COURSE DESCRIPTION

Much social scientific interest has been focused on the fascinating area known as deviant behavior, often referred to as the study of "nuts, sluts and perverts" (Liazos 1972). Social scientists have pondered rape, robbery and drug addiction. They have questioned why people kill and who they victimize. They have asked why women turn to prostitution and who their “johns” tend to be. They have wondered why society chooses to define some acts as deviance and others as normal. And they have puzzled over the meaning of deviance for society. These and other issues will be raised in this class, which will involve a discussion of theory and research on deviant behavior.

I would like you to leave this course with (1) an understanding of sociological theory as it pertains to socially defined deviant behavior in our society; (2) an expanded knowledge of particular forms of socially defined deviant behavior including murder, rape, corporate/government crime, prostitution, and LGBTQ issues, among others; and (3) a basis for critical thinking about the nature of deviant behavior in our society largely in terms of its future ramifications.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on two exams, two book discussion quizzes, two critical analysis papers, any other quizzes or assignments given in class, and attendance. The due date for the papers and dates for the exams and book discussion day quizzes will be "written in stone" unless you have been informed otherwise by me. Late papers will not be accepted, nor can exams or book discussion day quizzes be rescheduled unless you inform me before the dates in question. If I don’t hear from you before the due date of the papers, before the dates of the exams, or before the dates of the book discussion day quizzes, you will be out of luck. In the interest of clarity, let us further break down the components of the grade.

Exams

Exams will include both multiple choice and essay questions. Each exam will entail no less than 50 and up to 100 multiple choice questions and a choice of one essay question out of four. The final is NOT cumulative. There will be no review for either exam; your exam grades will stand or fall based on your notes and your reading; therefore, thorough notes are a must. Sometimes an optional final may be offered. This would mean that a student may opt to keep the grade they are getting so far in the class or choose to take the final to better their grade. If they take the final, it will count toward their final grade. If an optional final is offered, and there is no guarantee that it will be, it will be announced the day of the final exam and the criteria used to determine whether or not a student has an option will include the student’s attendance and the student’s grade standing going into the final exam period. This means that even a student with an “A” grade going into the final might have no option if their attendance is poor. If an optional final is offered, qualifying students can opt to take the final or remain for a discussion; they can not simply leave. All students should, of course, prepare to take a final exam in any case.

Book Discussions and Quizzes (2)

Each of the two assigned books will be discussed on two scheduled days in the semester. There will be a quiz given in class on the assigned book before the book discussion. Each quiz will entail 7-25 short answer questions.
Critical Analysis Papers (2, 4-5 pages, TYPED Double-spaced)

The two critical analysis papers cover two books: *Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation* by Jonathan Kozol, and *Our Guys: The Glen Ridge Rape and the Secret Life of the Perfect Suburb* by Bernard Lefkowitz. The papers should cover three things: 1. a **thesis section** [no more than a page and a half]--this is an introduction to the paper and must include the name of the book you are using (do not put the name of a book in quotes, it should be **underlined**), and a clearly stated thesis or list of the theory(ies) you will be using in the paper (this section can be as dramatic as you choose to make it); 2. an **analysis section** [three to four pages]--this entails a one-to-one correspondence between the theory(ies) and the book/article, starting with a brief definition of the theory in your own words, followed by your choice of a corresponding aspect, character, or scene from the book/article that serves as a clear illustration of the theory (you may find more than one). You may use quotes to enhance your point but make them very brief, indented, and single-spaced. Make no mistake, you **must** use at least one **sociological** theory covered in class; while outside theory must be cited and included in a bibliography. You should use now more than two theories in your entire paper. With too many theories your theoretical arguments become brief and lacking in intellectual depth or thoroughness. Remember to refer back to theory after each illustration. This is, after all, a theoretical analysis. The theory section should look something like this:

**Definition (of the theory in your own words)**
**Proof (illustration from the book/article)**
Optional tie back (it often helps to refer back to the theory you are using at the end of the proof, coming full circle on your analysis)

This sequence should happen at least twice or more in the short space of 4 pages; and 3. a **critique or evaluation section** [no more than a paragraph]--this section can also be as dramatic as you choose to make it and must entail a personal opinion of the book/article, the task, or both--it is not meant to be a summary of what you have already written. **Please DO NOT use a cover page; simply type your name and class information in the upper left hand corner of the first page. Please DO NOT use any kind of folder. PROOFREAD!!** Poor grammar, spelling, etc... will suffer grade reduction. Also watch font and margin space. Keep font to no more than 12pt (as long as it is not Courier New) and margins to no more than 1 inch on each side. Your grade will be reduced for large font and margins.

