



Criminology Program

CRIM 4396: Topics –Organized & Consensual Crime: Drugs, Sex and Violence in America

Syllabus

Course Navigation

Welcome to the course!

Before you begin work, please take a moment to familiarize yourself with this web-based course. The course is online in an asynchronous format, i.e., you do not have to come to campus and you do not have to be online at the same time as your professor or classmates. You can complete your course by navigating around the ELearning **CRIM 4396.OW1** homepage. We will utilize the discussion, mail, announcement, who's online, and my grade tools which are all available to you on the menu on the homepage.

If you have any questions about how to access any of the course materials or assignments please email me at rwttaylor@utdallas.edu. You must check your email in the ELearning course site at least twice per week for emails and announcements. Remember this is your classroom so please feel comfortable asking me any questions which you would ordinarily ask in class.

Professor and Contact Information

Professor: Dr. Robert W. Taylor, Professor, Department of Criminology.

Phone: 972-883-4959 (office) or **972-529-7890** (cell)

Please note that I am out-of-town this summer semester. The best way to contact me will be via my cell phone or email. I am on Pacific Standard Time, two hours earlier than DFW time, so early morning phone calls are discouraged.

Email: rwttaylor@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: This is an Online Course and as such office hours are not set. Students should feel free to contact me at any time by email or via my cell phone listed above. Appointments may be arranged at times available to both student and professor for those requiring an in-person visit on those occasion that I am in Dallas.

Note: Students are strongly encouraged to use email as the primary method of communication. Your professor checks email several times per day!

Technical Support: If you experience difficulties with your UTD account you may send an email to assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic knowledge concerning organized and consensual crime. Historically, organized crime and consensual crimes (social or victimless crimes) such as gambling, prostitution, drug abuse/trafficking and pornography have been inseparably linked. Even today, this connection flourishes as exemplified by the various criminal cartels operating throughout the United States.

The primary objective of the class is to familiarize students with this phenomenon through an in-depth analysis of organized and consensual crime. In this manner, a theoretical basis for understanding the history, structure, function, and control of sophisticated criminal organizations can be presented. The course will provide the student with a series of perspectives and reflections based on the observation of criminal activity. However, this course is not intended to give a definitive statement (either moral or social) concerning any of the topics covered.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *This course necessarily analyzes many topics which are highly controversial involving the use of drugs, the subculture of prostitution, and the exploration of pornography (obscenity) and the law. As such, frank and open discussions concerning specific subcultural traits and sexual practices relating to these crimes will be presented. On some occasions, this will involve the use of terms and phrases which many people find offensive and therefore, students who might feel uncomfortable during these periods may wish to re-consider taking this elective online course. There is no other way to present this material other than in a factual and realistic way. Therefore, students will be held responsible for material which is directly relevant to these crimes such as the description and typology of outlaw motorcycle gangs, various sub-types of pornographic acts, descriptive verbs and words associated with obscenity, and various lifestyles of prostitution. Any discussion concerning the reality of these deviant subcultures and/or criminal activities will be conducted in the most professional manner possible. Great care will be taken not to offend, but the nature of some of the terms used in this course may be defined by some as socially unacceptable.*

Required Textbooks and Video Streaming Capability

- ***Organized Crime***, 11th edition (Cengage Publishing, 2017) by Howard Abadinsky
ISBN: 978-1-305-63371-1
- ***War on Drugs IV***, 4th edition (Pearson Publishing, 2008) by James A. Inciardi
ISBN: 978-0-205-51321-5
- ***Additional Readings, Videos, and Lectures listed in the Syllabus and Online***
- Please note that this class will require the viewing of several movies and/or videos that are available on Amazon Video or Netflix. You must have a membership in one or both of these online video services, or the ability to access the movies/videos listed from another source.

Recommended Reading (But NOT Required)

- ***Sex, Drugs, and the Continuing Spread of AIDS*** (Roxbury Publishing, 1995) by Clyde B. McCoy and James A. Inciardi.
- ***Criminal Justice and Moral Issues*** (Anderson Publishing, 2011) by Robert F. Meier and Gilbert Geis
- ***Sex, Morality and the Law*** (Routledge Publishing, 1997) by Lori Guren and George E. Panichas (editors)
- ***Prostitution and Pornography*** (Stanford University Press, 2006) by Jessica Spector

Student Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the history and development of organized and consensual crime in the United States.
- Discuss the theoretical explanations behind the development of organized and consensual crime in the United States.
- Effectively analyze and describe the various typologies of organized and consensual crime observed in the United States and based primarily on race and/or ethnicity.
- Discuss and describe the various activities associated with organized crime, particularly focused on consensual crimes such as drug use, prostitution, pornography and gambling.
- Discuss the relationship between different drugs (e.g. alcohol, heroin, cocaine, marijuana) and the development of organized crime.
- Explain the various legal statutes and enforcement activities aimed at curbing organized and consensual crime in the United States.

