I. Locator Information

Instructor: Dr. Druann Heckert
Course Number & Name: Sociology 360D1-Sociology of Deviant Behavior
Semester Credit Hours: 3
Office Location: Taylor Science, Rm 210-D
Office Hours: MW: 10-12; T: 12:15-2:15
Office Phone: 672-1503
Email Address: dheckert@uncfsu.edu

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II. Course Description

Sociology 360 is a study of the major theories and types of deviant behavior, with critical analyses of society’s reactions to such behavior.

III. Disabled Student Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability, please contact the Center for Personal Development (910-672-1203).

IV. Textbook

V. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Be able to explain how social factors influence interactions and social behavior;
2. Be able to explain how social interaction and individuals influence society;
3. Identify and explain the leading theories and theoretical orientations of deviant behavior;
4. Analyze deviant acts using various theoretical perspectives and relevant empirical research; and
5. Analyze the impact of social status and characteristics on the extent to which individuals are regarded as “deviant.”

VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

Note: Once closed, assignments (i.e., homeworks, PowerPoint quizzes and discussion boards) will not be reopened.

Homeworks on chapters…….30 percent
Powerpoint quizzes…………….20 percent
Discussion boards…………….20 percent
Research paper………………..30 percent

Homeworks refer to questions on each assigned chapter.

Powerpoint quizzes cover material covered in the powerpoints. Powerpoints will be posted throughout the semester to cover important topics in the area of deviance. PowerPoints are located in the section called Documents.

Discussions should be civil based on the knowledge that individuals can have diverse opinions on topics. Discussions are meant to be ongoing and as in a traditional class, the final computation of the portion of the grade is computed at the completion of the semester.

Research paper

You will write a research paper of 6-8 pages, including a theoretical analysis. The purpose of this paper is to examine a particular form of deviant behavior. For example, you might choose to research a very serious form of deviant behavior, such as terrorism, or you might choose to research a milder form of deviant behavior, such as tattooing. You will provide basic information on the topic. As well, you will provide a theoretical analysis. In this analysis, you can focus on either the rule-breakers or the rule-makers. For example, if you focus on the rule-breakers, you will provide an etiological analysis on why individuals become rule breakers. So, in the case of domestic terrorists, you will first address basic information about the topic and then provide the theoretical analysis of what sociologists
know about the causes of this form of deviance. If you focus on the rule-makers, you will address the question of why the behavior came to be defined as deviant in the first place. So, for example, if you address the issue of hyperactivity, you will focus on basic sociological information about hyperactivity and then examine the societal forces that led to the redefining of supposedly “bad children” to “sick children” or the medicalization of this phenomenon. In either case, you will utilize academic references: books from the library or journal articles. This assignment will be discussed further in class.

Grading rubric for paper:
25 percent: references
25 percent: writing
25 percent: coverage of the topic
25 percent: theoretical analysis

VII. Academic Support Services

The instructor holds 8 hours of office hours per week. If you have any trouble understanding the material – either the class notes or the text – I encourage you to ask during my office hours.

VIII. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

The sections listed for reading assignments are meant as a guide to facilitate your completion of the text. The calendar is subject to change or adjustment as needed throughout the semester.

Powerpoints of important topics will also be made available.

Week 1 (January 13-17)
Chapter 1: Introduction to the Study of Deviant Behavior

Week 2 (January 21-24)
Chapter 1: Introduction to the Study of Deviant Behavior
Homework 1 by January 24
Discussion board 1 by January 24

Week 3 (January 27-31)
Chapter 2: Theories of Individual Forms of Deviant Behavior
Homework 2 by January 31
Discussion board 2 by January 31

Note: The theory for the substantive fields of Deviant Behavior and Criminology are essentially the same and mostly developed by Sociologists. Consequently, we spend a
third of the semester reviewing theory in Sociology 340. For this course, we provide a quick review and an emphasis on topics that are very important in the area of deviance. Powerpoints on other important theoretical topics are provided.

Week 4 (February 3-7)
Ch. 3: Theories of the Variations in Rates of Deviant Behavior
Homework 3 by February 7
Discussion board 3 by February 7

Week 5 (February 10-14)
Chapter 7: Mental Illness
Homework 4 by February 14
Discussion board 4 by February 14

Week 6 (February 17-21)
Chapter 9: Illicit Drug Use
Homework 5 by February 21
Discussion board 5 by February 21

Week 7 (February 24-28)
Chapter 8: Alcohol Abuse
Homework 6 by February 28
Discussion board 6 by February 28

Week 8 (March 3-7)
Power point quiz 1 by March 7

Week 9 (March 17-21)
Chapter 4: Homicide
Chapter 5: Domestic Violence
Homework 7 by March 21
Discussion board 7 by March 21

Week 10 (March 24-28)
Chapter 6: Suicide and Life-Threatening Behaviors
Homework 8 by March 28
Discussion board 8 by March 28

Week 11 (March 31-April 4)
Chapter 10: Sexual Offending
Homework 9 by April 4
Discussion board 9 by April 4
Week 12 (April 7-11)
Chapter 14: Positive Deviance
Homework 10 by April 11
Discussion board 10 by April 11

Week 13 (April 14-17)
Chapter 15: Extreme Forms of Everyday Behaviors: Exercising, Working, and Web Surfing
Homework 11 by April 17
Discussion board 11 by April 17

Week 14 (April 21-25)
April 25: RESEARCH PAPERS DUE (Late papers will have ten points deducted from the final grade. Also, no paper will be accepted after May 2. Send the paper to dheckert@uncfsu.edu).

Week 15 (April 22-May 2)
Deviant Beliefs (This topic is contained on Power points)
Deviant Attributes (This topic is contained on Power points)

Power point quiz 2 by May 2

IX. Teaching Strategies
This course is delivered through an online modality.

X. Selected References