Other Quizzes, Assignments, and Miscellaneous Information…

I reserve the right to give quizzes and/or assignments as needed when I feel discussion of reading and general discussion is diminishing and/or when attendance drops. For example, students who don’t complete readings may be asked to turn in an essay assignment. If assignments are given, they will count toward your final grade. **Attendance** will be taken regularly, and class **participation** is also considered significant to your grade.

**REQUIRED READING**


Reserve readings can be found using the Marriott Library website which is [http://www.lib.utah.edu/](http://www.lib.utah.edu/). When you get to this site, look to the right hand side on the bottom and you will find the My.Utah.edu Student Portal. Login using your uNID and your password. Once you are logged in, on the left hand menu, click on the Academics option that has a little symbol of a graduation cap. Then, in the middle column under My Courses, you should see all the courses for which you have registered for the current semester. You should find Sociology 3560-001. Underneath that you should find Course Reserves. You can click on Course Reserves and it will bring up all the readings for the course.
DATES YOU SHOULD KNOW

23 Sept: Exam #1  
19 Oct: Book Discussion and Quiz on Amazing Grace  
21 Oct: Critical Analysis Paper Amazing Grace  
11 Nov: Book Discussion and Quiz on Our Guys  
16 Nov: Critical Analysis Paper Our Guys  
16 Dec: Final Exam

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST

AUG
24  Introduction  
   What is Deviant Behavior?  Start reading Amazing Grace by Jonathan Kozol

26-31  Positivist/Traditional Theories of Deviance and Humanist/Modern Theories of Deviance  
   Alex Thio: Chapters 1 -3  
   Reserve Reading: William J. Chambliss, David L. Rosenhan, Philip Zimbardo

SEPT
2  Power and Deviance/A Theoretical Integration  
   Reserve Reading: William J. Chambliss, Larry A. Gould, John Braithwaite and Gilbert Geis, Jeffrey H. Reiman

6  Labor Day

7  Power and Deviance continued

9-14  Physical Violence: Homicide  
   Reserve Reading: Henry H. Brownstein, Samuel Walker et al, Herbert Kelman and V. Lee Hamilton

16-21  Physical Violence: Homicide, Serial Homicide, Genocide  
   Reserve Reading: Samantha Power

23  Exam #1

28-30  Sexual Violence: Forcible Rape  
   Reserve Reading: Diana Scully and Joseph Marolla

OCT
5-7  Sexual Violence: Forcible Rape continued  
   Reserve Reading: Ruth Seifert, Dennis M. Rome

11-16  Fall Break

19  Book Discussion and Quiz on Amazing Grace (Book should be read by this date)

21  Critical Analysis Paper Due on Amazing Grace

18-28  Sexual Deviance: Focus on Prostitution  
   Reserve Reading: Claire E. Sterk, Claire E. Sterk

NOV
2-9  Homophobia, Heterosexism and Their Targets: LGBTQ Individuals  
   Reserve Reading: Pepper Schwartz and Virginia Rutter, June Jordan, Kent Sandstrom

11  Book Discussion and Quiz on Our Guys (Book should be read by this date)

16  Critical Analysis Paper Due on Our Guys
16  Domestic Violence: Abuse of Partners
    Reserve Reading: Faith McNulty, Faith McNulty

18-30  Legal and Illegal Drug Use
    Reserve Reading: Patricia Adler and Peter Adler, Henry H. Brownstein, Jenn Shreve, Scott Rosenberg

25-26  Thanksgiving Break

DEC  2  Legal and Illegal Drug Use continued

7-9  The Gift of Intuition

16  Final Exam: Thursday, 10:30am-12:30am

* The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

**If you are a student athlete, I want you to give me a list of the exact dates when you are excused from the class due to athletic events. This means that a general calendar given to you by the athletic department is not good enough. See me.
RESERVE READING LIST

Labeling Theory and Phenomenological Theory


Conflict and Power Theories

Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Homicide


Rape


Prostitution


LGBTQ

Abuse of Women

Illegal Drug Use