White Collar & Organized Crime
CRIJ 4321

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Fall 2018
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Office Hours:
M & W: 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Or by Appointment

***If you need to reach me via email, do not use Blackboard to email me. Email me directly from your UTRGV email account. Thank you.
Course Description:
(A) CRIJ 4321 will examine issues in white collar and organized crime. This course will introduce students to the history, theoretical explanations and structure of organized and white-collar crimes. Areas of examination include but are not be limited to the following: (1) drug trafficking, (2) gambling, (3) loan sharking, and (4) business/corporate crimes. Investigative methods and legislative policy considerations will be discussed.

(B) Examination of white-collar and organized crime. Topics may include the nature and types of elite deviance such as corporate deviance, political corruption, crimes of the government, and human rights’ violations. Prerequisites: ENGL 1301 (or ENGL 1387) and (ENGL 1302 (or ENGL 1388) or ENGL 1305) with a grade of 'C' or better and sophomore standing.

UT RGV Criminal Justice Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the structure, operations, and practices of the major components of the criminal justice system which include police, courts, corrections, and law.
2. Explain the fundamentals of research methods and statistical techniques used in criminal justice research.
3. Apply critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, and communication skills through classroom assignment.
4. Demonstrate know of criminological theory and crime control techniques.

Course Objectives:
With the successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:
(1) Discuss the nature, history, and theories of organized and white-collar crime
(2) Discuss the investigation, prosecution, defense and sentencing of criminals
(3) Discuss the causes and impacts of organized and white-collar crime
(4) Discuss the methods of investigating and preventing these types of crimes

Required Texts:
ISBN-10: 0133571734

ISBN-10: 0495600822
Course Requirements:

**Research Paper:** Students are to procure 5 individual research articles on White Collar Crime and Organized Crime. All 5 articles must be acquired from peer reviewed academic journals. Students will summarize each article (do not copy and paste the abstract, you will receive a failing grade for that article), include all the pertinent journal and author information, discuss the importance of each article, the data collection methods used, the statistical techniques (i.e., ANOVA, ANCOVA, Logistic Regression, etc.), research findings, and policy implications for each of the 5 articles. Each article assignment must be a minimum of 450 words in length. Research papers NOT meeting the minimum required word length (2,250 words) will receive a 50 (prior to grading) for the project for failing to adhere to paper requirements. There will be 20 point deductions for each of the following infractions: (1) failure to have a cover page (cover page is not included in the word count minimum – only 1 cover page required); (2) failure to use double-spacing; (3) failure to use Times New Roman font; (4) failure to use 12 font size; and (5) failure to submit a reference page (cover page is not included in the word count minimum). Students will also be penalized 20 points if they submit any incorrect files to blackboard. APA format is required. You will need to submit your paper to SAFEASSIGN in order to receive credit for your research project. I will not accept any paper that exceeding 20% replication. Each completed article is worth 20% of the total 100% of the project.

**Examinations (2):** Two multiple choice examinations will be given in the course.

- **Discussion Boards:**.........................18% of grade (3% each)
- **Research Assignment:**.........................32% of grade
- **Examination One:**.............................25% of grade
- **Examination Two:**.............................25% of grade
- **Total:**........................................100%

Grading System:

- A = 100-90
- B = 89-80
- C = 79-70
- D = 69-60
- F = 59 and below

***Course Grade is based on a **grade percentage weight system**, **NOT** an accumulation of blackboard points.
Recommendations:

(1) Be an Active Learner:
"Active Learning" is, in short, anything that students do in a classroom other than merely passively listening to an instructor's lecture. This includes everything from listening practices which help the students to absorb what they hear, to short writing exercises in which students react to lecture material, to complex group exercises in which students apply course material to "real life" situations and/or to new problems. - Active Learning for the College Classroom (Paulson and Faust, California State University, Los Angeles, 1998)

(2) Read your textbook and notes:
Students should be reading 24-36 hours per week if they have a 12 credit hour course load. Students should be reading 30-45 hours per week if they have a 15 credit hour course load. https://www.aacu.org/publications-research/periodicals/its-about-time-what-make-reported-declines-how-much-college

The Ramses rule:

As a general rule of thumb, professors are allowed up to 48 hours to respond to student email inquiries. That being said, remain patient and do NOT send a second email regarding the same issue. More importantly, NEVER contact the secretary or department chair and ask them to contact the professor and tell them to check their email. Furthermore, don’t expect responses during the weekends as professors have families, lives, and other responsibilities. Not all professors choose or care to check their emails via their cell phones or to check their email during the evening hours or weekends (this may not apply to online courses).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services.

Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting
(reasonably immediate postpartum period) are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services for additional information and to request accommodations.

**Student Accessibility Services:**
**Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.
**Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

**ATTENDANCE:**
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

**SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:**
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students. **Your grade, academic standing, and personal/professional reputation are at stake.**

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:**
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

**STUDENT SERVICES:**
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email
Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

- Learning center: BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- Writing center: BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- Advising center: BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- Career center: BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)

**COURSE DROPS:**
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

**Late Work Policy:**
Each student is urged to submit each and every assignment on its given due date (does not apply to discussion boards). There will be a 10-point deduction on any assignment for each day it is late. 2 day maximum. A written request is required to submit a late research paper.

**Calendar of Activities:**
- August 27  First day of classes
- August 30  Last day to add a course or register for fall 2018
- September 3  Labor Day – NO classes
- November 14  Last day to drop a course; will count toward the 6-drop rule
- November 22 - 24  Thanksgiving Holiday – NO classes
- December 6  Study Day – NO classes
- December 7 - 13  Final Exams
- December 14 – 15  Commencement Exercises

**Important Notices:**
- The professor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time during the course of the semester.
- **PARDON ANY TYPOS**
- **Course design adapted from Sanford-Brown College (CJ 430 – Organized & White Collar Crime).**
Course Schedule:

Week 1 – 8/27 – 9/2 – Read Chapter 1 – *The Discovery of White Collar Crime* in Trusted Criminals

Week 2 – 9/3 – 9/9 – Read Chapter 3 – *Corporate Crime* from Trusted Criminals – Complete Discussion Board 1

Week 3 – 9/10 – 9/16 – Read Chapter 4 *Occupational Crime & Avocational Crime* from Trusted Criminals

Week 4 – 9/17 – 9/23 – Read Chapter 5 – *Governmental Crime: State Crime & Political White Collar Crime* from Trusted Criminals – Complete Discussion Board 2


Week 6 – 10/1 – 10/7 – Read Chapter 9 – *Law & the Social Control of White Collar Crime* from Trusted Criminals – Complete Discussion Board 3

Week 7 – 10/8 – 10/14 – Read Chapter 10 – *Policing & Regulating White Collar Crime* from Trusted Criminals

Week 8 – 10/15 – 10/21 – Read Chapter 11 – *Prosecuting, Defending, & Adjudicating White Collar Crime* from Trusted Criminals Complete Exam 1

Week 9 – 10/22 – 10/28 – Read Chapter 1 – *Understanding Organized Crime* from Organized Crime


Week 11 – 11/5 – 11/11 – Read Chapter 4 – *The Evolution of Organized Crime* from Organized Crime

Week 12 – 11/12 – 11/18 – Read Chapter 5 – *The Business of Organized Crime* from Organized Crime – Complete Discussion Board 5


Week 14 – 11/26 – 12/2 – Read Chapter 10 – *Organized Crime’s Political & Corporate Alliances* from Organized Crime - Submit Research Assignment