



**SOC 320.71W  
Deviant Behavior  
Spring 2018  
(Online)**

**Professor:** Louis R. Lufkin

**Office Location:** Ag/ET 222

**ONLINE Office Hours:** MWF 9am-10am [or] in-office times by appointment

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Textbook Required:** Deviance & Deviants: A Sociological Approach by William E. Thompson and Jennifer C. Gibbs. Wiley, 2017, ISBN: 978-1-118-60459-5. Books should be available in the University bookstore and from a variety of online sources.

**Course Description:** SOC 320. Deviant Behavior. 3 semester Hours. An introduction to the general phenomenon of social deviance. The course focuses on criminal as well as non-criminal deviance such as mental disorders, drug use, and prostitution. Theoretical approaches which seek to explain deviance will be critically explained.

**Student Learning Outcomes: After completing this course students should be able to:**

- ❖ Develop a sociological perspective on deviant behavior;
- ❖ Explore and critically analyze major theoretical perspectives on deviant behavior;
- ❖ Explore and critically examine research on specific types of deviant behavior;
- ❖ Develop and foster critical thinking skills and the enhancement of students' abilities to express their ideas in written and oral communication.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

**CLASS FORMAT:** This is an online course.

**POWER POINTS ONLINE:** Power Point slides have been prepared for each chapter in the textbook and are available in the Week each chapter is assigned. The slides are brief outlines and are not intended to substitute for reading the entire chapters assigned. Rather, the slides provide some (not all) of the important information related to them in your textbook.

**ONLINE DISCUSSIONS:** There will be Three (3) online discussions in e-college during the semester. They are worth 50 points each for a total of 150 course points. Start and end dates are listed in the syllabus. ***A discussion cannot be re-opened once it is closed.***

**NOTE:** Keep all discussions civil and academic/intellectual in nature. We will be dealing with controversial topics. It is essential to treat these subjects seriously and courteously. The discussions should focus on ideas, research, data, facts, and information from the textbook and class. You will have strong personal opinions about some of these topics. That is fine, but you need not share them with the class. Before you post, read what you have written. Any sentence beginning with the words "I feel . . ." or "I believe . . ." are probably better deleted. Your feelings and beliefs are important to you and we do not want to tread on them, but we also do not need to know them. **These are academic discussions, NOT therapy sessions or attempts to convince somebody else to think like you. Every discussion should reflect that you have read the material, attended class, and are applying critical sociological thinking to the topic.**

**EXAMS:** There will be Three (3) Regular exams worth 50 points each, for a total of 150 course points. There will be One (1) Final Exam worth 100 course points. The Final Exam will be comprehensive, encompassing material from the other exams, as well as remaining chapter material. The exams are scheduled in the course outline and will be taken online when designated. Adjust your schedule now--do not make plans that conflict with exam dates! **Exam grades will be posted in e-college after graded.**

**GRADES:** Final grades will be based on the Three (3) Regular Exams, Three (3) Online Discussions, and One (1) Final Exam. The following grading scale will be used to calculate final grades:

- A = 90% - 100% (360-400 pts)
- B = 80% - 89% (320-359 pts)
- C = 70% - 79% (280-319 pts)
- D = 60% - 69% (240-279 pts)
- F = Below 60% (239 and below)

### Grades will be posted in e-college

**NOTE:** We will NOT be negotiating for grades at the end of the semester. You have plenty of opportunities to earn points throughout the semester. At the end of the semester, e-college will calculate your total points and they will be applied to the scale on this syllabus. That is the grade you have earned, and that is the grade you will be assigned. (By the way, e-college reports percentages. There is a big difference between a percentage point and a raw point. For example, if you earn 69% of the 400 total points, you are not 1 point away from a C—you are actually 1 percentage point from a C which is 3 points). **EARN your points during the semester; don't try to BEG for them at the end of it.**

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Don't ask, there won't be any. Two types of students usually want to do extra credit work: those who would like to make an even "higher" A; and those who are failing the course. In either case, extra credit makes no sense. Put in the time, energy, and effort on the "regular" work and you will not need any "extra" credit.

Having said that, now view the Makeup Work – Drop policy on the next page!

## **Make-up Work – Drop Policy**

All weekly content items, assignments, and exams are available beginning 12am, each Monday of the academic week. Read this VERY carefully, because I **DO NOT** want to be asked whether or not you can make up anything you missed the deadline for. If you miss a deadline for turning in an assignment or exam, that is your business. I will not ask for, **nor do I care what the reason is or why!** You may make up one (1) missed Discussion, or Exam ONLY. The most you can earn for any makeup work is a maximum of 60%! In other words, each student **MUST** submit all work by the assigned due date and time!!! It is the student's responsibility to drop or withdraw from the course by the appropriate dates, according to the university calendar.

