

Texas A&M University – Texarkana
CJ 320 Course Syllabus
Deviance and Deviant Behavior
Fall 2015

I. Locator Information

Instructor: Charles Kreidler, MSIS
Adjunct Instructor

Office Hours: Not Applicable (as an adjunct instructor, no office hours are listed)
The instructor will meet with students at the University on an appointment basis in extreme circumstances. However, the best form of contact will be during or after scheduled classes, e-mail and phone.

Contact: Phone: Provided in Class
E-Mail: charles.kreidler@tamut.edu

II. Course Description

This course introduces the general phenomenon of social deviance with primary emphasis given to non-criminal deviants and deviations including mental disorders, drug use and prostitution. Attention is given to theoretical issues and demographic characteristics. Pre-requisites: SOCI 1301. (Cross-listed with SOC 320)

III. Course Objectives

- 1) Understanding the nature of deviance;
- 2) Learning how deviance may be socially constructed; and
- 3) Surveying the nature and spread of certain types of deviance.

IV. Student Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- 1) Identify and understand the prevailing sociological theories of deviance and deviant behavior;
- 2) Understanding the nature of deviance;
- 3) Learning how deviance may be socially constructed; and
- 4) Surveying the nature and spread of certain types of deviance.

V. Textbook

Required Textbooks/Resources: Thio, Alex and Taylor, J. 2013. Deviant Behavior (11th edition). New York: Allen and Bacon. ISBN: 9780205205165 (Text)

VI. Course Evaluation and Grading Scale

1. Two Exams	200 Points
2. Term Paper	100 Points
3. <u>Two Progressive Tests</u>	<u>100 Points</u>
Total	400 Points

Scale: 360 – 400	A
320 – 359	B
280 – 319	C
240 – 279	D

Exams will cover the readings and lectures and will likely have a combination of multiple choice, true/false and essay questions. Specifics on the term paper assignment will be announced in class with a rubric to be distributed to students.

Classes consist of lecture, discussion, and testing. Students are required to actively participate in class discussions based on reading assignments. It is the student's responsibility to acquire the information conveyed during class, whether present or not.

Homework assignments: Adequate preparation for class, e.g., completing the readings and assignments by the date listed in the syllabus, is expected. Writing assignments are due as directed. Normally, they are to be typewritten (or use a word-processor) with double spacing on letter size paper. **Quality, not quantity, is what matters.** Due dates are deadlines. Unless a verifiable and valid emergency arises, late works will be penalized or rejected.

Discussion sessions: Cooperative exchange among students is an important component of the instructional methods used in this course. During discussion sessions each student is expected to participate actively in an informed way. Everyone will be given opportunities to make brief presentations based on assigned readings, and lead class discussions.

Make up policy: Students must take all exams as scheduled. A make-up test will only be issued in cases of a verifiable and legitimate emergency, and must be officially justified.

VII. Schedule of Activities

- 8-25 Introduction – Review of Syllabus – Chapter 1
- 9-1 Chapters 1 & 2
- 9-8 Chapter 3
- 9-15 Chapter 4 **Term Paper Topics Due (Title and Two Sources)**
- 9-22 Chapter 5 **Progressive Test #1**
- 9-29 Chapter 6 & 7 **Progressive Test #1 Due**
- 10-6 Chapter 8
- 10-13 Chapter 9 **Mid-Term Exam (In Class)**
- 10-20 Chapter 10
- 10-27 Chapter 11 **Progressive Test #2**
- 11-3 Chapter 12 **Progressive Test #2 Due**
- 11-10 Chapter 13
- 11-17 Chapter 14 **Term Papers Due**
- 11-24 Open
- 12-1 Chapter 15
- 12-8 Final Exam **(In Class)**

VIII. Course Requirements:

Students are expected to:

- 1) Read the assigned material before each class and be prepared for discussion,
- 2) Take examinations covering the lectures and reading materials,
- 3) Complete writing assignments, including a term paper and progressive tests.

IX. Student Participation

Participation Policy: The completion of assignments, readings, and participation in classroom discussions and group work are routine expectations. Participation includes frequently volunteering for class and group discussions, practicing effective listening skills, and being receptive of others' ideas and opinions.

X. Course Etiquette: The following is expected of each student:

- Class attendance with punctuality
- Ability to meet deadlines ability to utilize constructive feedback
- Appropriate organizational skills
- Appropriate collaboration skills
- Respectful attitude towards instructor and other students
- Professional and ethical behavior throughout the semester

XI. Disability Accommodation:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223- 3062.

XII. Academic Integrity:

Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaborations, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and copying or undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty, and may be grounds for a grade of “F” in the course and/or disciplinary action. The student is responsible for reading and understanding the University Policy on Academic Integrity.

XIII. A&M-Texarkana Email Address:

Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

XIV. University Drop Policy:

To drop this course after the 12th class day, a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website (<http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html>) or obtained in the Registrar’s Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email (Registrar@tamut.edu), mail (P. O. Box 5518, Texarkana, TX 75505) or fax (903- 223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.