Required Readings

TEXT:

RESERVED READINGS: Listed in the "course outline" section of the syllabus.

Course Objective
This course is a sociological analysis of "behaviors that are likely to be defined as unacceptable violations of major social norms that elicit negative reactions by social control agents." We will examine the nature, extent, distribution, explanations of, and public-policy responses to the violations of selected social norms. Our objective is to expose students to the major theoretical, methodological and substantive issues in the field. To achieve this objective requires, however, a sacrifice of some depth for comprehensiveness.

Course Requirements
Your final grade in this course will be based on the following:

- First Examination --- 30 percent
- Second Examination ---- 30 percent
- Final Examination ---- 40 percent
- TOTAL                  100 percent

All exams must be taken at the scheduled times and place. Make-ups and/or extra credits will not be allowed unless for validly supported medical and/or personal emergencies. Exams are in-class, and in essay format. Exam questions require thoughtful, analytical and comprehensive answers. Students are strongly advised to read the instructions on every examination before they begin to write their answers. Blue ("Examination") books are required for all exams.
Student Learning Outcomes

- Define and explain the different conceptions of deviant behaviors

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the different Sociological theories of deviant behaviors.

- Distinguish among, and assess the strengths and weaknesses of, the different methods in deviant behavior research.

- Discuss the nature, prevalence, explanations of and public-policy responses to specific deviant behaviors including (but not limited to) drug abuse, sexual deviations, mental illness, murder, and white-collar crimes.

Course Format

All class instructions will comprise straight lectures and discussion. The first 60 minutes of every class meeting will be spent on lectures. There will be a ten-minute break followed by another 50 minutes of lectures. The last 30-minutes are reserved for questions, discussions and/or debates. This format is preferred, not mandatory. On days when videos are used to buttress class lectures, or when guest speakers are invited to teach, the suggested class format may change.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call (361) 825-3466.

Disability Services

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 believe that you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disabilities Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Grade Appeals Process
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at:

For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu.about/student-resources.html.

Course Outline

Jan. 16-18  -Introduction: Instructor, Course and Students
- Critical Thinking in Sociology of Deviant Behavior (Reading 1)


Jan 30- Feb 01- Theories and Typologies of Deviance (C&M 3-4) Monk, Richard "Are General Theories of
crime useful?" Taking Sides pp74-93

Feb. 06 -First Exam

Feb. 08-15 -Drug use as deviance (C&M 8&9)

Feb.20-Mar 01. -Sexual Deviance (C&M 11&12) Martin, P.Y. and Hummer, R.A. "Fraternities and Rape on Campus" In Patricia Adler and Peter Adler’s Construction of Deviance

Mar. 06-08 Mental & Physical Disabilities (C&M 10&14,)
Rosenhan, D.L. "On Being Sane in Insane Places" In Rubinton, E and Weinberg, M Deviance The Interactionist Perspective *Herman, N. Return to Sender: Reintegrative Stigma Management Strategies of Ex-Psychiatric Patients in Patricia Adler and Peter Adler’s Construction of Deviance

Mar. 12-16 - Spring Break

Mar. 20 - Second Examination

Mar 22-Apr 05 - Crime Criminal Behaviors: Definition, typology, extent, and distribution.


Apr. 10-12 - White-Collar Crime (C&M 7)
Goode, E. "Are all White Collar Criminals Rich and Powerful?" Deviant Behavior pp360-361

Apr.17-19 - Terrorism: Reading 2
May 08  - Final Exam (4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.)

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate students' and/or instructional needs.