authorized field trips sponsored by the University. Official absences presented to the instructor within seven days from the date of the absence entitle the students to make up any work missed.

Faculty members are required to submit absences and never attended reports to Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students who never attended class(es) will be administratively dropped from class(es) which may affect the students' eligibility for financial aid.

NOTE: Not officially withdrawing from the University may impact your financial aid and result in you owing the University.

Class Decorum:

Recently classes have gotten larger, which makes it more important for you to be punctual and courteous. Please make every effort to be on time for classes. I will make every effort to end classes on time so that you have sufficient time to reach your next class on time. Side conversations during class are very disruptive to other students listening to the lecture or participating in discussion. Personal conversation during class should be limited to matters relevant to the course and of interest to the class as a whole.

Special Needs and Accommodations:

Mississippi Valley State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with a documented disability. If you feel you are eligible to receive accommodations for a covered disability (medical, physical, psychiatric, learning, vision, hearing, etc.) and would like to request it for this course, you must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) program administered by University College. It is recommended that you visit the Disabilities Office located inside the EMAP Computer Lab in the Technical Education (IT) Building to register for the program at the beginning of each semester.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mr. Billy Benson, Jr. via phone or email at 662-254-3005 or billy.benson@mvsu.edu.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity includes a commitment to the values of honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, respect and responsibility. Academic integrity is violated by any dishonest act that is committed in an academic context. Honesty and integrity are essential values of the Mississippi Valley State University's mission to pursue truth and knowledge. Therefore, Mississippi Valley State University will not tolerate academic dishonesty in any form and will impose sanctions if clearly demonstrated. Academic dishonesty erodes the quality and value of degree conferred.

Although the faculty is responsible for establishing standards for moral and academic excellence in teaching and learning, these standards can be reached only with the cooperation and support of students. Students are expected, therefore, to accept responsibility for maintaining honesty and integrity in all acts inside and outside the classroom, studio or laboratory.

For a detailed description of sanctions and appeal procedures consult Student Handbook and/or Undergraduate Catalog.

Grade Appeals:

Any student who believes he/she has been graded unfairly, even after talking to me, may appeal that grade by following the procedures set out by the University in the Student Handbook. It is your responsibility to prove that you deserve a higher grade. Keep all copies of your work.

Diversity Policy:

All students, regardless of religious affiliation, race, color, nationality, creed or sexual orientation must feel safe within this space. Please conduct all discussions with regard to the right to human dignity and respect for all individuals.

Before Entering Class, your cell phones and pagers must be turned off/silent. No phone equipment should be visible on any person. Turned off does not mean “vibrant.” If you leave this class to answer your cell phone, you will be graded as absent for the entire class.

Absolutely no sagging pants which display your underwear or pajamas, mid-drift shirts or dresses, baseball caps, headscarves, head wraps, or sunshades are to be worn during classroom instruction.

Any student engaging in non-productive or threatening behavior or behavior considered by the instructor to be disruptive to the learning environment will be removed from the classroom.

Tentative Course Outline

Since every class progresses through material at a different rate, this schedule of classes is only a tentative outline, and will most likely be revised throughout the semester. Students are responsible for knowing what the reading assignments are prior to class time. In addition, the dates of the exams may change, but I will **not** hold an exam **earlier** than the date scheduled on the syllabus.

Week 1. August 20th – 24th:

Course Overview, Introduction to Crime and Deviance
Read Chapter 1: The Nature and Meaning of Deviance

Week 2. August 27th – 31st:

Read Chapter 1: The Nature and Meaning of Deviance
Read Chapter 2: Deviant Events and Social Control

Week 3. September 3rd – 7th:

Read Chapter 2: Deviant Events and Social Control
Read Chapter 3: Becoming Deviant

Monday, September 3rd: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY/NO CLASS

Week 4. September 10th – 14th:

Read Chapter 3: Becoming Deviant
Read Chapter 4: Major Theories of Deviance

Monday, September 10th: Last Day to Drop/Add Classes

Wednesday, September 12th: Research Topics/Groups Due

Friday, September 14th: Personal Definition of Social Problems Due in Turnitin

Friday, September 14th: Report of Non-Attendance Due

Week 5. September 17th – 21st:

Read Chapter 4: Major Theories of Deviance
Read Chapter 5: Crimes of Interpersonal Violence

Week 6. September 24th – 28th:

Read Chapter 5: Crimes of Interpersonal Violence
Read Chapter 6: Nonviolent Crime

Review for Mid-term Exam

Week 7. October 1st – 5th:

MID-TERM EXAMINATION/CHAPTERS 1-6

Week 8. October 8th – 12th:

Read Chapter 7: White-Collar and Corporate Crime

Read Chapter 8: Drug Use and Addiction

Monday, October 8th: Deadline to Submit Mid-Term Grades

Week 9. October 15th – 19th:

Read Chapter 7: White-Collar and Corporate Crime

Read Chapter 8: Drug Use and Addiction

GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Week 10. October 22nd – 26th:

Read Chapter 9: Drunkenness and Alcoholism

Read Chapter 10: Suicide

GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Week 11. October 29th – November 2nd:

Read Chapter 9: Drunkenness and Alcoholism

Read Chapter 10: Suicide

GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Friday, November 2nd: Last Day to Withdraw from a Class

Week 12. November 5th – 9th:

Read Chapter 11: Heterosexual Deviance

Read Chapter 12: Gays, Lesbians, and Homophobia

Friday, Nov. 9th: Final Research Paper Due in Turnitin

Friday, Nov. 9th: Last Day to Withdraw from the University

Week 13. November 12th – 16th:

Read Chapter 11: Heterosexual Deviance

Read Chapter 12: Gays, Lesbians, and Homophobia

Week 14. November 19th – 23rd:

FALL BREAK FOR FACULTY AND STUDENT/THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS

Week 15. November 26th – 30th:

Review for Final Examination/Make-up Work

Week 16. December 3rd – 7th:

FINAL EXAMINATION/CHAPTERS 12

Monday, December 10th: Deadline to Submit Final Grades

NOTE: This document does not constitute a contract with the University. It contains guidelines. The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary.