Sociology 377: Deviance  
MAASS 10, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30 – 4:00

Instructor: Eran Shor  
Email: eran.shor@mcgill.ca  
Office: Leacock 840  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBA  
Email: TBA  
Office: Leacock 822A  
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description
The objective of this course is to introduce you to the concept of deviance as it is studied by social scientists. The course is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the major biological, psychological and sociological approaches to deviance and introduce classic and contemporary writings in the field. We will examine how particular attributes and behaviors come to be defined as deviant and how norms, values and rules are socially constructed. We will also look at the consequences of formal and informal deviant behaviors and the responses they elicit. Topics to be discussed include sexual behaviors and orientations, mental illness, drug and alcohol use/abuse, and various forms of criminal behaviors.

Readings
Students are expected to complete weekly readings prior to the period for which they have been assigned so they can have a better grasp of the subject matter and participate in class. The required readings consist of selections from scholarly books and journal articles. Copies of all reading material are available as coursepacks at McGill’s book store, but ALSO on WebCT. The class webpage, http://www.mcgill.ca/webct, will function as the primary source of information exchange. Be sure to check the webpage regularly for updated materials such as handouts and readings. Class-related documents will be in Adobe Portable Document Format (.PDF) or appear as MS Word files. Additional readings may be assigned during the semester and will be available on the class WebCT site.

Although there is no required textbook for this class, there are many textbooks on deviance and criminology that you may find helpful. Listed below are a few optional textbooks that you may want to consult. Each of these textbooks should give you a good overview of some of the topics covered in class and may serve as a supplement to class lectures.

- Schmalleger, Frank and Rebecca Volk. Canadian Criminology Today: Theories and Applications. Pearson/Prentice Hall

Class Attendance and Participation
Along with the readings, class discussions and lectures are a vital source of information about course material. Lectures are not based on specific readings for the week, but rather, they are designed to supplement the readings and discuss some of them in more detail. Lecture material will NOT be posted on WebCT and is only available during class time, so students are advised to attend class regularly and to visit me or the TA during office hours if any clarifications are needed. Routine class participation is highly encouraged since you will be tested on materials and discussions that take place in class. Students are responsible for all information provided in lectures, readings, and class discussions. If you must miss class, be sure to get notes from someone else in class.
Participation in class through asking and answering questions and expressing your own views is also strongly encouraged. Students should feel free to express their opinions in class. However, you are expected to do it in a socially responsible and respectful way. The use of Mobile computing and communications devices is permitted as a tool to assist in taking lecture notes or accessing WebCT insofar as their use does not disrupt the teaching and learning process. It is NOT okay to use them for any of the following: chat with friends, watch movies or YouTube videos, surf the web, explore Facebook/Twitter, or any other non-academic activity.

Course requirements
Exams: There will be two exams, midterm and final. Both will consist of predominantly multiple-choice questions but MAY also contain fill-in-the-blank, true-false or short essay questions. The midterm and final exam may be in different formats (the specific format breakdown will be given to you in class prior to the exams). The exams are NOT cumulative. They will cover lectures, discussions, films, documentaries and reading materials from the sections in which they are given. This means that the midterm will cover materials from the first day of class up to the day of the first exam. Similarly, the final exam will cover material after the first exam and up to the day of the second exam. Late (make-up) exams will only be allowed under the most severe, documented emergency situations. In the event you will be allowed to take a make-up exam, the make-up exam may differ in both content and format.

Course Grade
Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance on the exams. No extra credit will be offered. If you feel you have been graded unfairly on an exam and would like to have it reviewed, write a one page summary detailing the error/inconsistency. Note: Upon review, your grade may either increase or decrease. The first review will be done with the TA. If, after this review, you still feel the grade is not acceptable, you may bring it to me for review. Please also note that in the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Exam 1 (midterm): 40%
Exam 2 (final): 60%

Grading Breakdown:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>85 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>80 – 84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>75 – 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>70 – 74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>65 – 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>60 – 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>55 – 59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>50 – 54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 – 49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Extra credit will NOT be offered in this class under any circumstances

Academic Integrity and Misconduct
McGill University values academic integrity. Academic misconduct (i.e. cheating, plagiarism) will not be tolerated. Suspected infractions will be forwarded to the university’s academic misconduct office for review (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information on McGill’s Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures).

Right to submit in English or French written work that is to be graded
In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
# Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 20, 22</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (October 20); Introduction to sexual deviance: “Normal” sexuality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 **Note:** Dates and topics are tentative; we may move more quickly or more slowly depending on class circumstances and may also add or skip some topics accordingly. Any changes will be announced in class.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>