**Unit 8: Digital Deviance**

Welcome to Week 8.

This week’s learning explores a very difficult question: why individuals commit cyberspace crimes. This is an important question, because the answer(s) might affect the way this crime is dealt with. You will evaluate whether traditional criminological theories can explain this sort of deviance, or whether there is need to rethink our understanding of the reasons why people engage in cyber harmful activities.

**On completion of this unit you will be able to:**

* Explore issues concerning digital deviance.
* Assess the extent criminological theories can make sense of cyberspace deviance.
* Practice research skills.
* Apply evaluation skills.

**Seminar 4**

#### Title: Reasons for Cybercrime

Join the [**Seminar Session**](https://www.my-course.co.uk/course/view.php?id=8901&section=3) this week. Remember to bring the seminar questions and your attempted answers.

Visit the ‘Seminar 4 preparation’ below and attempt to complete the activities prior to the seminar session. As we will discuss these concepts in the seminar session, ensure you have completed the activities before this week’s Seminar session.

**Seminar 4 preparation**

Read Chapter 9 of Holt et al (2018) and answer the following questions (be prepared to share your findings in this week’s seminar:

* Pick two theories discussed in the chapter. Briefly summarise these and identify weaknesses and strengths in explaining cybercrime.
* Carry out an internet search and identify a news event involving cybercrime (in any country). Reflect on which theory you might use to make sense of the individual(s)’s behaviour.
* Do we need cybercrime-specific theories or are traditional criminological theories adequate? By drawing upon Holt et al. try constructing a theory which might help us making sense of cyberspace deviance.

**Learning Outcomes**

* Explore the challenges and opportunities of regulating and policing cyberspace.