

Recitation Syllabus - Sociology 1004-010
Deviance in U.S. Society
Spring 2009

Section 012 – Monday, 1:00-1:50 PM – HUM 190

Section 013 – Wednesday, 9:00-9:50 AM – MCOL E186

Section 011 – Wednesday, 1:00-1:50 PM – CLRE 104

Teaching Assistant: Traci L. Lacock

Traci.Lacock@Colorado.edu

Office - Ketchum 8

Office Hours: Monday 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Wednesday 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 am; 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. & by appointment

Course Description: This course will introduce you to the concept of deviance in society as it is understood and studied by sociologists. We will touch on a variety of theories and topics. Deviant behavior can be examined in a variety of ways. We will cover all of the varying perspectives. Additionally, deviance can be understood as a good thing as well as a major social problem. The major goal of this course is to provide you with a solid foundation of knowledge regarding deviance and a set of sociological tools that will enable you to understand how this very powerful concept impacts our day-to-day experiences. Some of the material discussed in class will be controversial; however, these issues are extremely important to the goals of the class. Topics addressed may make some feel uncomfortable.

Required Texts

- *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction.* (6th Edition) Edited by Patricia A. Adler and Peter Adler
- Occasional readings that will be distributed via email throughout the semester.

Grading

Recitation constitutes 40% of your grade (100 points) for the course. These 100 points are based on your class participation, attendance, and bi-weekly essays broken down as follows.

Attendance –	50 points
Critical Reaction Essays –	30 points
Short paper –	20 points

The standard CU grade scale will apply.

If you have any uncertainty related to assignments or don't understand why you have received a certain grade, you may visit me during office hours or schedule another time for us to talk. However, be aware that I will most likely NOT change any grades. If you are uncertain of the parameters of course assignments, talk to me before the assignment is due.

*Note: According to Sociology Department policy, no more than 25% of students in a lower division course can receive "A"s. Thus, the grading of assignments will be based of students' work relative to others.

Course Requirements

Class Participation & Readings

The recitation will primarily be discussion based. Therefore, every student is expected to do all assigned readings prior to their recitation and participate in class discussions. I will pose questions, moderate/facilitate discussions and clarify points from the reading on occasion, but students should be prepared to participate. My role in the recitation is to help you improve your critical thinking skills by posing questions. Your contribution to the discussion should help to keep us on track, facilitating the discovery of the meaning and complexity of issues raised by the text. You will have the chance to contribute to both large and small group discussion.

The readings will be the same to those assigned in the main lecture. However, throughout the semester I will be distributing related readings. These readings will be required when assigned.

You are responsible for everything said in recitations, including changes to assignments, so if you must miss, you should contact a fellow student to get the information.

Class Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. In order to participate in discussion, students must be present in class. Students who miss two days lose 10 points, three days - 20 points, four days – 30 points, five days – 40 points, and six days (or more) – 50 points. Students with University excused absences should present documentation to me before the missed class. It is advisable that you always let me know before an absence prior to your recitation, whether excused or unexcused.

Excessive tardiness should be avoided. Should this become a problem, I reserve the right to deduct attendance points. If there are circumstances, (such as a class on the other side of campus just before the recitation), that prevent you from making it to class on time, I should be informed as soon as possible.

You are responsible for signing the roll sheet every class, as I cannot do anything to change your attendance if you do not sign it, no matter what other evidence you may have.

Critical Reaction Essays

I will be assigning essays throughout the course of the semester. The assignment will be given in class. The topic will be in relation to your readings for the lecture of the corresponding week. These essays are designed to improve your critical thinking skills and prepare you for the paper that will be due later in the semester.

The length of these assignments will vary. Assignments are to be turned in to me in **paper form** during your recitation . **I do not accept late assignments. If I receive the critical reaction essay after the recitation to which it is due you receive no credit.** There will be (3) critical reaction essay assignments that will be worth 10 points each.

Short paper

The short paper will be a 3-4 page essay, with references, that addresses a specific issue from the class. Guidelines and topic will be made available to you well in advance of the due date.

It is advisable that you keep all sent and received emails (and/or returned papers) for the course in the event that there is a dispute over grades.

Disability Statement

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard Hall 322, and www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices.

Religious services and holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, please inform me **before** the event or holiday and I will accommodate you. If you inform me after the event or holiday, I will not accommodate you. Students can see full details of this policy at www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Classroom Behavior and Lateness Policy

Students and faculty each have a responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the responsibility to treat students with understanding, respect and dignity, to guide

classroom discussion, and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions.

There are topics in my classes that are controversial, medically oriented and occasionally personal and graphic. Please understand that my intent is to provide information, not to influence your opinions, or make outrageous statements or assertions. Every opinion is treated with respect and your right to hold that opinion is protected.

If you are going to be late with an assignment, absent for a test, or absent from a required presentation or class you **MUST inform me prior to the event in question**. This rule **INCLUDES** illness, deaths in the family, official university related absences, and any other event. No exceptions.

Honor Code Policy

All students of the University of Colorado are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of the institution. Violations of this policy include:

- a] cheating
- b] plagiarism (document sources very carefully and rigorously)
- c] aiding others in academic dishonesty,
- d] fabrication and lying,
- e] bribery and
- f] threatening behavior.

All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council. If you are found to be in violation of University policy, you will be subject to sanctions from the instructor and the University including but not limited to probation, expulsion, and suspension. The Honor code can be found at www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html.

Sexual Harassment

The University of Colorado policy on sexual harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises that create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment can occur between members of the opposite sex, those of the same sex, students, staff, faculty or administrators, and may occur anywhere on the campus or related to campus activities. Any student, faculty or staff who believes that he/she has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Further information may found at www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment.

Email Policy

You need to allow 24 hours after you send an email for me to respond. Additionally, if you email me the day before an assignment is due it is unreasonable to expect a response.