SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND DEVIANT BEHAVIOR (SOCI 1306 2A1)

LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Sociology 1306 is an examination of major social problems in our world today. Global focuses may include internet deviance, genocide and terrorism. Domestic focuses may include crime, drug abus, mental disorders, suicide, rape and child molestation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Acquire and use information in the social science area of social problems.
2. Think creatively, make decisions, and know how to reason in reference to deviant behavior recognition and interpretation.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

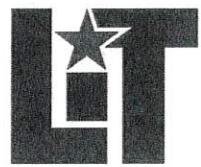|	
Instructor:	Dennis White
Email:	dwhite@lit.edu
Office Phone:	409-247-5277
Office Location:	Technology Center Building Room 214
Office Hours:	By Appointment

MONDAY: 12:00 pm - 5:30 pm
TUESDAY: 9:30 am - 10:30 am; 12:00 pm (noon) – 1:00 pm
WEDNESDAY: 9:30 am – 11:00 am
THURSDAY: 9:30 am - 10:30 am; 12:00 pm (noon) – 1:00 pm
FRIDAY: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Approved: dw/January 2026

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
Deviant Behavior by Alex Thio, Jim Taylor & Martin Schwartz, 13th edition, PEARSON Publishers.
ISBN numbers: 10: 0-13-804052-4 or 13: 978-0-13-804052-9

Writing Materials for Class and Online assignments.
Knowledge of the use of the Internet and use of You Tube and Blackboard for submitting assignments, research projects and taking all Course Exams.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Students are required to sign in a minimum of three times per week online Blackboard.
Students are also required to read all ANNOUNCEMENTS three to five times a week.
Participation is assessed through submission of assignments. weekly log-in activity that verifies the student's login to Blackboard a minimum of three times a week. Activities may consist of class assignments, group activities and individual analysis of information from various sources including the text. However, six unexcused absences will result in a 50% grade reduction in the Participation/Attendance Grade.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified date as listed in the College Calendar on the Student Success web page. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR
Note: All Readings are from the course required text and designated pages, as well as course-included PowerPoints which are available on Blackboard.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
Week 1	What is Deviant Behavior	Chapter 1: Pages 1-14	February 13, 2026
Week 2	Positive Theories	Chapter 2: Pages 15-28	February 13, 2026
Week 3	Constructionist Theories	Chapter 3: Pages 29-46	February 13, 2026
Week 4	Physical Violence	Chapter 4: Pages 47-69	February 13, 2026
Week 5	Sexual Assault and Child Sexual Abuse	Chapter 5: Pages 70-99	March 20, 2026
Week 6	Family Violence	Chapter 6: Pages 100-122	March 20, 2026
Week 7	Suicide and Self Injury	Chapter 7: Pages 123-152	March 20, 2026
Week 8	Mental Disorder	Chapter 8: Pages 153-178	March 20, 2026
Week 9	Heterosexual Deviance	Chapter 9: Pages 179-205	April 17, 2026
Week 10	Gay People and Other Targets of Stigma	Chapter 10: Pages 206-229	April 17, 2026
Week 11	Internet Deviance	Chapter 11: Pages 230-248	April 17, 2026
Week 12	Drug Use	Chapter 12: Pages 249-278	April 17, 2026
Week 13	Drinking and Alcoholism	Chapter 13: Pages 279-302	May 5, 2026

Week 14	Privileged Deviance	Chapter 14: Pages 303-330	May 5, 2026
Week 15	Underprivileged Deviance	Chapter 15: Pages 331-349	May 5, 2026
Week 16	Review for Course Final Exam to include Chapters 13, 14 and 15	Text: Pages 279 – 349 REVIEW FINAL EXAM STUDY GUIDE	May 5, 2026

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Three Unit Tests   20%
2. Class Assignments   25%
3. Course Project   25%
4. Final Exam   20%
5. Participation   5%
6. Attendance   5%

GRADE SCALE
- 90-100   A
- 80-89   B
- 70-79   C
- 60-69   D
- 0-59   F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
For the latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc., review the Minimum Computer and Equipment Requirements on the LIT Online Experience page. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT
The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please

contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

- **LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED. DUE DATES ARE NOT EXTENDED. If a Student fails to complete the course work on the designated time/date(s) a GRADE of ZERO (0) will be recorded on line Blackboard. NO MAKE UP WORK ACCEPTED.**
- **Students should log into Blackboard a minimum of three (3) times a week to view ANNOUNCEMENTS, and work on and complete required Assignments, Projects, Research work and reviews for Exams during the designated time and date periods. Consult the Spring 2026 Course Dates/Deadlines Post on the Content Section of this course.**

- Students will learn the various aspects of theory and practice related to "deviant behavior".
- Critical Thinking Analysis – Analyzation of current and or past criminal cases of deviance using the Scientific Theory of understanding of what is deviant behavior, deviance of violence, self destructive deviance (suicide and mental disorder(s)) diverse lifestyles, substance use and abuse and internet deviance. (Deviant Behavior by Thio/Taylor/Schwartz (13th edition)
- Research and Practical Application Project – Students will research a past felony deviant crime issue / topic of their choice and write a summary of the crime , criminal and specific deviance to include the who, when, what why and how of the criminal event(s).
- Exams – There will be three exams and a Final Exam. Each exam will cover 3-4 chapters of the text. Each Exam will cover specific Learning Objectives that are discussed in each period of instruction (Deviance defined / Theories of Deviance / Physical Violence / Self Destructive Deviance / Substance Abuse / Internet deviance.
- All Assignments must be submitted on line blackboard during the designated time period(s).
- PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE – Participation is assessed through completing of the course requirements
- Assignments and projects are to be completed on line. Activities consist of class assignments, individual analysis of information from various sources including the text and power point presentations. However, failure to log in blackboard and not complete Assignments (4 or more) will result in a 50% reduction in the Participation/Attendance grade (on line) column
- NOTE: This is an On Line Class. All work must be completed on line Blackboard during the designated time and date periods. SEE FIRST POINT ABOVE
- Students should utilize the "Message" Box Section in the course to convey information to the instructor.
- The Course Calendar is subject to change without prior notice.
- Consult the SPRING 2026 COURSE DATES/DEADLINES ITEM ON THE COURSE CONTENT PAGE.