**In Week 16, I will ask for students to email me requests for any missed work. DO NOT ask me before Week 16!**

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

All persons who enter this classroom will be treated with dignity and respect regardless of age, race, sex, social class, religion, politics, sexual orientation, and/or lifestyle. There will be "Zero Tolerance" in this classroom for any form of ageism, racism, sexism, sexual harassment, or any other form of prejudice, discrimination, or bigotry.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Students are expected to be polite and courteous and conform to online etiquette at all times. For detailed rules on "netiquette" go to the website:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

A summary of netiquette rules are provided below.

- Rule 1: Remember the Human
- Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life
- Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace
- Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth
- Rule 5: Make yourself look good online
- Rule 6: Share expert knowledge
- Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control
- Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy
- Rule 9: Don't abuse your power
- Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

This course is taught online. Students need access to a computer (there are computer labs all over campus) in order to check e-mails and to check grades on e-college.

- Students need to have ready access to a broadband connection to the internet such as Cable, DSL, or the TAMU-C campus network. (Dial-up, satellite, or other non-broadband internet connections will not function sufficiently with eCollege.)
- A computer with a 2.0Ghz or better processor and 1 GB of RAM. MAC computers with similar configurations will also work.
- Windows XP, Vista, or 7 operating system. MAC with the OS 9 or X operating system.
- Microsoft Office or similar package with a word processor, Power Point type presentation application, and a spreadsheet application. (OpenOffice is a free, open source application that is very similar to the Microsoft Office applications and is available for download at [www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org) )

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

My primary form of communication with the class will be through announcements on eCollege, and e-mail. Any changes to the syllabus or other important information critical to the class will be disseminated to students via Announcements and your official University e-mail address available to me through MyLeo. It will be your responsibility to check your University e-mail regularly.

Students who wish to discuss an issue with me personally should do so through e-mail or through my (in person) office hours.

**Students who e-mail me can expect a reply (at MY earliest convenience) within 24 hours Monday-Thursday. Students who e-mail me during holidays or over the weekend, i.e. Friday-Sunday, can expect a reply (at MY earliest convenience) on the next regularly scheduled business day. This will be strictly adhered to!!!**

**Above all; DO NOT PANIC. There no such thing as a “sociological emergency.” Any problem that is class-related that occurs over the weekend can wait until the following Monday to be addressed.**

## **University Specific Procedures:**

All university procedures and policies will be followed in this course.

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library- Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
Email: [Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

**POLICIES ON ENROLLMENT, "X's", AND WITHDRAWAL:** All policies regarding last day for enrollment, withdrawal from class, and the use of "X" will be rigidly adhered to in this course. Students should check the student handbook, current semester schedule, and the appropriate bulletin boards, which indicate the specific deadlines for withdrawing from courses without penalty. Seeing that all university procedures are followed is the students' responsibility.

| <b>COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR</b> |  |   |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Week / Date</b>               | <b>Activity</b>  | <b>Assignment / Points</b>  |
| Week 1: begins 1/16/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Syllabus</li> <li>• Ch 1: Defining Social Deviance and Deviants</li> </ul> | n/a   |
| Week 2: begins 1/22/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 2: Deviance and Social Identity</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discussion 1</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul> |
| Week 3: begins 1/29/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 3: Popular Notions and Pseudoscientific Explanations for Deviance</li> </ul>                     | n/a   |
| Week 4: begins 2/5/17            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 4: Sociological Explanations for Deviance</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Exam 1</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul>       |
| Week 5: begins 2/12/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 5: Deviant Occupations</li> </ul>  | n/a   |
| Week 6: begins 2/19/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 6: Sexual Deviance</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discussion 2</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul> |
| Week 7: begins 2/26/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 7: Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse</li> </ul>  | n/a   |
| Week 8: begins 3/5/17            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 8: Physical and Mental Deviance</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Exam 2</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul>       |
| Week 9: begins 3/12/17           | <b>SPRING BREAK – STAY SAFE AND UN-INCARCERATED</b>  | n/a   |
| Week 10: begins 3/19/17          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 9: Suicide and Self-harm</li> </ul>  | n/a   |
| Week 11: begins 3/26/17          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 10: Beyond the Range of Tolerance Extreme Deviance</li> </ul>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discussion 3</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul> |
| Week 12: begins 4/2/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 11: Violence, Street Crime, and Delinquency</li> </ul>   | n/a   |
| Week 13: begins 4/9/17           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 12: Corporate Crime and Elite Deviance</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Exam 3</b> (50 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul>       |
| Week 14: begins 4/16/17          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 13: Cyberdeviance</li> </ul>   | n/a   |
| Week 15: begins 4/23/17          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch 14: Deviance, Deviants, and Social Control</li> </ul>  | n/a   |
| Week 16: begins 4/30/17          | <b>DEAD WEEK – MAKEUP REQUESTS ARE DUE: Tuesday, 11:59pm</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Final Exam</b> (100 pts) due Friday 11:59pm</li> </ul>  |
| Week 17: begins 5/7/17           | <b>Final grades are posted this week</b>   | n/a   |