American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

| School: Security & Global Studies |
| Program Name: Criminal Justice |
| Course Number: CMRJ324 |
| Course Name: The History of Organized Crime |
| Credit Hours: 3 |
| Length of Course: 8 Weeks |
| Prerequisite: None |

Table of Contents

| Instructor Information | Evaluation Procedures |
| Course Description | Grading Scale |
| Course Scope | Course Outline |
| Course Objectives | Policies |
| Course Delivery Method | Academic Services |
| Course Materials | Selected Bibliography |

Instructor Information

Please see instructor info in the section leading up to opening the syllabus

Course Description (Catalog)

This course will provide an examination of the evolution of organized crime in the United States, with a focus on the social and legal factors that contributed to its development and the groups involved. Additionally this class will explore how organized crime is structured and how it can be exposed and controlled. Theoretical explanations of organized crime are also covered. (Note to Students: The course materials, assignments, learning outcomes, and expectations in this
upper level undergraduate course assume that the student has completed all lower level general education and career planning coursework necessary to develop research, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students who have not fulfilled all general education requirements through courses or awarded transfer credit should strongly consider completing these requirements prior to registering for this course.)

Table of Contents

Course Scope

This course is divided into 8 weeks and is presented in a way to give students an overview of “organized crime” and its subsequent control from a criminal justice/law enforcement perspective. An examination of both traditional organized crime to the new emerging groups presenting a more serious threat in this focus area will be discussed. The recruitment process and the level of sophistication of these groups from outlaw motorcycle groups to Triads to the Mafia are explored. The “global” picture of organized crime will be a focus from international crime groups – Russian, Latino and Italian – to name a few.

Table of Contents

Course Objectives (CO)

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

CO1: Discuss the historical use of money laundering and racketeering by organized crime
CO2: Compare and contrast transnational organized crime groups such as the Yakuza and Russian Mafia
CO3: Describe why organized crime has flourished, via the use of criminological theory
CO4: Summarize the importance of the Prohibition Era on organized crime
CO5: Analyze major statutes and legislation aimed at combatting organized crime
CO6: Extrapolate past and current efforts of the U.S. (via the War on Drugs) with current and future illegal drug trends (e.g., usage, availability, etc.)
CO7: Analyze the assertion that U.S. politicians are frequently in league with organized crime

Table of Contents

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum discussion), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Table of Contents

Course Materials

Required Course Textbook:


To locate your eBook please visit the Vital Sources. Here is the web address: http://apus.campusguides.com/bookstore

NOTE: An ebook of the above can be found under the Lessons Tab (links to chapters assigned in a given week will be provided). A password is required for this book. It is “apusstudent”.

Required Readings: In addition to the text book reading assignments, each student will be required to read extra reference material assigned by the instructor for each week of the class. Specific reading assignments are provided each week under the Lessons tab.

Optional Text:


APA Style: http://www.apastyle.org/index.aspx

Web-based Readings

Software Requirements

- Microsoft Office (MS Word)
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

- Microsoft Power Point or Microsoft Power Point Viewer (Here is a link to a free download of MS Power Point Viewer) http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=048DC840-14E1-467D-8DCA-19D2A8FD7485&displaylang=en
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (Here is a link to a free download of Adobe Acrobat Reader) http://get.adobe.com/reader/

Websites
In addition to the required course texts the following public domain Websites are useful. Please abide by the university’s academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note website addresses are subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Website URL/Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Mega Site</td>
<td><a href="http://www.apsu.edu/oconnort">http://www.apsu.edu/oconnort</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice &amp; Juvenile Justice System Map</td>
<td><a href="http://talkjustice.com/cjimap.htm">http://talkjustice.com/cjimap.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cjcj.org/links/index.php">http://www.cjcj.org/links/index.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Justice Links from Michigan State University</td>
<td><a href="http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/crimjust/juvenile.htm">http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/crimjust/juvenile.htm</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table of Contents

Evaluation Procedures

EVALUATION TECHNIQUES AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to maintain routine contact with faculty throughout the course. And while the number of these may vary according to the specific course and individual student need, the University requires periodic weekly contacts during the semester. The method of discussion will be through the issues of assignments, exams, and research papers and serve as the primary rationale for contact and discussions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All submission due dates/times are Eastern Standard Time (EST), so please plan accordingly.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

FORUM QUESTIONS
Forum Questions have been developed for each unit of study (module) in this course and will comprise 49% of your final grade. These questions are designed to help the students apply critical thinking techniques to the material learned through experience and readings. The Forum Questions are designed to give students direction in integrating old and new ways of thinking and to examine the relationship between theory and practice of criminal justice.

Each student will post his/her individual response to the Forum Questions on the message board by Thursday of each week. Students must then interact with other students by posting questions addressed to others based upon their initial response and furthering the discussion in the forums. Students may earn a score of up to 100 for each module by doing so. Please note that the questions are comprehensive, requiring the base knowledge presented in the text before applying the analytical and critical evaluation necessary to meet program goals.

