47: 202: 343
White Collar Crime
Three Credits/Writing Intensive
Fall, 2017

Mondays
6:00pm-8:40pm

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: EDEM F. AVAKAME, Ph.D.
Email: AVAKAME@RUTGERS.EDU
Phone: 862-230-1589 (TILL 10PM)
Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course focuses on crimes organized by persons whose economic, political, and privileged positions facilitate the commission, with relative impunity, of unusual crimes that are often national and international in scope and that have serious, long-term consequences. The mention of crime and criminals evokes mental images of poor, unkempt, young (usually non-white) males with lethal weapons prowling the night. This course is designed, partly, to debunk that class bias in conventional criminology. We will spend a considerable amount of time discussing the conceptual issue of what constitutes white-collar crime. To sharpen our focus we will, at all points, draw parallels with so-called conventional crime. The discussions will assume a reasonable level of familiarity with the subject matter of criminology and criminal justice.

PREREQUISITE

None
B.S., CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark, students should be able to:

1) Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.

2) Describe the mechanisms, correlates, theoretical underpinnings, and situational contexts of crime, criminal behavior and opportunity, and techniques for prevention and treatment.

3) Apply and analyze theories related to the policies and practices of the criminal justice system and its major institutions.

4) Demonstrate the ability to gather, explain, and apply empirical research in the field of criminal justice.

5) Obtain a comprehensive knowledge about the process of conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Formulate a definition of white collar crime.

2. Articulate problems that have plagued the formulation of the concept of white collar crime.

3. Appreciate the problems and prospects of controlling white collar crime.

4. Develop the ability to write coherent analyses of issues relating to white collar crime.
I. COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION

- Overview of “conventional” knowledge on nature and sources of criminal behavior.

WHAT IS WHITE COLLAR CRIME?


EXPLAINING WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Differential Association and White Collar Crime


Self-control and White Collar Crime


**Rational Choice and White Collar Crime**


**Deprivation and White Collar Crime**


**Integrated Theory**


**Case Studies in White Collar Crime**

TBD
CONTROLLING WHITE COLLAR CRIME


EPilogue

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

This is a writing intensive course. Grades for the course will be based on student presentations and three written assignments. Each will contribute 25% of your final grade. Credit will be given at all times for clarity of thought and logical presentation of material.

Attendance and participation

Class attendance is compulsory. Students who absent themselves from class are responsible for what happens in their absence.

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

- A 90–100%
- B+ 85–89%
- B 80–84%
- C+ 75–79%
- C 70–74%
- D 60–69%
- F <60%

Late or Missing Assignment Policy

Late or missing assignments will not be accepted.
**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students [http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity](http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity)

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university’s policy will result in appropriate action.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website [https://ods.rutgers.edu/](https://ods.rutgers.edu/) or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Allen Sheffield  
Director of ADA Services and Academic Support  
Robeson Campus Center, Suite 352  
350 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: 973.353.5300  
Fax: 973.353.5666  
E-mail: kate.torres@rutgers.edu  
Website: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/](https://ods.rutgers.edu/)

**PSYCHOLOGICAL AND COUNSELING SERVICES**

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university’s psychological and counseling service center ([http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu](http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu); 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about  
- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)  
- Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website [http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/](http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/)

Follow us, to stay up to date! @SCJ_apps