

Social Deviance

Course Description:

The main objective of this course is to explore what constitutes social deviance and how society reacts to behaviour deviating from conventional social norms. Two main theoretical explanations will be used to shed light on the phenomena: Positivist and constructionist theories. Different types of social deviance will be analysed. Alcohol and drug use, public attitudes to prostitution and drug use, public attitudes to prison and punishment, social and economic crises.

Main text: Thio, Taylor and Schwartz (2013). *Deviant Behavior 11th Edition*. Pearson. Selected chapters.

Other articles announced later.

Course evaluation:

Students write a portfolio (diary) about the topics of the lectures. This is not supposed to be a summary of the issues presented in class. Own reflections and personal observations about the subject matter are welcome and encouraged. Students are expected to submit a half to one-page per lecture for a total of three lecture sessions (1/3 of the final grade).

Final exam. Based on class presentations and reading material (2/3 of final grade).