



Course Outline – Sociology of Deviance

School of Behavioural and Social Sciences

General Information

Course #: SOC2259

Section #: 530

Term: FALL 2021-WINTER 2022

Year: 2021-22

Delivery: *In-Person*

Class times: Tuesdays 830am-1130am in UH 250

Instructor Information

Name: Jennifer Reynolds

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Office hours for students: Tuesdays 1130-1230; By Appointment, via ZOOM

Course Description

In this course we will discuss the meaning of inclusion and exclusion in the everyday world. We will examine the ways in which individuals, and groups, become labeled and treated as “deviant” or “deviants” and the reasons behind society’s need to distinguish between deviance and normalcy.

We will examine a variety of sociological theories and debates regarding conformity and deviance, as well as key contemporary issues in the field – for instance, physical appearances, body image, mental illness, violence, gender, and sexuality. We will place our emphasis not only at looking at formal mechanisms and institutions of social control, but also at looking into the informal modes of social control (labeling) at play in distinguishing between the deviant and the non-deviant.

In this course, students are encouraged and expected to be reflective about how they participate in deviance, both as conformists and deviants, as to be critical of the social construction of normalcy.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from: Sociology 1020, Sociology 1021E, Sociology 1025A/B, Sociology 1026F/G, Sociology 1027A/B.

Required Course Materials

Bereska, Tami M. 2018. Deviance, Conformity, and Social Control (5th Edition). Toronto: Pearson.

(*You can obtain an electronic copy via the Publisher here:

<https://www.pearson.com/store/p/deviance-conformity-and-social-control-in-canada/P100000536884/9780134672748>)

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use their sociological imagination and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between social control and deviance.
2. Distinguish between objectivist and subjectivist approaches to studying and explaining deviance.
3. Apply sociological theories and ideas to specific types/examples of deviance.
4. Engage critically with text, film, and in-class discussions of deviance.
5. Analyze the process by which deviant identities are acquired, managed, and transformed.
6. Recommend new perspectives (strategies) for crime control and penal reforms in Canada.

A key objective of this course is for you to develop a new, critical perspective on the study of deviance that challenges your assumptions about what deviance is, why it exists, and how it is created.

Brescia Competencies

You will develop the Brescia competencies at introductory and intermediate levels in this course. The Brescia competencies include:

Communication

The ability to exchange information and meaning effectively across cultures, space and time through appropriate modes of communication. Includes oral, written, and interpersonal or group communicate, as well as the ability to use current or innovative media.

Critical Thinking

The ability to engage in thinking characterized by the rational, informed, independent, and open-minded exploration of issues, ideas, and events before accepting or formulating a conclusion.

Inquiry and Analysis

The ability to reach informed decisions by breaking down complex issues, exploring evidence, demonstrating information literacy, and describing relationships among persons, things, or events.

Problem Solving

The ability to create and execute a strategy to answer a question or achieve a goal. Includes being able to anticipate the consequence of a potential solution, select a strategy among several alternatives, and decide when an acceptable outcome has been reached.

Self Awareness and Development

The ability to draw meaning, knowledge and value from honest and fair reflection and self-evaluation. Students are able to recognize their values and their impact on others, and make a commitment to personal growth.

Social Awareness and Engagement

The ability to respect and be open to diversity (e.g. cultural, religious, political). Students take personal responsibility to actively engage in and contribute to creating positive change in local, regional, national, or global communities and societies.

Valuing

The ability to make decisions or choose actions based on the consistent application of moral principles and ethical codes. Students must also be able to understand the ideas informing one's beliefs and be accountable for their actions.

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

Course Delivery

This course will consist run in-person on Tuesdays from 830-1130am. Each week we will cover 1-2 topics, and I will post lectures, along with readings, documentaries, etc. based on that week's topic. You will find all of the relevant information for each class posted under Course Content on OWL. You will also use our OWL site for uploading your completed exercises and assignments, reviewing feedback on graded materials, and checking your marks.

E-mail

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the course please email me. I will do my best to return all emails within 24 hours.

If you would like to schedule a Zoom meeting with me, please send a request via email and use "SOC2259" as part of the subject line.

Office Hours

I will hold office hours after class on Tuesdays after class from 1130-1230.

I will also be holding online office hours using Zoom by appointment. If you would like to schedule a time to meet, please e-mail me with a list of times that you are available, and with a brief description of what you would like to discuss. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason – whether it be related to the course, related to future prospects (interest in graduate school, career aspirations),

chatting about sociology or events in general – I am here for you and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Zoom is a webconferencing app that is free to Western students. Instructions for downloading and running Zoom can be found at: <https://wts.uwo.ca/zoom/>. IMPORTANT: When logging in to Zoom, select *Sign In with SSO*. On the Sign In with SSO screen, enter *westernuniversity*, then click Continue. You will login to Zoom using your Western user ID and password.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Evaluation

Your grade for this course will be based on:

(1) Participation (10%)

In order to receive marks for participation, you must partake in class throughout the term. We might engage in a case study, watch a short documentary, go through a series of discussion questions, etc. Since the class is relatively small this term (approx. 15 students), facilitating discussion should be relatively easy. It is possible, as well, that we might do some group work during these sessions, and it is certainly my intent to make them as interactive as possible while maintaining physical distancing. You will be marked on your ongoing contribution to the discussion, your interaction with peers, and the insight you bring. NOTE: This is not an attendance mark.

