

San José State University
School/Department
JS 221, Deviance and Social Control, Fall 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Victor Thompson
Office Location:	MH512
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Office Hours:	LOTS OF THEM!
Class Days/Time:	Friday, 1-3:45pm
Classroom:	MQH 526

Course Format

This is a graduate level course. This means there will be less “explaining” of basic concepts in the material than you might find in an undergraduate course. I expect you to do the readings and come to class prepared to discuss them critically and in an engaging manner. I will provide any necessary clarifications when appropriate but the goal is to let you begin to read through the critical lens of a young budding academic (regardless of age). Because much of the time will be devoted to discussion, please ALWAYS come to class having read the material for that week.

Canvas™

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas™ learning management system course website. You are responsible for following the course schedule, provided in the syllabus and regularly checking messages and modules in our Canvas site to learn of any updates and to access all course content.

Course Description and Overview

This course explores deviance and social control in two parts. In the first part of the course, we explore the theoretical, empirical, and academic discourse around deviance and social control through various readings. The goal is to develop a grounded understanding of deviance and social control before moving on to contemporary issues in deviance and social control. We will then move in to examples of different “types” of deviance and finally apply our understanding of deviance to contemporary issues surrounding punishment and the American criminal justice system

Justice Studies Reading and Writing Philosophy

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives—personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of

careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to demonstrate knowledge on the following items:

- (1) major theories of social deviance and social control
- (2) empirical tests of theories of deviance and social control
- (3) contemporary issues in deviance and social control
- (4) public policy and its relationship to deviance and social control
- (5) contemporary problems associated with deviance

Course Requirements and Assignments

Participation (10%)

Participation is based on your in-class performance. If you are engaged in discussions, both through speaking and listening, this should be an easy grade.

Critical Responses to Readings (10%)

You are required to submit a one page critique of the readings each week. This should not be a summary of the readings but should be a critical piece that takes a stance on the readings. You may make connections to current events or address issues not found in the readings, but your job is to critique the readings, not get distracted by external stimuli.

Reading Tests (30%)

There will be three reading tests over the semester. These will be short essay based tests on the readings and their content in class designed to make sure you are keeping up with the readings.

Final Paper (20%)

You are required to turn in a final paper, which will be due the day of the scheduled final. You must submit a proposal for an approved topic by the 5th week of classes. Your topic should be related to course content.

Grading Scale

98-100%	A+
94-97	A
90-93	A-
88-89	B+
84-87	B
80-83	B-
78-79	C+
74-77	C
70-73	C-
68-69	D+
64-67	D
60-63	D-
<60	F

Late work

I do not accept late work. However, if you turn something in on time and do not like your grade, then I will give you an opportunity to rewrite it for a regrade that has the chance to be equal to at most half the difference between what you received the initial time and what you received after you resubmitted it. In other words, if you had a 60% on the first assignment and then resubmitted it and got an 80%, you would receive a 70% for your final grade. You may only do this twice throughout the semester.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy F15-7](#) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. Visit the [Student Conduct and Ethical Development](#) website for more information.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) (AEC) to establish a record of their disability.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs and other resources for student use are available in:

- [Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall
- [Academic Technology Computer Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/hd/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/hd/> on the 1st floor of Clark Hall
- [Associated Students Computer Services Center](http://as.sjsu.edu/ascc/) at <http://as.sjsu.edu/ascc/> on the 2nd floor of the Student Union
- [Student Computing Services](http://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services-center) at <http://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services-center>
- [Computers at the Martin Luther King Library](http://library.sjsu.edu/reserve-studymeeting-room/computers-king-library) for public at large at <http://library.sjsu.edu/reserve-studymeeting-room/computers-king-library>
- Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections' free tutoring and mentoring is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. Peer Connections tutors are trained to provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group and individual tutoring are available. Peer Connections mentors are trained to provide support and resources in navigating the college experience. This support includes assistance in

learning strategies and techniques on how to be a successful student. Peer Connections has a learning commons, desktop computers, and success workshops on a wide variety of topics. For more information on services, hours, locations, or a list of current workshops, please visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)



SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services

The SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos in the new Student Wellness Center, Room 300B. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide confidential consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling and Psychological Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

