

New Sociology Course
Spring, 2010
Sociology 327: Crime, Deviance, and the Mass Media

Are you interested in spending a semester watching movies and doing a little sociology at the same time? Then consider taking Sociology 327: Crime, Deviance, and the Mass Media. We'll use these movies to illustrate a number of topics in the sociology of crime and deviance. Each semester, the class will have some input on the topics and movies. The list of possible topics and movies – is almost endless including: corporate crime (*Wall Street*), mental illness and social control (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*), hate crime (*American History X*), and anti-drug crusades (*Reefer Madness*). Television shows are another possibility – from reality crime shows like *Cops* or *America's Most Wanted*, crime dramas such as *NYPD Blue* or *Law and Order* or comedies like *Will and Grace*.

During the semester you'll take a series of short quizzes on lecture and readings. You'll also write a series of short 3-5 page papers where you'll apply the lecture and readings to each film. There's a final project and paper that is announced at the beginning of the semester.

If you're interested and want to know more, contact Jack Spencer at jspencer@purdue.edu