Final reply posts are due no later than Sunday 11:55 PM EST for each week, grades will be entered shortly afterwards (normally NLT Tuesday after a week ends/closes out). Please realize that once the weekly forum is closed, no work will be accepted for that forum and no credit can be earned for that weekly forum.

The grading rubric for Forum Questions are provided at the bottom of each Forum Question in the Forums

Participation

The following criteria reflects how I define effective “substantive” participation:

Good participation is: substantial (relates to the initial post being replied to), concise (but at least 300 words with at least 1 reference), provocative (encourages others to respond), hermeneutical (expands concepts or connects ideas in new ways), timely (occurs in a reasonable time frame - when the topic is under discussion; same week), logical (supports point of view with reasons and evidence), and grammatical (is well written). Only those comments that meet these criteria of a good message warrant full participation credit.

Notes:
- As a rule, participation cannot be made up once the week is past.
- Participation is worth (30%) of the points associated with an individual week's Forum assignment.

WEEK 6 RESEARCH PAPER:

The research paper must be a minimum of 15 pages and will address the topic question posted in the electronic classroom under “Assignments.” Your essay paper should be
written using the **APA 6th edition writing standards** for all citations and references. The research paper will comprise 25% of your final grade.

For assistance with APA format, please go to the following URL for an excellent two-page handout that should answer most of your questions. As always, please feel free to contact me for assistance. Internet citations, unless from peer reviewed journals or academic sources, should be utilized for background information only. Students should conduct research in a library or use electronic databases available in the AMU online library. ***You should use a minimum of 5 outside “academic sources”. This means peer reviewed sources. Newspapers and websites are not acceptable. Please see the Paper Guidelines within the course to help you with this.***

IMPORTANT NOTE: Late papers (as a minimum) will receive an automatic 5 point deduction (half a letter grade) for each day late. As always, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

**FINAL EXAMINATION:**

The professor will prepare a final examination. It will be open book and un-timed. The exam will be posted in the electronic classroom under “Tests & Quizzes”. The exam will consist of 4 essay questions covering the entire 8 weeks. With the essays, the responses should be thorough and detailed, utilizing expanded thought and logic. A minimum of 500 words and 2 different references per essay question is expected…again as a minimum. The Final Exam will comprise 25% of your final grade

**FINAL GRADE BASED UPON:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The points earned on course assignments will determine the course grade. The final grade in the course will be based on <strong>100 total points.</strong> Grades will be assigned based on the following term composite scores:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Instruments</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes initial responses to the Forum Questions and required participation. There are 8 forum assignments.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Final Examination | 25 | 25%  
TOTAL            | 100 Points | 100%  

Professors have 7 days from the end of the course to submit their grades to the University.

Please see the Student Handbook to reference the University’s grading scale

Table of Contents

Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Learning Objective(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Student into and syllabus confirmation</td>
<td>Text: Chapters 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Describe why organized crime has flourished, via the use of criminological theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
<pre><code>  | Plus                                            | Plus                                          |                                                            |
  | Week 1 FORUM QUESTIONS &amp; Participation          | See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week |
  |                                                 |                                               |                                                            |
</code></pre>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>FORUM QUESTIONs &amp; Participation</th>
<th>Text: Chapters</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Summarize the importance of the Prohibition Era on organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Discuss the historical use of money laundering and racketeering by organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Compare and contrast transnational organized crime groups such as the Yakuza and Russian Mafia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 &amp; 11</td>
<td>Analyze major statutes and legislation aimed at combating organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A This Week</td>
<td>Extrapolate past and current efforts of the U.S. (via the War on Drugs) with current and future illegal drug trends (e.g., usage, availability, etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As well as the Research Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td>However</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Due End of Week 6 (Sunday, 11:55 PM EST)</td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td>Analyze the assertion that U.S. politicians are frequently in league with organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See Lessons Tab for any additional weekly reading assignments for this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review all past material in preparation for the exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

As well as the Final Exam (Untimed/Essay) Activated at start of class Due End of Week 8 (Sunday, 11:55 PM EST)

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy
Plagiarism Policy
Extension Process and Policy
Disability Accommodations

Writing Expectations
All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- 12-point font...Times New Roman style.
- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

Late Assignments
Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Deductions:

Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Netiquette
Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks, or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

- Technology Limitations: While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Educator classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

- Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and--especially--satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), : ), 😊

Disclaimer Statement
Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Table of Contents

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors’ publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

**Turnitin.com**

Turnitin.com is a web-based plagiarism prevention application licensed, for campus use, through the APUS Online Library. Students will not have to submit papers to Turnitin. The assignment section automatically checks and the class instructor will check other assignments as needed.

**Selected Bibliography**


Table of Contents