

# SOC-2150: DEVIANCE

---

## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: SOC-2150 : Deviance**

**Board of Trustees:**

January 2021

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2021

**Subject Code**

SOC - Sociology

**Course Number:**

2150

**Title:**

Deviance

**Catalog Description:**

Sociological examination of deviant attitudes, behaviors and conditions. Exploration of how actions come to be defined as deviant, theories of deviance, and methods of social control reaction. Different types of deviant behavior examined, including sexual deviance, crime, drugs, medical deviance, and other forms of deviant behavior.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

ENG-0995 Applied College Literacies, or appropriate score on English Placement Test; or departmental approval.

Note: ENG-0990 Language Fundamentals II taken prior to Fall 2021 will also meet prerequisite requirements.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Apply major sociological theories and approaches to understanding deviance.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

**Objective(s):**

1. Examine deviance from both macro and micro level perspectives.
2. Use positivist, constructionist, and other sociological theoretical perspectives to explain deviance.
3. Review examples of sociological empirical research related to deviance.
4. Apply a variety of sociological concepts to the study of deviance.

---

**Course Outcome(s):**

Examine how deviance relates to both self and society.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

**Objective(s):**

1. Explore how definitions of deviance change depending on the cultural context.
2. Relate aspects of the study of deviance to one's own life.
3. Discuss social and societal reactions to issues of deviance.

---

**Course Outcome(s):**

Write, discuss, and/or present a critique of a deviant topic.

**Objective(s):**

1. Review examples of sociological empirical research related to deviance.
2. Conduct a review of a specific topic related to deviance.

---

**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Quizzes and Exams
2. Group Discussions
3. Critical Thinking Exercises, Written and Oral
4. Small and Large Group Activities
5. Analysis of Deviant Issues
6. Research Activities
7. Journals

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Defining deviance
  - a. Basic concepts of deviance
  - b. Understanding deviance from a sociological perspective
    - i. Absolutist/Positivist theories
      1. Control theory
      2. Differential association theory
      3. Other theories
    - ii. Constructionist/Humanist theories
      1. Labeling theory
      2. Relativism
      3. Other theories.
2. Research methods in studying deviance
  - a. Surveys
  - b. Official data
  - c. Participant observation
  - d. Other methods
3. Exploration of various types of deviances including any of the following:
  - a. Drug and alcohol use
  - b. Suicide
  - c. Crime
  - d. Sexual deviance
  - e. Corporate deviance
  - f. Medical deviance
  - g. Deviant subcultures
  - h. Other deviances

**Resources**

Adler, P. and Adler, P. (2016) *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction*, Cengage.

---

Clinard, M.B. and Meier, R. F. (2016) *Sociology of Deviant Behavior*, Cengage.

---

Curra, J. (2020) *The Relativity of Deviance*, Los Angeles: Sage.

---

Inderbitzin, M., Bates, K. A., and Gainey, R. R. (2017) *Deviance and Social Control: A Sociological Perspective*, Los Angeles: Sage.

---

Becker, Howard. "Whose Side are we On?" 14. 1967-01-01 00:00:00.0.

---

Best, Joel and David Luckenbill. "The Social Organization of Deviants" 28. 1980-01-01 00:00:00.0.

---

Erikson, Kai T. "Notes on the Sociology of Deviance" 9. 1963-01-01 00:00:00.0.

---

Garfinkle, Harold. "Conditions of Successful Degradation Ceremonies" 61. 1956-01-01 00:00:00.0.

---

### Resources Other

1. American Sociological Association TRAILS (Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology): <http://www.asanet.org/teaching/resources/TRAILS.cfm>
2. Journals
  - a. Teaching Sociology
  - b. Deviant Behavior
  - c. Social Problems
  - d. American Journal of Sociology
3. Sociology through Documentary Film: <http://sociologythroughdocumentaryfilm.pbworks.com/w/page/17194965/FrontPage>. 2019.
4. The Sociological Cinema: <http://www.thesociologicalcinema.com/>
5. The Society Pages: <https://thesocietypages.org/> 2020.
6. Facebook group: Teaching Through a Sociological Lens

Top of page

Key: 4057