Course Policies

Make-up exams

Due to the fact that you will have one week to submit each exam, **make-up exams are not permitted** and failure to complete an exam will result in a posted grade of zero.

Extra Credit

There is **no extra credit work available** in this class for any reason. Please be concerned with your final course grade throughout the semester maximizing your performance on each graded event and minimizing your need for extra credit at the end of the course.

Late Work

Discussion board requirements and written assignments will be reduced in grade by 10 percent for each 24 hour period after the due date and time. Please calendar effectively and submit work early to avoid this penalty.

Class Participation

You must check your UT Dallas email and the eLearning course site at least two times per week for emails, announcements, and updates. Remember this is your classroom so please feel comfortable asking any questions which you would ordinarily ask in class. The instructor will use the tracking feature in eLearning to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as the discussion board, email correspondence, visiting required internet sites, and proper submission of exams, papers and/or projects.

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.

Netiquette: Please express all posted comments in formal English without street jargon or employment related jargon, acronyms, or abbreviations that will not be understood by all students. Avoid being critical of your fellow classmates and focus your responses to the content of what they posted. Do not make emotional

outbursts on the discussion page and always remember that anything you post will be retained exactly as you post it for a long time and can be referred to exactly as you post it in the future. Some yes and no rules to follow in the course:

- Yes, you can email your professor as often as you like at the course email box.
- Yes, you can critique postings in your responses in any way you like as long as it is not offensive and not critical of another student personally.
- Yes, you can ask the professor any question you have
- Yes, every email is answered
- No, you should not use a lot of acronyms and jargon in your postings
- No, you should not try to use humor as it sometimes comes across online with unintended consequences.

Also, please review my posted material relating to grades, course policies, and academic honesty !

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The university is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UTD eLearning Help Desk: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>, 1-866-588-3192. The instructor and the UTD eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Technical Requirements

Students are required to have a high confidence level of computer and Internet literacy. This course will require students to have the ability to “stream” videos as well as search the Internet, and link to the UT-Dallas eLearning site.

Course Access and Navigation

This course was developed using a web course tool called eLearning. It is to be delivered entirely online. Students will use their UTD NetID account to login at: <http://elearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see more details on course access and navigation information.

To get started with an eLearning course, please see the *Getting Started: Student eLearning Orientation* on the eLearning website

UTD provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. The UTD user community can also access the support resources such as self-help resources and a Knowledge Base. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Support Center: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>.

Communications

The instructor will communicate with students mainly using the Course email or University email, Announcements and Discussions tools. Students may send personal concerns or questions to the instructor using the course email tool or the University email system. The instructor will reply to student emails or Discussion board messages within 1 working day under normal circumstances. The instructor will also respond to telephone questions, issues or the like. Please feel free to use the contact numbers listed on the front of this syllabus.

Student Resources

The following university resources are available to students:

UTD Distance Learning: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/cstudents.htm>

McDermott Library: Distance Learners will need a UTD-ID number to access all of the library's electronic resources (reserves, journal articles, ebooks, interlibrary loan) from off campus. For UTD students living within those counties who are taking online courses, a Comet Card is required to check out materials at the McDermott Library. For more information on library resources go to <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/distlearn/disted.htm>.

Student Assessments and Evaluation

Grading Information & Requirements:

Grades will be posted in eLearning based on the following percentage scale:

A=94-100, A-=90-93, B+= 87-89, B=84-86, B-=80-83, C+=77-79, C=74-76, C-=70-73, D=60-69, F=59 and below.

The professor reserves the right to curve grades based on collective student scores. Students will be informed of such curves as they occur in the class.

Grades are based on the following events (due dates are in the Course Calendar & Assignment Schedule and later in this syllabus). **Please note that there is absolutely no extra credit work available in this class** and each student should strive to do his or her best work on each and every grading event as the course progresses. **The mathematical rule of rounding will apply to the computation of the final grade** in the course based on the grades received in the following events.