(2) Exams (Exam 1: 15%, Exam 2: 20%, Exam 3: 20% = 55%)

There will be THREE exams written throughout the course of the academic year. The questions will include multiple choice, short-answer and essay type questions.

The examinations will cover a variety of course material (lectures, assigned readings, films, etc.). Students are responsible for material covered in class regardless of whether they are present for each class. It is important to note that you are responsible for taking lecture notes/accessing notes from fellow students. It might be helpful to make contact with a colleague early in the course in case it becomes necessary for you to miss a class.

(3) Documentary Critical Reflections (2 x 7.5% each = 15%)

There will be several short films and documentaries shown in class throughout the course academic year. You must write a critical reflection on 2 of the films/documentaries shown, wherein you think critically while analyzing the issue outlined in the movie, ensuring that you relate it to course material. To do well on this assignment, you are expected to go beyond a comprehensive overview of the documentary and delve into the issues at hand. Your ability to critically engage in this manner will be very useful when it comes time to write, and submit, your Stigma Paper (see below).

Your assignments should be written in essay form and should be approximately 4-5 typed pages (double-spaced). Documentary analyses are due ONE WEEK after the film is shown in class. These will be discussed in more detail early on in the Fall 2021 term.

(4) Stigma Paper (20%)

A detailed outline of this assignment will be posted online and discussed in-class.

In addition to the final draft copy, you will be required to submit a quick online 'proposal' by Feb. 15th (11:55pm). Doing this will help you to get thinking about the assignment prior to the due date, and will allow you to receive feedback on your topic prior to the submission of your final paper. The completed paper is due on April 12th by 11:55PM.

Evaluation Breakdown: (OG = Ongoing)

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Learning Outcome	Brescia Competencies
Participation in Class	10%	OG	All	All
Exam #1	15%		All	1, 2,3,4
Exam #2	20%		All	1, 2,3,4
Documentary Analyses	15%	OG	All	All
Stigma Paper	20%		All	All
Final Exam	20%	TBD	All	1,2,3,4

Academic Accommodation

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

For course components worth less than 10% of the total course grade, documentation will be required. Medical or other supporting documentation should be submitted to your Academic Advisor.

Course Content/ Schedule

FALL 2021

Date	Topic	Required Readings
<i>Sept. 14</i>	Course Introduction & Defining Deviance	
<i>Sept. 21</i>	Objectivist vs. Subjectivist Approaches to Understanding Deviance; Social Typing; the Role of the Media	B: Ch. 1 & 4
<i>Sept. 28</i>	Early Theories of Deviance <i>Film: Burning Times</i>	None
<i>Oct. 5</i>	Positivist Theories: Biological, Psychological	B: Ch. 2 (33-36)
<i>Oct. 12</i>	Functionalist, Learning Theories, Control Theories	B: Ch. 2 (37-64)
<i>Oct. 19</i>	Interpretivist	B. Ch. 3 (68-77)
<i>Oct. 26</i>	Critical Theories Exam Overview <i>Film: TBA</i>	B: Ch. 3 (79-91) *No feminist theory*
<i>Nov. 2</i>	FALL BREAK	
<i>Nov. 4</i>	EXAM #1	Covers Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Nov. 11</i>	Stigma & The Labeling Process	Goffman
<i>Nov. 18</i>	Special Topic: TBD	
<i>Nov. 25</i>	Physical Appearance	B: Ch. 7
<i>Dec. 2</i>	<i>Film: Elf</i>	
<i>Sept. 9</i>	Objectivist vs. Subjectivist Approaches to Understanding Deviance; Social Typing; the Role of the Media	

WINTER 2021

Date	Topic	Required Readings
Jan. 4	Feminist Theories: Constructions of Masculinity and Femininity <i>Film: Codes of Gender</i>	B: Ch. 3 (85-86) Readings on OWL
Jan. 11	Sexuality & Deviance I: Deviant Sexuality	B: Ch. 5
Jan. 18, 25	Sexuality and Deviance II: Sex Trade Workers, Domestic and Sexual Violence	Readings on OWL
Feb. 1	<i>Film: Human Trafficking</i>	
Feb. 8	EXAM #2	
Feb. 15	Deviant & Youth Subcultures <i>Film: TBD</i> *STIGMA PROPOSAL DUE*	B: Ch. 6
Feb. 22	READING WEEK	
Mar. 1	Medicalization of Deviance <i>Film: D. Reimer Story</i>	B: Ch. 9 (268-281)
Mar. 8	Mental Illness and Deviance <i>Film: Selling Sickness</i>	B: Ch. 8
Mar. 22	Police and Deviance <i>Film: TBD</i>	Readings on OWL
Mar. 29	Extreme Deviance	Readings on OWL
Apr. 5	Special Topic: TBD	Readings on OWL
Apr. 12	Course Conclusions: Different Ability, Transformation, Reintegration *STIGMA PAPER DUE*	B: Ch. 10
TBA	FINAL EXAM (April exam period)	

2021-22 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12 .

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed **a maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such

requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor (https://www.brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/index.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements maybe different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls

within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia** (https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php .

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