JS 221, Deviance and Social Control Fall 2017 Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
8/25	Introduction to course
8/30	<p>Introduction to Deviance and Social Control</p> <p>“Norms and Deviations: Who’s to Say?” by Stanley Fish in <i>New York Times</i></p> <p>“The Body Ritual of the Nacirema” by Horace Miner</p> <p>Becker, H. S. (1953). Becoming a marihuana user. <i>American journal of Sociology</i>, 59(3), 235-242.</p> <p>“On Being Sane in Insane Places,” David Rosenhan</p> <p>Best, J., & Best, J. (2013). <i>Social problems</i>. New York: WW Norton & Company.</p>
9/13	<p>Theories of Deviance and Social Control</p> <p>Durkheim, Emile. (1951). "Anomic Suicide" in <i>Suicide</i>. New York: Macmillan Publishing, 246-258.</p> <p>“Functionalism: The Normal and the Pathological,” Emile Durkheim in <i>Constructions of Deviance</i></p> <p>Merton, Robert K. (1938.) "Social Structure and Anomie." <i>American Sociological Review</i>. 3:672-682.</p> <p>Selections from Erikson, <i>Wayward Puritans: A Study in the Sociology of Deviance</i></p>
9/20	<p>Burgess, Robert L. and Ronald L. Akers. (1966.) "A Differential Association Reinforcement Theory of Criminal Behavior." <i>Social Problems</i>. 14(2): 128-147</p> <p>Ronald Akers et al.'s “Social Learning and Deviant Behavior,” <i>American Sociological Review</i>, 1979</p> <p>Ragan, D. T. (2014). Revisiting “what they think”: Adolescent drinking and the importance of peer beliefs. <i>Criminology</i>, 52(3), 488-513.</p> <p>Travis Hirschi’s “On the Compatibility of Rational Choice and Social Control Theories of Crime,” in <i>The Reasoning Criminal</i>, 1986.</p> <p>Bouffard, J. A., & Rice, S. K. (2011). The influence of the social bond on self-control at the moment of decision: Testing Hirschi’s redefinition of self-control. <i>American Journal of Criminal Justice</i>, 36(2), 138-157.</p>

Week	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9/27	<p>Conrad, P. (1975). The discovery of hyperkinesis: Notes on the medicalization of deviant behavior. <i>Social problems</i>, 23(1), 12-21.</p> <p>Hochstetler, A., Copes, H., & Williams, J. P. (2010). "That's not who I am:" How offenders commit violent acts and reject authentically violent selves. <i>Justice Quarterly</i>, 27(4), 492-516.</p> <p>Okie, S. (2009). Crack babies, the epidemic that wasn't. <i>New York Times</i>, D1.</p> <p>Jon Bernburg et al.'s "Official Labeling, Criminal Embeddedness, and Subsequent Delinquency," <i>Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency</i>, 2006.</p>
10/4	<p>"Social Power: Conflict Theory of Crime," Richard Quinney in <i>Constructions of Deviance</i></p> <p>Foucault, Michel. (1999.) Panopticism in <i>Visual Culture: the reader</i>. edited by Jessica Evans and Stuart Hall. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 61-71.</p> <p>Gould, Stephen Jay. (1985.) "Carrie Buck's Daughter." <i>Constitutional Commentary</i>. 2: 331-339.</p> <p>"Social Power: Conflict Theory of Crime," Richard Quinney in <i>Constructions of Deviance</i></p> <p>Robert Sampson and John Laub's "A Life-Course View of the Development of Crime," <i>Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science</i>, 2005.</p>
10/11	<p>Deviance in Action</p> <p>Excerpts from Cohen, <i>Folk Devils and Moral Panics: The Creation of the Mods and Rockers</i></p> <p>Other Readings TBD</p>
10/18	<p>Organizations and White Collar Crime</p>
10/25	<p><i>Punishment and Modern Society: A Study in Social Theory</i> (Ch 1-4)</p>
11/1	<p><i>Punishment and Modern Society: A Study in Social Theory</i> (Ch 5-9)</p>
11/8	<p><i>Punishment and Modern Society: A Study in Social Theory</i> (Ch 10-12)</p>
11/15	<p><i>The Collapse of American Criminal Justice</i> (Ch 1-3)</p>

Week	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11/29	<i>The Collapse of American Criminal Justice</i> (Ch 4-6)
12/6	<i>The Collapse of American Criminal Justice</i> (Ch 7-9)