There is a possible total of **400 points**:

- **Examination I (100 points).** 3 hours, online, open-book; questions from textbook, lectures, movies, videos and Powerpoints presented online.
- **Forum 1 (100 points).** Answers to five of the issues must be posted on the discussion board in essay format of 350 to 600 words (**maximum**) per answer. At least three bibliographic citations and the word count must be posted with each of the issue postings along with internal cites – one source can be your textbook. Use APA footnote style for your papers. Please no more 600 words, unless you absolutely must !!!!
Response to Forum 1. You must respond to two of your classmates' postings either agreeing or disagreeing and stating why.

- **Forum 2 (100 points).** Answers to five of the issues must be posted on the discussion board in essay format of 350 to 600 words (**maximum**) per answer. At least three bibliographic citations and the word count must be posted with each of the issue postings along with internal cites – one source can be your textbook. Use APA footnote style for your papers. Please no more 600 words, unless you absolutely must !!!!
Response to Forum 2. You must respond to two of your classmates' postings either agreeing or disagreeing and stating why.
- **Examination 2 (100 points):** 3 hours, online, open-book; questions from textbook, lectures, movies, videos and Powerpoints presented online.
- **Syllabus Quiz (no graded or credit points).** This quiz is required by the due date in the course calendar before any student takes any of the exams or posts any discussion questions. Please email your professor via the course email if you have any questions whatsoever after taking the quiz. Quiz should be repeated until you obtain a score of 100.
- **Introductions: (no graded or credit points).** Each student should log onto the discussion board the first week of class and provide a brief introduction to the rest of the class. Please give us your class standing (where you are in the program) and why you are in the graduate program plus any other information you would like to share. Please do not provide personal phone numbers or addresses on the discussion board.

Accessing Grades

Students can check their grades by clicking “My Grades” under Course Tools after the grade for each assessment task is released. Your grades will be posted to the eLearning grade book in raw scores with a running average in the Final column.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

University Drop Policy

It is the responsibility of the student to process the official drop and add forms. Faculty/staff cannot drop students from class. Please be aware the professor cannot drop a student for never attending or missing too many classes and can only assign grades based on the work submitted. For this reason it is important to your grade that if, for any reason, you decide to not complete the course, to complete the appropriate paperwork to drop the class officially or to withdraw from the university.

Online Examination Methodology

You can access examinations by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the exam icon on the designated page. Each examination or test is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “Begin Assessment”. After each examination is graded and released, you may go back to the Assessments page and click “View All Submissions” to review your exam results.

Examinations

There are two open-book examinations that will consist of 100 objective items each with a maximum score of 100 points on each exam. Questions are taken from your textbook, videos, movies, the Powerpoints on the homepage, and the lectures identified in the course calendar & assignment schedule section of this syllabus. Your score will be posted in raw scores in your grade book with a maximum score of 100 points on each. You will be given a maximum of **three hours** to complete each exam. Please read and study the text, view all videos, lectures, and Powerpoint presentations in detail before beginning the exams. The professor will have the prerogative to manually curve the class scores depending upon the highest grade made on each exam. The manual adjustments, if any, will be entered into your grade book within one week of the due date for each exam. Each exam will be available to you at least seven days before the due date. You will have 3 hours to complete the test. Failure to take the exams during the time window available results in a grade of zero.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS OFFERED IN THE CLASS. EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE ONLY ON THE MOST COMPELLING OF REASONS.

Discussion Board Questions

Ten of the twenty discussion items on the discussion board must be answered with each item worth 10 points for a cumulative score of 50 on each forum. Generally, the discussion items are taken from the “Critical Thinking Exercises” found at the end of each chapter of the required textbook. Five of the discussion questions must be posted from Forum 1 and five more must be posted from Forum 2 by the due dates in the course calendar & assignment section of this syllabus. Discussion Board items may be posted early and this is highly encouraged to avoid last minute problems. Questions not posted by the due dates will be reduced in grade by one letter grade per calendar day. Do not post your answers as an attached file because attached files are often difficult for fellow students to read and respond.

Discussion question answers must be the student’s own original work and must be between 350 and 600 words (maximum). Post the question number and repeat the question you are answering before writing your answer. Each answer must be followed by the bibliographic information on at least three sources of information including your textbook and the posting must be followed by a word count. The word count does not include the bibliographic information nor the question. Be sure to indicate through internal citations where you use each source in your posting.

