

**KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE 4300/01 – ORGANIZED CRIME**  
**CRN #10221**  
**SYLLABUS – FALL 2015**

Instructor: Prof. Peter Fenton  
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Office: SO 4065

Class times: Tuesday/Thursday  
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm  
Social Science Bldg. 2025  
Office hours T/Th 1:00-3:00 pm

**TEXT:**

Organized Crime, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Howard Abadinsky, Wadsworth Publishing, Belmont, California, 2013. Required.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Study the history and structure of organized crime in the U.S. and throughout the world.
2. Examine the various organized criminal enterprises in existence today.
3. Consider methods used by law enforcement to combat organized crime.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Attend class regularly.
2. Read assigned material and come to class prepared.
3. Participate in class discussions and activities.
4. Graded assignments:

**EXAMINATIONS:** 4 section exams consisting of multiple choice and essay questions. Students will be tested on material covered in class lectures and discussions, videos, handouts, and the textbook. Each section exam is worth 20% of the student's final grade. Tentative dates for exams are listed below.

**PROJECT:** Virtual OC. Each student will be assigned to a group. Each group will represent a virtual version of an actual American outlaw motorcycle gang, with a specific structure and function similar to what is known about the actual group. At the end of the semester, each group will make an in-class presentation about their respective outlaw motorcycle gang, including information about its history, structure, and activities. In addition, each group will submit a written report regarding the structure, activities, and membership of the organization. The presentations and completed reports are due on the date listed in the course schedule.

The presentations and completed written assignments are due on the date listed in the course schedule.

This project will be worth 20% of the student's final grade, with these points apportioned as follows:

Written report – 10 points

Presentation – 10 points

Attendance at group meetings – 6 additional points (2 points per meeting, up to a maximum of 3 meetings)

Additional information about this project will be provided in class.

Each group will be allotted some class time on a scheduled basis so that members may confer about the ongoing project. However, students should expect to do most of their work on this project outside of class.

**MAKEUP EXAMS:** Each student may make up ONE of the section exams. Make-ups will be given ONLY during the date and time listed in the Course Schedule. These exams will not be identical to the ones given during the semester, but will be in the same format and will cover the same material.

**LATE SUBMISSIONS:** All written assignments are due at the start of class on the date listed in the course schedule, and are considered late thereafter. Late submissions will be penalized 10 points per calendar day.

No “extra credit” assignments will be given. Any student requesting extra credit work will be “whacked”.

**GRADING:** The final grade will be assigned as a letter grade, based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100 points

B = 80 – 89 points

C = 70 – 79 points

D = 60 – 69 points

F = 59 points and below

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in rare circumstances, for good cause shown, such as a serious illness that precludes completion of the course. An Incomplete will not be given solely for failure to complete assignments on time. The instructor and the department chair shall have sole discretion in granting an Incomplete grade.

Grades, announcements, and schedule changes will be posted on D2L. Students are urged to check their D2L site regularly.

**USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Students are not permitted to use laptop or tablet computers, cell phones, or other electronic devices during class, except in the case of a documented disability requiring the use of such device. Any student discovered using an electronic device during class will be directed to secure it and will be counted as absent for that day's class.

**RECORDING:** Students may not record (audio, video, still photography) the lectures or class discussions without prior permission from the instructor. Students do not have my consent to use recording devices in the classroom or in my office.

**GRADING:** The final grade will be assigned as a letter grade, based on the following scale:

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

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in rare circumstances, for good cause shown, such as a serious illness that precludes completion of the course. An Incomplete will not be given solely for failure to complete assignments on time. The instructor and the department chair shall have sole discretion in granting an Incomplete grade.

Grades, announcements, and schedule changes will be posted on D2L. Students are urged to check their D2L site regularly. All electronic communications with the instructor regarding course-related matters must be submitted through the D2L mail feature, NOT the standard KSU email system.

**ATTENDANCE:** Regular class attendance is directly related to academic success. Therefore, attendance in class should be a priority, and a mandatory attendance policy will be enforced. Each student will be allowed a maximum of three absences during the semester. These are at the student's discretion – no doctor's notes or other documentation is required. However, upon the fourth and subsequent absence, for any reason other than the exceptions described below, five points will be deducted from the student's final grade for each class missed.

Roll will be called at the start of each class. Students who arrive late are solely responsible for checking in with the instructor **IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLASS**. Two late arrivals and/or early departures are the equivalent of one absence.

The only exceptions to this policy are for documented mandatory military service or a court subpoena or summons.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section III of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University

records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious or intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which may include an informal resolution by a faculty member resulting in a grade adjustment or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject the student to the minimum one-semester suspension required by the Code of Conduct.

Cheating or plagiarism in any form will result in a grade of F for the course. In addition, a report will be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

**DISABILITY SERVICES:** If you have a disability (e.g., visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical impairment, communication disorder, and/or specific learning disability) which may influence your performance in this course, you must meet with representative at Student Disability Services (SDS) to arrange for reasonable accommodations to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. If you require accommodations due to disability, please visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/studev/dsss/welcome.html> for more information on how to register with Student Disability Services. You will be provided faculty letters indicating your accommodation needs for the semester. Please present this letter to me as soon as possible to ensure your accommodation needs are discussed, agreed upon, and provided.

COURSE SCHEDULE  
(Tentative – Subject to change)

January 12	Introduction/review syllabus
January 14	Chapter 1 – Definition & Structure of OC
January 19	Chapter 4 – Explaining OC
January 21-26	Chapter 2 – History of OC in the U.S.
January 26	Project discussion – <b>FIRST GROUP MEETINGS</b>
January 28	<b>FIRST EXAM</b>
February 2-4	Chapter 14 – OC laws
February 9-11	Chapter 15 – Law Enforcement
February 16-18	Chapter 11 – The business of OC
February 23	<b>SECOND GROUP MEETINGS</b>
February 25	<b>SECOND EXAM</b>
March 1	Chapter 12 – Drugs
March 3-8	Chapter 13 – OC in labor & business
March 10-15	Chapter 5 – Italian OC
March 17-22	Chapter 3 – The American Mafia
March 24	<b>THIRD EXAM</b>
March 29	Chapter 6 – Latino OC
March 31	Chapter 7 – Black OC
April 2-9	<b>SPRING BREAK – YOU GOT NO CLASS</b>
April 12	Chapter 8 – Asian OC
April 14	Chapter 9 – Russian OC
April 19	<b>FOURTH EXAM</b>
April 21	Chapter 10 – Outlaw motorcycle clubs

April 26

**MAKEUP EXAMS**

April 28

**THIRD GROUP MEETINGS**

May 5

**PROJECT PRESENTATIONS & SUBMISSION  
OF WRITTEN REPORTS 6:00 pm-8:00 pm**