

CRM/SOC 2780 – The Sociology of Deviant Behavior (3 credit hours)

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology
Eastern Illinois University
Spring 2024

Professor: Dr. Caitlin Lynch

Meeting Time: MWF 12:00-12:50PM

Meeting Location: Blair Hall 2103

Email: clynch2@eiu.edu

Office Hours: MW 1:00-2:00,

TR 10:00-12:00PM, and by appointment

Office Location: Blair Hall 3131

Catalog Course Description: Historical and structural analysis of changing notions of definitions, etiology, and treatment of deviant behavior. Contemporary theory and research will be employed to illustrate recent trends and political consequences of such trends.

Overview: This course provides students with a sociological understanding of deviant behavior, including people, groups, and events that are often viewed by society as deviant. Although not all deviance is criminal, the criminal justice system often deals with persons who might be labeled noncriminal deviants.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify different ways of studying deviance, including theoretical perspectives, concepts, definitions, and research methodologies
2. Examine different types of deviant behavior, roles, and events
3. Understand the difference between criminal and noncriminal deviance
4. Analyze social reactions to deviant behavior
5. Discuss how deviant individuals and groups experience social life
6. Examine how deviant behavior changes over time and across social space

Required Readings: Clinard & Meier (2019) *Sociology of Deviant Behavior* (15th ed.).

Additional readings will be posted on Desire2Learn (D2L) in the corresponding module for each topic or hyperlinked in the syllabus.

Desire2Learn (D2L): This course uses D2L for course management purposes. Students are expected to check D2L and PantherMail prior to each class meeting period for announcements and other course material.

Work Requirements:

Midterm (50 points)
Final Exam (50 points)
Reflection Papers (100 points total)

Total: 200 points

Grading Scale:

A: 179-200 points
B: 159-178 points
C: 139-158 points
D: 119-138 points
F: < 119 points

Exams (100 Points):

Both exams will be administered online via D2L in lieu of a class meeting period and will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. The midterm will cover topics discussed in Weeks 1-7, and students will have one hour to complete the exam once it has been opened.

While the final exam is not cumulative per se, many of the topics discussed in the first weeks of the semester are relevant to material discussed in Weeks 8-15. Students will have two hours to complete the final once it has been opened. A review guide for both exams is available in the "course resources" folder in D2L.

- Midterm Exam (50 points): due online **Friday, February 23 by 11:59PM**
- Final Exam (50 points): due online **Wednesday, May 1 by 11:59PM**

Reflection Papers (100 Points):

Reflection papers are of varying lengths and specifications. Instructions for each paper can be found in the "Paper Prompts and Guidelines" page in the "course resources" folder in D2L, along with paper examples and an APA style guide.

- Managing Deviance (30 points): due **Sunday, January 28 by 11:59PM**
- Labeling Deviance (30 points): due **Sunday, March 10 by 11:59PM**
- Criminalizing Deviance (40 points): due **Sunday, April 14 by 11:59PM**

Late Policy: Exams and papers are due no later than 11:59PM on their assigned due date. While extenuating circumstances may grant a professor-approved extension without penalty, all other late assignments will be accepted for partial credit (80% of earned score) if submitted within 48 hours of the date. Late work submitted after 48 hours but within one week of the due date will be accepted for 50% of the earned score.

Attendance Policy: While attendance is not formally taken, students are expected to be in class and on-time in order to be successful on exams and writing assignments. If an absence is inevitable, students must obtain notes from a classmate or visit office hours to get caught up on missed material.

The EIU Student Success Center offers some great test taking tips! Take a look at them here: <https://www.eiu.edu/success/testtaking.php>.

For students interested in submitting their paper to EIU's Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP), additional information about the EWP can be found here: <https://www.eiu.edu/bgs/ewp.php>.

Academic Fraud: Plagiarism and cheating are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and will result in an automatic F in the course, in addition to being reported to the Student Standards Board for further disciplinary action. For more information refer the "Student Conduct Code" which can be found here: <http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>.

Course Overview and Expectations:

Module	Course Activities and Assignments
An Introduction to Deviance Week 1: January 8-12	This module provides students with an overview of the study of deviant behavior, including how it is defined and understood by society and individuals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 1 (entire chapter)
Becoming Deviant Week 2: January 17-19	This module examines the process through which people become deviant, the role of socialization, and how deviance is managed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 2 (entire chapter) & Chapter 3 (pp. 47-63) NO CLASS JAN. 15 (MLK DAY OBSERVED)
Theories of Deviance Week 3: January 22-26	This module provides students with an introduction to theories of deviance, with special attention paid to strain theories, labeling theory, control theories, and learning theories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 4 (entire chapter) Managing Deviance Paper due Sunday, January 28
Criminal Deviance Week 4: January 29-February 2	This module provides an overview of different broad categories of criminal deviance, along with how the law is used as a mechanism of social control. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 5 (pp. 113-119) Chapter 6 (pp. 153-178)
Homicide Week 5: February 5-9	This module examines different forms of homicide, social reactions to homicide, and how the legal system responds to homicides. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Murder as a Sociological Phenomenon</i> (in D2L) and NY Times: After rise in murders during the pandemic, a sharp decline in 2023
Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, and Elder Abuse Week 6: February 12-14	This module provides a deeper understanding of criminal deviance among intimate partnerships, as well as criminal deviance perpetrated against individuals at the beginning and end of the lifecourse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 5 (pp. 130-137) and The Intimate Partner Violence Stigmatization Model and Barriers to Help-Seeking
Deviance in the Workplace and Corporate Deviance Week 7: February 19-23	This module examines deviance in the workplace and corporate deviance, including costs, consequences, controls, and reactions to corporate deviance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 7 (entire chapter) Midterm Exam on D2L (Friday, February 23)
Substance Use, Alcoholism, and Addiction Week 8: February 26-March 1	This module discusses substance use, both legal and illegal, along with the criminalization of addiction and social reactions to substance use and abuse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapters 8 and 9 (entire chapters)

