

Syllabus—Deviance, Discord and Dismay
Sociology 123—Oberlin College, Fall, 2004

1. This is a minimalist syllabi:
2. This course is governed by the honor code. You are to comply with its requirements in all work—both papers and exams. Should you have questions, please let me know. All written work must state and sign the following: “I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE ADHERED TO THE HONOR CODE IN THIS ASSIGNMENT.
3. Some students will have learning differences qualifying them for the protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act or the College’s policies for assisting such students. Please inform me at your earliest convenience of any accommodations I can make in this course to assist your learning.
4. The requirements of the course are simple: You are to write a major paper of 15 pages, thoroughly documented and footnoted with a thorough bibliography demonstrating a command of the literature covering your topic. The topic is of your choice. The paper—IN ITS FINAL FORM—is due the week before Fall Break (The break begins October 16). FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE PAPER IN ITS FINAL FORM BY OCTOBER 16 WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF TWO FULL LETTER GRADES. DEADLINES MATTER IN THE REAL WORLD.
5. That paper will be edited by 10 of your colleagues (and you will edit 10 of their papers). Editing will be extensive, including the checking of footnotes and validating interpretation of data. Writing styles, syntax, flow, and any and all other writing issues will be fair game. Your colleagues will grade your paper and you theirs.
6. There will be a final examination. It will be scheduled as an oral exam for each of you during the first several days of the examination period. The exam will be conducted in my office and will take 20 minutes. Classroom lectures and discussions will be the basis for the oral examination.
7. There are no required readings—you have enough to read to complete the papers and the editing and checking those of your colleagues.
8. My office is King 324. My phone number is 58375 (I do not like calls at home). My email address is jlwalsh@oberlin.edu. Be careful of that because there exists on campus another faculty member named James Walsh. His world is chaotic mathematics, not sociology.
9. My office hours are Tuesday and Thursdays: 9:30-11 a.m. I have sign up times on Wednesday mornings (9:30-11). There is a sign up sheet for the Wednesday hours on my door.
10. You are to be happy in thy work