

**Deviance in U.S. Society
Lab Syllabus
SOCY 1004
Spring 2006**

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Ketchum 35 Office Hours: Thursday 9:00-11:00
(or by appointment)
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Assistant Teaching Assistants (ATAs):

Joanna Domagalski
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Wednesday 3:00-3:50 EDUC 134
Thursday 8:00-8:50 EDUC 132

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Tuesday 9:30-10:20 DUAN G2B41
Tuesday 11:00-11:50 DUAN G2B41

Required Text:

Adler & Adler, 2006. *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. Custom Edition, Spring 2006.

Overview:

Labs are designed specifically to afford students the opportunity to discuss and further explore materials presented in the reader and in lecture in a small group setting. As your teaching assistant it is my job to facilitate meaningful discussions within the group in a manner that will ultimately clarify and deepen your understanding of the materials presented. A lively discussion requires that students be prepared and willing to share their insights and opinions in class. It is my goal to create a comfortable and open environment where all members of the class are willing to share their ideas and thoughts. In order for this environment to be achieved, it is crucial that all students behave in a respectful manner towards one another. Given the nature of this course, our discussions will often focus on issues that may arouse intense feelings and disagreement. While enthusiastic discussion and debate of these issues is wholeheartedly encouraged, **insensitive or mean-spirited comments based on race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexual orientation, religion, ideas or beliefs will not be tolerated.**

Participation and Classroom Decorum:

I know some of you may be tempted to pull out your cell phone, other homework, newspaper, ipod, etc. during class. This is not only inappropriate, but also unnecessary. You will not need to distract yourself from this class. On the contrary, you should find it very enjoyable, interesting and informative. This will be especially true if you make an effort to not only read the required readings before coming to class, but also to participate by contributing to class discussions through asking questions and offering insightful comments.

Particularly in a class devoted to discussion of "deviant" attitudes/behaviors, **tolerance** is crucial. Our goal, as educated adults in an academic setting, must be to create an environment of **mutual respect** in the classroom. No one should ever feel that they have been personally attacked because of a belief shared in lab. This includes, but is not limited to: any disrespectful, intolerant, or otherwise hurtful comments made in regard to issues of race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or political beliefs. If you feel that you have been a victim of such comments or actions, please contact me and I will address the issue as is appropriate.

Participation is crucial to your experience and success in lab. You will be expected to attend lab prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that week. I expect all students to participate in class discussions even if that only means being an avid listener. **Please come to class with a copy of the "lists" for the week, which you can find on Patti's website under "Reading Lists."** Because of the nature of the subject matter of this class, some students may feel uncomfortable speaking during group

discussions. Because participation is worth 20% of your lab grade, I encourage you to find other ways to participate in a meaningful way in lab if you are uncomfortable speaking during class. Some examples of participation include:

1. Sending an email to me with your thoughts, insights, etc. if you are uncomfortable speaking during class.
2. Bringing an article from the news to class that is relevant to the topic of the week. I may use the article during class discussion.
3. Other suggestions you may have.

During some classes, I may ask that you participate by writing short essays on your readings, by bringing typed questions to class that are based on the readings, or by undertaking any number of other in-class activities.

Finally, familiarize yourself with—and adhere to—the University Honor Code, www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode, and the University's Policy on Classroom Behavior, www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html

Grading:

This lab will count for 25% of your final grade in Deviance. Grades in this lab will be based on the following:

1. **Attendance.** You will be allowed one free, unexcused absence. After that, you will lose 5% of your recitation grade per absence. **Attendance is worth 40 % of your recitation grade.** If you are sick or have a legitimate conflict, such as the observance of a religious holiday, it is your responsibility to contact me **BEFORE** lab meets in order for your absence to be "excused." Vacation, preparation for other classes, etc. are not considered legitimate conflicts. If you cannot attend one of my labs, I encourage you to attend a lab taught by another TA in order to get the materials for the week. You will not, however, receive attendance credit for labs that you attend which are taught by another TA.
2. **Participation.** The criteria for successful participation in class are laid out above. **Participation is worth 20% of your recitation grade.**
3. **Pop quizzes/assignments worth 10 points each.** There will be unannounced quizzes and assignments such as response papers. **The quizzes/assignments are worth 40% of your lab grade.**

If you have any questions about the grading system or your progress in class, please do not hesitate to talk to your ATA or me. We are here to help.

Disability Statement:

If you have specific physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let the Assistant TA or TA know during the first two weeks of the semester so we may meet your needs appropriately. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Disability Services Office in Willard 322 (ph. 303-492-8671, on the web at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>).

Accommodation for Religious Observances:

Please notify me as soon as possible if you recognize any conflict with test dates, assignment due dates, and/or class attendance that will occur as the result of religious observances. Notification must be made no later than two weeks prior to the date of conflict so that you and I have time to make other arrangements. Please read the statement of academic integrity at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html. I will do my best to accommodate your religious observance, possibly adjusting an assignment's due date or the lab attendance requirement for the date missed due to religious reasons. In the event that a *test date* conflicts with your religious observance, please notify Dr. Adler and I as soon as possible, since adjusting a test date requires consideration and approval from Dr. Adler.

Final Thoughts:

Assignments, due dates, recitation schedules, grading policies and anything else presented on the syllabus **are subject to change**. Please attend recitations regularly in order to stay informed of any changes.

I look forward to working with all of you and I hope that we can have a fun, exciting, and informative semester. Please feel free to contact me at any point during the semester to inquire about the assignments, grading or anything else that may have to do with the class.