The bibliographic information and word count must be repeated for each and every answer and you should strive to use as many different sources as possible other than your textbook. In other words, please treat each discussion question as a mini-paper with three references including your textbook and two additional sources. Answers that are simply blocked and moved from any other site that are not the original work of the student posting the answer will receive a grade of zero unless properly cited and the student will be referred for disciplinary action by the university.

Responses

Students are required to briefly and respectfully comment to **two** responses to other students’ discussion questions. There is no length requirement for the responses to other student answers. Your responses should be based on the substantive content of their posting and must address the content of their answer. **DO NOT** criticize the other student or make negative references about the student. **Be sure you are responding to another student’s posting rather than to my posting of the question.**

Unlike other online classes, this is NOT A DISCUSSION BOARD, but rather a response board. The instructor will most likely NOT be involved in discussing issues, responses or papers presented, but rather, will read and evaluate student submissions and responses.

Attention to proper writing and correct spelling when posting the discussion questions and responses is expected and is a part of the grade received for the assignment. Use proper grammar and spelling and do not use any type of abbreviations not found in a commonly accepted, standardized English dictionary. **All comments posted by students must be in formal language with no intolerant, rude, abusive, or obscene language.** Violations of this policy will be referred for disciplinary action with the recommendation that the student be expelled from the class!

Introductions

Students should go to the discussion board and post a brief introduction about themselves during the **first week of class**. Please do not post addresses or other personal contact information on the discussion board. Give a brief summary about yourself including what year you are in, your major, and any future career goals if you have formulated them.

Syllabus Quiz: All students are required to complete the syllabus quiz within the first two weeks of class by the due date specified in the Course Calendar and Assignment section of this syllabus.

Scholastic Honesty

The University has policies and discipline procedures regarding scholastic dishonesty. Detailed information is available on the [UTD Judicial Affairs](#) web page. All students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility with respect to academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

University Policies

Students wishing information on the following topics and policies should visit the website following the list. Student Conduct & Discipline, Student Grievance Procedures, Incomplete Grade Policy, Disability Services, Religious Holy Days, Academic Integrity, Copyright Notice, Email Use, Withdrawal from Class, Technical Support, Class Attendance, Avoiding Plagiarism, Resources to help you succeed, and Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Course Calendar & Assignment Schedule

Please note that all chapter reading assignments made in this assignment schedule refer to readings in the required textbook, *Terrorism, Intelligence and Homeland Security* (above). As per the UTD Academic Calendar, Fall semester classes begin on **Monday, August 21, 2017** and this course will end on **Friday, December 8, 2017** with Examination #2 due on that date by 5:00 pm.

Please be aware that exams are open book and will be accessible for a period of 5 days prior to the due date. Because of this large amount of time, make-up tests are not permitted. Early completion of all graded events is highly encouraged!!!!

MODULE 0 (First Week of Course)

Introduction to the Course: Welcome to the class!
Read and Study the Syllabus
Post Personal Statement
Become Familiar with the eLearning Website
View Introduction Video to the Course
Read Biosketch, Class Policies and Guidelines, and Writing and Essay or Short Paper
Read and Study the Syllabus Again... Take the Syllabus Quiz
Begin Module 1

Professor's Notes: The syllabus will introduce you to the course, the professor, and the expectations of you in the course. For those of you who have not taken an online course before please feel free to email me at the eLearning website on the course homepage and ask any questions that you would ask me if we were sitting in class.

September 1, Friday @ 5:00 pm or earlier:

SYLLABUS QUIZ: All students must complete the posted syllabus quiz.

September 1, Friday @ 5:00 pm or earlier:

INTRODUCTIONS: All students should to the discussion board under "Introductions" and post a brief introduction of themselves. Please do not post any personal addresses or contact information. Just tell us a little bit about yourself such as what year you are in, your major, your interests, and future career plans if you have formulated any at this time.