Mental Illness Week 9: March 4-8	This module examines various forms of mental illness, along with the stigmatization and criminalization of mental illness in the United States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 14 (entire chapter) Labeling Deviance Paper due Sunday, March 10
Homelessness Week 10: March 11-15	This module examines the phenomenon of homelessness and the stigmatization and criminalization of unhoused communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read “The Top Five Ways Criminalization of Homelessness Harms Communities” in D2L and What Causes Homelessness?
SPRING BREAK: MARCH 18-22	
Sexual Deviance Week 11: March 25-29	This module discusses sexual norms, violations of sexual norms, and the practice and criminalization of sex work in the United States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 11 (entire chapter)
The LGBT Community Week 12: April 1-5	This module provides students with an introduction to the study of the queer community, with an emphasis on stigmatization and criminalization. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read From LGBT to LGBTQIA+: The Evolving Recognition of Identity and Party and Protest: The Radical History of Gay Liberation
Everyday Deviance Week 13: April 8-12	This module examines behaviors that slightly depart from societal norms, along with social reactions to these everyday forms of deviance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Chapter 15 (entire chapter) Criminalizing Deviance Paper due Sunday, April 14
Extreme Deviance Week 14: April 15-19	This module analyzes behaviors that depart widely from societal norms and the negative sanctions they receive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read My Childhood in a Cult and UFO Encounters: Betty and Barney Hill
Course Wrap-Up Week 15: April 22-26	This week serves as an opportunity to discuss topics of interest that were not addressed in previous weeks and/or catch up on material.
Final Exam: Wednesday, May 1 (available online 6:00AM-11:59PM)	

Accommodations for Students with Accessibility Needs: Students with accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (217-581-6583) to discuss any necessary academic accommodations. Additional information about the various services available at EIU can be found here: <https://www.eiu.edu/disability/>.

Student Success Center: For students who experience difficulties achieving academic goals, EIU’s Student Success Center offers a variety of services, including workshops, tutoring, time management strategies, study tips, and more. Additional information about the Student Success Center can be found here: <https://www.eiu.edu/success/index.php>.

Early Alert System: EIU’s Early Alert System is designed to notify students of when they are falling below academic standards, including excessive absences, late or missing work, and poor performances on assignments and/or exams. This course utilizes the Early Alert System on a case-by-case basis when appropriate.

Student Well-Being: EIU is committed to supporting and advancing the mental health and well-being of our students. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal mental health and well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, anxiety, depression, alcohol or other drugs, identities, and finances.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help is a courageous thing to do for yourself and those who care about you. Below is a list of available campus resources to assist with student well-being:

- [EIU Counseling Clinic](#): Human Services Building, 1st floor; 217-581-3413; for after-hours urgent support, call 1-866-567-2400. The Counseling Clinic offers individual and group counseling, emergency services, and resources.
- [Online Mental Health Screening](#): online, private screening tool for depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and alcohol and substance misuse.
- [EIU Health Clinic](#): Human Services Building, 1st floor; 217-581-3013. The Health Clinic services include lab work, pharmacy, and women's health and men's health programs.
- [Health Education Resource Center](#) (HERC): 2201 Blair Hall; 217-581-7786. The HERC offers health programming in the areas of alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and education, flu and cold prevention and education, nutritional analysis and education, and sexual health education, in addition to other health-related topics.
- [Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity](#) (GSD): Stevenson Hall, lower level; 217-581-7117. The GSD Center provides services such as the Trans*formation Station, a large library full of books and movies, year-round programming, and a comprehensive Safe Zone Training program.
- [EIU Campus Food Pantry](#): 1347 McAfee. The EIU Campus Food Pantry is a means to support students and the campus community by alleviating barriers to consistent, adequate, and healthful food. Anyone with a Panther Card can visit the pantry two times per month.
- [Student Legal Service](#): MLK Jr University Union Room 2420; 217-581-6054. Student Legal Service can assist with off-campus housing issues, traffic violations, misdemeanor criminal offenses, municipal ordinance violations, and expungement.
- [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#): Student Services Building East Wing; 217-581-6405, Fax: 217-581-6422, finaid@eiu.edu. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships provides information and guidance to secure the necessary financial resources to meet educational goals and financial obligations to the university.

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.