Department of Sociology

Summer 2017 Course Offerings

His teaching interests include topics of culture, identity, inequality, race, immigration, identity, and Asian American Studies. He has received three teaching awards/recognitions.

Jill D. Weinberg is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and an affiliated scholar at the American Bar Foundation in Chicago, IL. She is a scholar who examines the decriminalization through social process, focusing on the ways groups use rules, norms, and the language of consent and choice. Her first book, *Consensual Violence: Sex, Sports, and the Politics of Injury* (University of California Press 2016), examines how two groups that willingly engage in seemingly violent activities — mixed-martial arts and sexual sadomasochism — enact elaborate law-like rules to organize themselves and to demonstrate their legitimacy to a broader public. Her second book project is a cross-country comparison of assisted death and the ways terminally ill people, their loved ones, and medical professionals navigate laws that proscribe or permit aid-in-dying.

Her areas of expertise include Crime, Law, and Deviance; Sports; the Body; and Research Methods.
Sociologists address questions such as why do some students succeed at school while others fail; how do groups develop certain cultures; why are there class, gender, and racial inequalities; how does socialization take place; what role does religion play in our society; etc. This course introduces students to sociological topics and to the dominant theories and methods used to make sense of such social phenomena. Students are encouraged to bring their own sociological insights to class as we challenge common assumptions of these major issues that refer to all of us.
Observers of human societies are always fascinated with explaining why some members violate commonly accepted standards of conduct. Why are some people evil, mad, dangerous, immoral, or just plain odd? What should we do to stop, cure, or punish these individuals? This course begins by treating social order - not deviance - as the social phenomenon that needs explanation. We will first seek to understand social control, that is, the social processes involved in establishing and maintaining rules and conformity. Only then, will we consider the issue of what constitutes deviant behavior, how and why it occurs, and what is done about it. Social control is what gives a social order its power. How are the boundaries of social acceptability embraced, resisted, and rejected?

This course considers several major theoretical explanations of deviant behavior. These theories emphasize different aspects of the organization and dynamics of deviance as a social production: how and under what conditions do certain behaviors come to be defined as deviance; how and under what circumstances do individuals or groups become deviant; and, how is a deviant identity managed? We will examine various informal as well as institutional strategies for controlling deviants and reducing deviant behavior.

Class Dates: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 to Friday, August 11, 2017
(Second Summer Session)
Meets: ONLINE
TUFTS STUDENTS:

Between March 6 and 6:00 p.m. on the day before the summer session begins, logon to SIS and register. Walk-in registration is available on Tuesday, May 23 in Dowling Hall. Late registration begins on the first day of each session (May 24 and July 5) in Dowling Hall.

When you logon to SIS to make summer course selections, you must click on "Summer Activation" under the "Enroll" tab before proceeding with registration.

Visiting Students, Pre-College Program Students, International Students and High School Seniors, find out about registration here: https://ase.tufts.edu/summer/session-registrationadmission.asp