

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE 4300/03 – ORGANIZED CRIME
CRN #10163
SYLLABUS – SPRING 2017

Instructor: Prof. Peter Fenton
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Office: SO 4065

Class times: Monday/ Wednesday
12:30 pm – 1:45 pm
Social Science Bldg. 3021
Office hours M/W 2:00 – 3:30 pm

TEXT:

Organized Crime, 11th edition, Howard Abadinsky, Cengage Learning, Belmont, California, 2017. Required. ISBN: 978-1305633711

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: CRJU 1101

This course examines the origins, histories, and activities of various major organized crime groups in the United States and throughout the world. Special emphasis is placed on emerging organized criminal enterprises in developing countries and regions. In addition, this course explores the methods used by law enforcement to combat organized crime.

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. This project is designed to enhance the student's understanding of the structure and function of organized criminal enterprises.

Each student will be assigned to a group. Each group will become a virtual organized criminal enterprise. The group will:

1. Choose a leader.
2. Decide on a structure/hierarchy. Give the group a name if you choose.
3. Assign roles to each member, according to the particular structure you have collectively chosen.
4. Determine what illicit activity/activities your group will engage in. Consider:
 - a. How will you make money?
 - b. How will you hide your activities from the authorities?
 - c. What legitimate activities, if any, will you engage in to cover your criminal acts?
 - d. What rules will govern your organization?

At the end of the semester, each group will submit one written report, approximately 10-12 typed, double-spaced pages in length (using APA style), containing all the information listed above. In addition, each student will keep a weekly journal. The journal will contain at least one entry each week, describing the writer's virtual activities in furtherance of the organization's goals and the writer's observations and impressions of the experience. The journals will be submitted as part of the written report, on the date listed in the course schedule.

Reports will be graded on:

- Content – adherence to the concepts discussed in class, discussion of both activities and impressions.
- Originality
- Proper grammar, spelling, etc.

Also, as part of this project, each group will make a presentation in class, summarizing their work. All group members must participate. The presentations should be 10-15 minutes in length.

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

Written report – 15 points

Presentation – 5 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.

IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS A VIRTUAL PROJECT. NO ACTUAL CRIMES ARE TO BE COMMITTED.

Students will be allowed a limited amount of class time for coordination of each group's activities, but most work will be done outside of class. The instructor will consult with each group regularly and may direct or alter the structure or activities of the group's members.

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.

EXCEPTION: A student may use a laptop computer (not a tablet or cell phone) only if the student first submits a written acknowledgement that the laptop is to be used EXCLUSIVELY for the purposes of taking notes or accessing an electronic copy of the textbook for this class. The instructor reserves the right at any time to observe the screen content of any device used during class. If content other than class notes or other relevant material is visible, the student will be counted as absent for that day, will be required to shut off the device, and will not be allowed to use it in class thereafter.

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

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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, and is particularly critical in a class offered in seminar format. 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, 5 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 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.

CAMPUS POLICIES: Students are responsible for reading and familiarizing themselves with the following campus policies:

Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA)

<http://enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php>

University – Student Rights Statement

<http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263>

Ethics Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Sexual Harassment Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement)

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>

Disruption of Campus Life Policy

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Tentative – Subject to change)

January 9	Introduction/review syllabus
January 11	Chapter 1 – Definition & Structure of OC
January 16	Holiday
January 18	Chapter 2 – Explaining OC
January 23	Project discussion – FIRST GROUP MEETINGS
January 25-30	Chapter 3 – History of OC in the U.S.
February 1	FIRST EXAM
February 6-8	Chapter 10 – OC goods and services
February 13-15	Chapter 11 – OC and drug trafficking
February 20-22	Chapter 12 – OC in labor & business
February 27	SECOND GROUP MEETINGS
March 1	SECOND EXAM
March 6-8	Chapter 4 – Italy and Albania
March 13	Chapter 5 – Colombia & Mexico
March 15	Chapter 6 – Russia and former Soviet republics
March 20	Chapter 7 – Asian OC
March 22	Chapter 8 – African OC
March 27	Chapter 9 – Outlaw motorcycle clubs
March 29	THIRD EXAM
April 1-7	SPRING BREAK – YOU GOT NO CLASS
April 10-12	Chapter 13 – OC statutes
April 17-19	Chapter 14 – Investigation and prosecution
April 24	FOURTH EXAM

April 26

MAKEUP EXAMS

May 1

THIRD GROUP MEETINGS

May TBA

**PROJECT PRESENTATIONS & SUBMISSION
OF WRITTEN REPORTS**