

University of Manitoba
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY OF CRIMINAL CAREERS

SOC3710 A01 24488

11:30-12:20

3 Credit Hours

229 St. Pauls College

Sept. to Dec. 2010

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Tannis Peikoff
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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
COURSE WEBSITE: www.umanitoba.ca/angel

TA:
EMAIL:
OFFICE:
TA OFFICE HOURS:

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Cromwell, Paul | <u>In Their Own Words: Criminals on Crime.</u> (5th edition) Roxbury Publishing Co. 2010. |
| _____ Scott, Kody | <u>Monster: The Autobiography of an L.A. Gang Member.</u> |
| _____ Friedrichs, David | <u>Trusted Criminals</u> (4th edition). Thomson/Wadsworth Publishing, 2010. |

* A copy of all of the above texts has been placed on reserve at Dafoe Library.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of careers in three specific types of crime: conventional or street crime, 'white collar' crime, and organized crime. An objective of this course is to critically analyze the underlying conditions that lead to careers in these types of crimes. Wherever possible, the perspective of the offenders is taken into account through accounts provided by the offenders themselves who discuss their motives and life experiences.

The first section of the course examines the decision-making process of offenders in several traditional or street crimes. The second section, 'white collar crime', examines fraud, cybercrime, crimes in the professions and corporate crime. The third section, 'organized crime', examines both traditional forms of organized crime and current issues in transnational organized crime.

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be based on the following:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----|
| Book review due <i>in class</i> | Oct. 4 | 15% |
| Test # 1: | Oct. 13 | 20% |
| Test #2 | Nov. 12 | 20% |
| Test #3 | Dec. 8 | 20% |
| Group paper due <i>in class</i> | Dec. 3 | 20% |
| Participation | | 5% |

In the unlikely event that test dates are changed, students will be notified well ahead both in class and on Angel.

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 assignments will be given a lesser grade of 5% for every day that they are late.

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 |

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

In the second week of class you will be divided into groups. The group to which you are assigned will remain the same for the remainder of the course. This will count for your participation grade.

GROUP PAPER

The group to which you have been assigned will remain the same for the group paper. Towards the end of the course you will present your research to the class as a group. All members of the group will be given the same mark

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 Personation at Examinations: (section 4.2.8) and 'Plagiarism and Cheating' (Section 7.1) 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.

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL

Last day for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty: November 17, 2010.

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

- *Note: readings may be added to or deleted from this list*

CRIMINAL LIFESTYLES AND DECISION MAKING

READINGS:

Cromwell Chapter 1 “The Socially Bounded Decision Making of Persistent Property Offenders”

Cromwell Chapter 2 “The Reasoning Offender: Motives and Decision-Making Strategies”

Cromwell Chapter 3 “Opportunities and Decisions: Interactional Dynamics in Robbery and Burglary Groups”

Cromwell Chapter 25 “Aging Criminals: Changes in the Criminal Calculus”

STREET GANGS

Cromwell Chapter 18 “Gang-Related Gun Violence: Socialization, Identity, and Self”

VIOLENT CRIME

Homicide Class lectures and Alex Cheesequay video

Robbery Cromwell Chapter 9 “Creating the Illusion of Impending Death: Armed Robbers in Action”

PROPERTY CRIME

Auto theft Class lectures

TEST #1

PART 2: WHITE COLLAR CRIME

WHAT IS WHITE COLLAR CRIME?

Friedrichs, Chapter 1 “The Discovery of White Collar Crime”: pp. 1-20.

COSTS OF WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 2 : “Studying White Collar Crime” pp. 49-58.

FRAUD AND FINANCE CRIME

Friedrichs Chapter 7 “: “Fraud” pp. 202-211

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

Cromwell Chapter 7: “Identity Theft: Assessing Offenders’ Motivations and Strategies”

Friedrichs Chapter 6: pp. 168-188

COMPUTER CRIME

Friedrichs – Chapter 7: “Technocrime, Including Computer Crime”, pp. 211-217

On reserve: Grabosky: “The Global Dimension of Cybercrime”

OCCUPATIONAL CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 4 : “Medical crime pp. 92-96; Legal crime pp.96-98.Friedrichs, Chapter 6: “

Cromwell Chapter 13: “Denying the Guilty Mind: Accounting for Involvement in White Collar Crime”

CORPORATE CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 3

EXPLAINING WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Friedrichs, Chapter 8: “Explaining White Collar Crime: Theories and Accounts” pp. 231-248.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Friedrichs, Chapter 12: “Responding to the Challenge of White Collar Crime” pp. 345-367

TEST #2

PART 3: ORGANIZED CRIME

*note: all of the following readings are on reserve at Dafoe library.
Some can be accessed online via the journal.

INTRODUCTION:

Finckenaure, James 'Problems of Definition: What is Organized Crime?'
Galeotti, Mark 'Criminal Histories: an Introduction' in *Global crime*, Vol 9, nos. 1-2,
February 2008.

ORGANIZED CRIME ACTIVITIES

Class lectures

Beare, Margaret 'Corruption and organized crime: Lessons from history' in *Crime, Law, & Social Change* 28: 155-172., 1997.

PARADIGMS AND THEORIES OF ORGANIZED CRIME

Class lectures

ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS and THEIR HISTORY

Albini et al 'Russian Organized Crime'

POLITICAL AND CORPORATE ALLIANCES

Ruggiero 'Fuzzy Criminal Actors'

Beare: 'Organized corporate criminality' in *Crime, Law, and Social Change* 37:
225 -243 2002.

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

Godson and Olson 'International Organized Crime'

CONTROLLING ORGANIZED CRIME

Schlegel 'Transnational Crime' in *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* Vol
16, no. 4, 2000.

Test #3