

The University of Western Ontario  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY 2259/001: THE SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANCE  
2017-2018

GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE



**Professor:** Kim Ashby

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**Class Times & Rooms:** 2032 SSC

**Tuesdays 9:30 – 12:30**

**Office Hours:** Tues 1:30 to 2:30 pm. or by  
**appointment.**

**TA:**

**E-Mail:**

**OWL:** <http://owl.uwo.ca>

What does it mean to be a member, to be excluded? What are the forces at play in determining who is considered to be deviant and who is considered to be normal, and why? This course will examine the various sociological theories and debates regarding conformity and deviation, as well as certain key contemporary issues. We will place our emphasis on "informal modes of social control", such as normative structures and labeling processes, as well as examining some aspects of "formal social control", such as ideology and moral entrepreneurship.

Individuals are categorized as 'normal' or 'deviant' on the basis of many attributes. For the purposes of this course, the social construction of class, age, race, gender and physical and mental "ability" will serve as themes around which to examine various aspects of deviance.

Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to be reflective about how they participate in social deviance, both as conformists and deviants, and to be critical of the social construction of normative orders. Critical engagement with the understanding of how social categories are created and maintained will be further developed through a self-reflective "stigma" paper.

**Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026A/B, 1027A/B.**

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Assessment**

First test .....	15%
Second test .....	15%
Third test .....	15%
Stigma Paper .....	25%
Final examination .....	<u>30%</u>
	100%

**Learning Outcomes**

The successful student will be able to:

1. Restate and explain all of the sociological theories related to deviance.
2. Critically discuss and apply said theories to cases of deviance.
3. Analyze the components of the 'objective' criteria of deviance and the 'social typing process' and how both apply to a given situation.
4. Identify, understand and apply Goffman's 'Stigma' concepts to their own case and other presented situations.
5. These outcomes will be assessed in multiple choice exams, primarily.

**Required Texts**

Bereska, Tami.

2014 **Deviance, Conformity, and Social Control in Canada.** 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Toronto: Pearson

Goffman, Erving.

1963 **Stigma: Notes on the Management of Spoiled Identity.** New York: Simon and Schuster.

Luton, Kim (ed.)

2013 **Boundaries: Readings in Deviance.** 3<sup>rd</sup>. ed. Boston: Pearson Custom Publication

**In addition there will be assigned readings placed on the OWL homepage in a folder (Readings - OWL).**

## **Accessing the Class Homepage via OWL**

Much of the material for this course has been placed on the class homepage established on OWL and students are expected to log in to their OWL account (and the class homepage) during the first week of class in order to insure that everything is working properly. The homepage for this course will contain a number of different folders that will contain things like the course outline, lecture overheads, reference works, readings, and grades, etc. If you have trouble configuring your computer, please contact ITS immediately, either by phone (661-3800) or email [helpdesk@uwo.ca](mailto:helpdesk@uwo.ca).

## **Lectures: Policy on Laptops in Class**

The use of laptops is not permitted in class unless there is a very good reason for such use and a student has been given permission by Professor Ashby. Students given permission must sign a 'laptop binder' with Professor Ashby.

## **Scantron Exams**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

## **Grades and Grading**

Grades (except the final year-end mark) will be posted to the OWL site as they become available. This website also gives the criteria that the TA will use to assign a grade to the essay.

## ***Sociology courses at the 2100 and 2200***

- "A"s not to exceed "B"s
- Means in the range of 66-70%

## **Missed Exams and Late Assignments**

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the Academic Counseling office at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor on the date of the exam or on the date the assignment is due. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor's documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam or hand in your assignment at a later date.

**THE FINAL EXAMINATION WILL BE TWO HOURS LONG AND WILL COVER THE WHOLE YEAR WITH EMPHASIS ON THE LAST SECTION. IT WILL BE HELD DURING THE FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD.**

## Stigma Paper

This case analysis of one's own "stigma" drawing on the concepts developed by Goffman will be submitted on **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 in-class as a hard copy**. For every day, or portion thereof, that your essay is late, **5** marks will be deducted from your essay grade. Examples: if your grade is 75% and the essay is one day late, the grade will be reduced to 70%; if two days late, it will be reduced to 65%, etc. Please note: your physical paper is late until it is in the TA's hands or in the drop box date stamped. If your paper is late and you complete it on the weekend, the date you upload a final draft to turnitin.com will stop the penalty clock *if* you get the paper to the TA on Monday.

The moral of all this: start your essay well in advance of the deadline and turn it in on time!

### Format

Use APA style in referencing your sources. This means that you should:

(1) use the author-date-page format to cite works in the body of your text - example:

The type of stigma I have is a *tribal stigma* as I belong to the Duckbill sect (Goffman, 1963, p.2).

(2) provide an alphabetized bibliography of all cited works at the end of your essay.

Goffman, E. (1963). *Stigma: Notes on the Management of Spoiled Identity*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.

## Plagiarism

Senate regulations require that the following be on this course outline: "Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

### Turnitin.com

The University of Western Ontario subscribes to Turnitin.com, an online company that evaluates essays for plagiarism. Once your essay is complete, submit it to Turnitin by going into the "Essay" folder on the OWL course home page, hit the "Turnitin" icon (a *computer*), then follow the instructions.

Your paper must be uploaded on or before the due date for your essay. Your uploaded file must include (1) a title page giving your name, (2) the text itself and (3) the bibliography for your essay.

### Course Requirement

Uploading to Turnitin is a course requirement and **no** grade will be recorded for an essay until uploading is verified.

Senate regulations require that students be made aware of the following: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All

papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to licensing agreement, currently between the University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

### **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

[http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

### **Accessibility Options:**

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

[www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

### **Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

[www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Mental Health**

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western ([http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

### **Email**

Every student has been assigned a UWO email address by the Registrar's office. If you have not as yet activated that account, you should do so immediately. The ITS desk on the second floor of the Natural Science Building can help you with questions about your account.

Every so often Professor Ashby will be sending out mass emails to the class and you are responsible for any information (about exams, your grade, missed assignments, etc.) in those emails. This means that you are expected to check your UWO account at least once a week.

If you have your UWO mail forwarded to another account (Hotmail, Yahoo, etc), it is your responsibility to insure that messages do not bounce back because your disk quota is full.

If you have any questions about the course, the quickest way to have them answered is to contact Professor Ashby via email. If at all possible, each message will be answered within 2 working days. Please check this syllabus or the course homepage on OWL before writing to see if the information you want is posted there.

Because an active UWO email account is needed to access OWL, and because the use of OWL is such an important part of this course, **only** questions sent using your UWO account will receive an answer. When you email, always state in the "Subject" line: **Soc 2259 001** in order for Professor Ashby to determine about what class you are speaking.