MODULE 1: UNDERSTANDING ORGANIZED & CONSENSUAL (Weeks 1, 2, 3 and 4)

Required Readings: Read the preface and introduction to the text
OC Chapter 1: Introduction to Organized Crime
Definitions, Attributes and Structure of OC
OC Chapter 2: Explanations for Organized Crime
Theories of Organized Crime
OC Chapter 3: The United States
History of OC in America
OC Chapter 4: Italy and Albania
The Roots of Italian and Russian OC

Lecture and Video: View Video: **Introduction to Module 1**

View Module 1, Lecture #1: **Introduction to Organized Crime:
Defining Organized Crime**

View Module 1, Lecture #2: **Theories of Organized Crime**

View Module 1, Video #1: ***The Prohibition Years***

View Module 1, Video #2: ***Birth of the American Mafia***

View Module 1, Video #3: ***The Godfathers***

View Module #1, Movie #1 via Amazon: ***The Godfather (1972)***

View Module #1, Movie #2 via Amazon: ***American Gangster (2007)***

MODULE 2: ORGANIZED CRIME AROUND THE WORLD (Weeks 5, 6, 7 and 8)

Required Readings: OC Chapter 5: Colombia and Mexico
OC in Latin America
OC Chapter 6: Russian and the Former Soviet Union
OC Chapter 7: Asian Organized Crime
OC Chapter 8: African Organized Crime

Lecture and Video: View Video: **Introduction to Module 2**

View Module 2, Lecture #1: *Latin Organized Crime Cartels*

View Module 2, Lecture #2: *Asian Organized Crime*

View Module 2, Video #1: *World History of OC: Russia*

View Module 2, Video #2: *Inside the Cartel*

View Module #2, Movie #1 via Amazon: *Scarface (1983)*

View Module #2, Movie #2 via Amazon: *Mary Full of Grace (2004)*

Forum 1:

October 2, Monday @ 8:00 am:

MUST POST THE FIRST FIVE DISCUSSION QUESTION ANSWERS FOR FORUM 1

October 6, Friday @ 5:00 pm:

MUST POST TWO RESPONSES TO YOUR CLASSMATES' ANSWERS

Examination #1:

October 16, Monday @ 8:00 am:

EXAMINATION #1 covering Chapter 1 through 8, relevant Powerpoints and Lectures, and videos is Posted and Accessible.

October 20, Friday by 5:00 pm:

EXAMINATION #1 is due

MODULE 3: THE BUSINESS OF ORGANIZED AND CONSENSUAL CRIME (Weeks 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13)

Required Readings: OC Chapter 9: Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs and Gangs
OC Chapter 10: “Goods and Services”
Gambling and Loansharking
Pornography and Prostitution
OC Chapter 11: Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking
The War on Drugs – Inciardi (all)
OC Chapter 12: OC in Labor and Business – Money Laundering

Reading Assignment on eLearning:
“Sex Crimes, Victimization and Obscenity on the World Wide Web”

Lecture and Video: View Video: **Introduction to Module 3**

View Module 3, Lecture #1: **Pornography and Civil Liberties**
View Module 3, Lecture #2: **Child Sex Slavery & Human Trafficking**
View Module 3, Lecture #3: **Gambling and Loansharking**

View Module 3, Video #1: *Children for Sale*
View Module 3, Video #2: *LETN: Human Trafficking*

View Module #3, Movie #1 via Amazon: *Hells Angels on Wheels (1967)*
View Module #3, Movie #2 via Amazon: *The Infiltrator (2016)*
View Module #3, Movie #3 via Amazon: *Boogie Nights (1997)*

Forum 2: **November 27, Monday @ 8:00 am:**
MUST POST FIVE DISCUSSION QUESTION ANSWERS FOR FORUM 2
December 1, Friday @ 5:00 pm:
MUST POST TWO ADDITIONAL RESPONSES TO YOUR CLASSMATES’ ANSWERS.

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A TOTAL OF TEN DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND FOUR RESPONSES COMPLETED IN THE COURSE

MODULE 4: COMBATTING ORGANIZED CRIME IN AMERICA (Weeks 14 and 15)

Required Readings: OC Chapter 13: Responding to OC: Laws and Statutes
OC Chapter 14: Investigation and Prosecution of OC
Law Enforcement Agencies and OC

Lecture and Video: View Video: **Introduction to Module 4**

View Module 4, Lecture #1: **OC Law, RICO and Forfeiture Laws**
View Module 4, Lecture #2: **Law Enforcement Agencies and OC**

View Module #4, Movie via Amazon: *The Departed (2006)*

Examination #2: **December 4, Monday @ 8:00am:**
EXAMINATION #2 covering Chapter 9 through 14, relevant
Powerpoints and Lectures, and Videos is Posted and Accessible
December 8, Friday @ 5:00 pm
EXAMINATION #2 is due

End of Course: **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017 AT 5:00 PM**

ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY !!!!!

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.