

**Deviant Behavior**

Professor: Dr. Deric Shannon

Instructor e-mail: deric.shannon@emory.edu

Office hours: Tu/Th 1:35-2:35 or by appointment

Course Overview:

This course examines various areas of norm violations and rule-breaking behaviors. It focuses heavily on the social construction of deviance and the ways that those constructions vary throughout different cultures and subcultures. Further, it examines moral panics and the construction of public scares to effect social policy and public morality.

Books:

Adler, Patricia A. and Peter Adler. *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction*, 7th edition.

Guidelines:

1. We will be discussing sensitive topics this semester and critiquing institutions and ways of life that all of us are very familiar with and some of us have a vested interest in. Please be sensitive to differences of opinion.
2. Along with number 1, remember that you can have any opinion you want on these subjects and should never hesitate to express it. This is regardless of what you think my own positions are and those of your classmates. Open dialogue is an important feature of any democracy, and we will have open dialogue in my classroom.
3. That said, there is no reason to state things in an offensive way. Be respectful.

4. Our class schedule is **SUBJECT TO CONSTANT CHANGE**. It is of the utmost importance that you come to class. If you often skip classes, this one is not for you. (Note also the attendance policy).

5. We may watch films in this class with disturbing content and images. Feel free to leave anytime if you must.

6. Try to have a good time and think critically.

Honor Code:

All aspects of the course are governed by the Oxford College Honor Code as is articulated on the relevant pages of the Oxford College Catalog.

Attendance Policy:

Everyone can miss class two times throughout the semester. Students will be penalized by 3 points toward their participation grade for every missed class after that.

Students with Disabilities:

Accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. Students who need documentation or other disability-related services are advised to visit the Student Health/Counseling Center: <http://oxford.emory.edu/academics/catalog/educational-resources/disability-services/>.

Grades:

Grades for this course will be based on participation, five reflection papers, a short midterm paper, a midterm test, and a final paper as outlined below:

Participation: 15%

Five reflection papers: 25%

3 Quizzes: 30%

Final paper: 30%

Participation:

Students will be graded on participation based on attendance and meaningful contributions to class discussions.

Reflection Papers:

Students are required to hand in a two-page reflection paper five times throughout the course. These papers can be in any format and cover any topic, provided they are related to the course. Prompts will be given to provide guidance for at least two of the papers, perhaps more. No, you may not email them to me.

Three Quizzes:

Three quizzes will be given to students to test on reading materials and relevant classroom activities. Quizzes will be held on Feb. 10, Feb. 24, and March 24 and will have cumulative questions.

Final Paper:

Final papers will be 8-12 pages long. They should demonstrate critical thought about what the student has learned in class. They can take any format the student likes and students are encouraged to clear possible topics with Dr. Shannon. One class period will be reserved to discuss the development of the final papers. No, you may not email them to me.

Schedule:

Week 1 – Jan. 15: Introductions and course construction

Week 2 – Jan. 22: cont'd

Week 3 – Jan. 27/29: Pp. 1-40 Foundations

Week 4 – Feb. 3/5: Pp. 41-108 Relativism, Moralism, and Social Power/Major Theories

Week 5 – Feb. 10(**Quiz 1**)/12: Pp. 159-170, Pp. 181-188 Moral Entrepreneurs and Social Panic

Week 6 – Feb. 17/19 (class canceled the 19th): Pp. 189-222 The Power of Labels

Week 7 – Feb. 24 (**Quiz 2**)/26: Pp. 223-246 Resisting Labeling,

Week 8 – March 3/5: MOVIE: *Grass*

SPRING BREAK! BE SAFE!

Week 9 – March 17/19: Pp. 257-278 Identity Development – AT LEAST 3 REFLECTIONS DUE BY THIS WEEK

Week 10 – March 24 (**Quiz 3**)/26: Pp. 331-360 Stigma Management

Week 11 – March 31/April 2: Pp. 409-432 Subcultures and Gangs

Week 12 – April 7/9: MOVIE, MADE IN AMERICA

Week 13 – April 14/16: Pp. 446-458 State-Corporate Crime

Week 14 – April 21/23: Pp. 475-484 Cooperation, Gender, and Power

Week 15 – April 28: Pp. 526-535 Entering Deviance/EVERYTHING DUE