

**UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

SOCIOLOGY OF CRIMINAL CAREERS

077:371 L02

11:30-12:20

308 Tier

3 Credit Hours

January-April 2006

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Tannis Peikoff

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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Cromwell, Paul	<u>In Their Own Words: Criminals on Crime.</u> (3rd edition) Roxbury Publishing Co. 2005.
Scott, Kody	<u>Monster: The Autobiography of an L.A. Gang Member.</u> Penguin Books. 1994.
Friedrichs, David	<u>Trusted Criminals,</u> Thomson/Wadsworth Publishing, 2004.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with a better understanding of three specific types of crime: conventional or street crime, 'white collar' crime, and organized crime. An objective of this course is to gain an understanding of the underlying conditions that lead to these types of crimes. Wherever, possible, we will take into account the perspective of the offender. In all cases, attention will be paid to gender.

In the first section, the careers of the offenders will be studied in much the same way as careers in legitimate enterprises. We will discuss reasons for entry, progression through stages of the career, and reasons for exiting the career. Specifically, criminal careers will be examined with respect to: definition and seriousness of the offences, characteristics of the offenders, relationship to the victims, motives, and progression of criminal involvement over time.

The second section, 'white collar crime', is subdivided into occupational and corporate crime. The first part of this section will examine crimes by professionals. The second part will examine corporate crimes such as crimes against employees and crimes against the public.

The third section, 'organized crime', will discuss both traditional forms of organized crime and current issues in transnational organized crime.

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be based on the following:

Test # 1:	Jan. 27	20%
Test # 2	Mar.3	20%
Test # 3	Apr 7	20%
Book review	due <i>in class</i> Jan. 23	15%
Group project	due <i>in class</i> Mar.24	15%
Presentation of group work		5%
Evaluations of group members		5%

Tests are not cumulative. Students are responsible for all assigned readings, lecture material, material discussed by speakers, class discussions and video presentations.

Missed Exams: Make-up tests will be allowed if there is a valid reason such as illness. You must inform me within one week of the missed test. In the case of illness, a note from your doctor is required.

Late Written Assignments: Late book reviews and projects will be given a lesser grade of 5% for every day that they are late.

Papers and Group projects will not be accepted past one week from the due date.

Missed Presentations: One of the requirements of the course is an in-class group presentation worth 5% of your grade. All group members must be present for the group presentation unless they have a legitimate medical reason for not attending. Failure to attend the group presentation will result in a mark of zero, unless prior alternative arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Students are expected to do the required readings and be prepared to engage in discussions on the topics covered in the readings

GRADES

90-100= A+	70-74= C+
85-89= A	60-69= C
80-84= B+	50-59= D
75-79= B	49 or less=F

Students should note that these are guidelines only, and that different percentage cut-offs may be used, depending on the final grade distribution. Accordingly, your final grade may be raised or lowered.

GROUP RESEARCH PAPERS

The class will be divided into groups of four or five students. All students in the group will be given the same mark for the project. Your paper will be worth 20% of your final grade. You will be required to present your paper towards the end of term. This will be worth 5% of the grade you receive on your paper. Your group may also be asked to prepare some of the assigned readings for class discussions. Towards the end of this term, you will be required to assess the input of the other students in your group. This assessment will be worth 5% of your total grade.

The university acknowledges the right of all students to observe recognized Holy Days of their faith which fall within the academic year. The instructor should be notified in writing of a student's intended absence in advance, and at least three weeks notice should normally be given where special arrangements are sought.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students should acquaint themselves with the university's policy on Examinations: 'Personations' (p.26) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' (p.27) found in the Undergraduate Calendar". The faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

***Last day for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty: March. 17, 2006.**

DISRUPTIONS

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that any persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

COURSE OUTLINE

PART 1 TRADITIONAL/ STREET CRIME

CRIMINAL LIFESTYLES AND DECISION MAKING

Cromwell Chapter 4: 'The Socially bounded decision making of persistent property offenders'

Cromwell Chapter 5: "The Reasoning Burglar: Motives and Decision-Making Strategies"

Cromwell Chapter 6: "Women, Work and Crime"

Cromwell Chapter 30: "Getting Out of the Life": Crime Desistance by Female Street Offenders"

Cromwell Chapter 31: "Aging Criminals: Changes in the Criminal Calculus"

VIOLENT CRIME

Robbery

Cromwell Chapter 7: "Stick-up, Street Culture and Offender Motivation"

Cromwell Chapter 15: "Creating the Illusion of Impending Death: Armed Robbers in Action"

PROPERTY CRIME

Cromwell Chapter 10: "Managing Fear to Commit Felony Theft"

Cromwell Chapter 8: "Street life and the Rewards of Auto Theft"

GANGS AND CRIME

Shakur: "Monster: The Autobiography of an L.A. Gang Member"

TEST #1

PART 2: WHITE COLLAR CRIME

WHAT IS WHITE COLLAR CRIME?

Friedrichs, Chapter 1: p. 1-20

COSTS OF WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 2

OCCUPATIONAL CRIME

Cromwell Chapter 16: 'Telemarketing and the Changing nature of Professional Crime'

Cromwell Chapter 17: 'How Doctors Defraud Medicaid'

Friedrichs, Chapter 4

Friedrichs, Chapter 6 : p. 151-164

CORPORATE CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 3

EXPLAINING WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 8

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Friedrichs, Chapter 12

TEST #2

PART 3: ORGANIZED CRIME

*note: all of the following readings are on reserve at Dafoe library

INTRODUCTION

Albanese, Chapter 1: “What is Organized Crime”?

ORGANIZED CRIME MODELS

Albanese, Chapter 5: ‘Paradigms of Organized Crime’

THEORIES OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Class lectures

HISTORY OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Class lectures

ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Albanese: Transnational Organized Crime

Albini et al ‘Russian Organized Crime’

POLITICAL AND CORPORATE ALLIANCES

Ruggiero ‘Fuzzy Criminal Actors’

Beare: ‘Organized corporate criminality’

PRESENT AND FUTURE TRENDS

Godson and Olson ‘International Organized Crime’

CONTROLLING ORGANIZED CRIME

Schlegel ‘Transnational Crime’

Test #3