

**47:202:412:72 Organized Crime
3 Credits
Spring 2019**

**Tuesday and Thursday
Conklin Hall Room 424
6:00 pm – 7:20 pm**

I. Course Information

Instructor

Instructor: Professor Shelton McCall, Esq.

Email: Shelton.mccall@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: Office hours by appointment only

Course Overview

The course provides students with a historical and theoretical overview of organized crime as well as a specific understanding of its variety. Students will gain an understanding of the structures of organized crime and the varieties of businesses associated with traditional and nontraditional organized crime groups.

Course Objectives

The main objective of the course is to provide students with the tools to understand organized crime and its impact on the Criminology landscape. The course equips students with the ability to:

- ✓ Understand key concepts involving organized crime and its tangential issues
- ✓ Identify the myriad theories of organized criminal behavior
- ✓ Differentiate between scholarly and popular writing to identify the source material
- ✓ Discuss the various natures of organized crime groups and police responses
- ✓ Examine the aspects of organized crime that are legitimate business entities
- ✓ Demonstrate knowledge of organized criminal activity both in and out of the United States

- ✓ Explain terrorism as a form of organized crime
- ✓ Analyze the evolution of organized crime
- ✓ Identify different methods of enforcement to control organized crime
- ✓ Define categories of organized criminal behavior

Required Course Text

* Howard Abadinsky, *Organized Crime*. Cengage Learning, 2017, 11th Edition. ISBN-13: 9781305633711

* Additional reading assignments may be placed on Blackboard. A student must check BlackBoard weekly.

Course Requirements

Students are required to read assigned readings and participate in classroom discussions in a manner that reflects familiarity with the readings and previous class sessions. Students are required to access the course website regularly to stay informed about any changes in lecture topics, assigned readings and other course announcements.

Texts and Materials

Students will be required to critically read, analyze and summarize the *Selected Readings* from chapters in books, journal articles, periodicals, and the media (distributed in class, posted on Blackboard, or sent to student's Rutgers's email). Additionally, readings may be added based on current events, guest lectures and other related materials that impact this class.

II. Grading

The final grade will be assessed based upon performance on the following:

Exam One	15%
Exam Two	15%
Exam Three	15%
Exam Four	25%
Class Participation	10%
Group Presentations	10%
Group Paper	10%

Exams

Four exams will be offered during class time. The exams may be a combination of short answer, multiple choice, fill in the blank and short answers.

Missed Exams

Students who fail to take an exam on the date scheduled will not be provided a make-up exam unless extenuating circumstances exist and proper documentation is provided to warrant such action. Failure to promptly notify me of the need for a make-up examination will result in a grade of zero for that examination. Failure to provide documentation will result in a grade of zero for that examination. Documentation must be provided *before* the make-up exam can be administered.

Participation (10%): A significant percentage of your grade is based on class participation and attendance. Your participation grade will reflect your level of involvement in course discussion and in-class activities [Group Presentation]. Professor will call on a number of students throughout the class. To that end, a student’s non-attendance can or will adversely affect his/her class participation grade. You are expected to contribute to each module by voicing your ideas, comments, and questions. To prepare for class, you should complete the assigned readings, take notes on the authors’ main points, and think about possible questions or discussion points for the class.

Grades

Grade	Grade Range
A	90 - 100
B+	85 - 89
B	80 - 84
C+	75 - 79
C	70 - 74
D	60 - 69
F	Below 60

III. Course Schedule

Organized Crime Tuesdays & Thursdays 6 pm – 7:20 pm		
Schedule of Classes - Spring 2019		
Date	Theme/Key Topic	Reading & Assignment(s)
Week 1 January 22 & 24, 2019	Introductions, Distribution of Syllabus & Course Requirements Introduction Organized Crime:	Chapter 1

Week 2 January 23 & 25, 2019	Explanation Organized Crimes	Chapter 2
Week 3 January 29 & 31, 2019	United States Review for Exam #1	Chapter 3
Week 4 February 5 & 7, 2019	Italy and Albania (Exam #1)	Chapter 4
Week 5 February 12 & 14, 2019	Colombia and Mexico LIST OF GROUP MEMBERS DUE 9pm 2/15	Chapter 5 TBD: Guest Speaker
Week 6 February 19 & 21, 2019	Russia and the Former Soviet Union	Chapter 6
Week 7 February 26 & 28, 2019	Asia & Africa GROUP TOPICS DUE BY 9PM 2/29	Chapter 7 & Chapter 8
Week 8 March 5 & 7, 2019	Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs (Exam #2)	Chapter 9
Week 9 March 12 & 14, 2019	Organize Crime: Goods and Services	Chapter 10
Week 10 March 19 & 21, 2019	SPRING BREAK!	NO CLASS
Week 11 March 26 & 28, 2019	Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking	Chapter 11
Week 12	Organize Crime in Labor, Business, and	Chapter 12

April 2 & 4, 2019	Money Laundering Review for Exam #3 (Exam #3)	
Week 13 April 9 & 11, 2019	Organize Crime and Statutes	Chapter 13
Week 14 April 16 & 18	Investigating and Prosecuting Organized Crime Student Classroom Presentations	Chapter 14
Week 15 April 23 & 25, 2019	Student Classroom Presentations Review for Final Exam	
Week 16 April 30, & <u>May 2, 2019</u>	Final 4 Exam	
The syllabus may be subject to change if so, you will be given notice of same.		

IV. The Group Presentation

THE GROUP PRESENTATION will require the participation of all group members. That means all group members are to participate in the presentation. All group members are to know the facts of the presentation and can answer questions from the audience, during and after a said presentation. **Your group presentation is limited to no less than 15 minutes and not more than 20 minutes {Which is subject to change}**. You can use PowerPoint, handouts and/or video as part of your presentation. Each group member is to introduce him/herself to the audience and state the extent of his/her participation in this presentation. All students are to speak incomplete sentences and loud enough for your classmates to hear you. The presentation will be graded on content, grammar, presentation, and participation. **A list of group members** is to be submitted to Professor by 2/15/19. All **presentations topics** are to be submitted to

Professor by 3/29/2019. For further explanation see the Professor or Blackboard under Assignments.

Your presentation topic must relate to Organized Crime.

1. Some topics to consider are as follows:
 - a. The Origin of Organized Crime in the United States
 - b. The Origin of Organized crime in other countries
 - c. The role of women in organized crime either traditionally or in modern times
 - d. The prosecution of organized crime members - give examples of famous cases
 - e. The media and organized crime – how is it portrayed?
 - f. Does the media’s portrayal of organized crime influence society?

INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION PAPER - You are to write a 1-2-page paper about your involvement in this presentation. Were you a team player, did the group listen to everyone’s ideas before making presentation decisions? What were the benefits of this group presentation as it related to this class? Was your participation in this group worth your time? State the reasons why and/or why not. *All your teammates must be listed on your title page.* **Your individual presentation paper is to be typed and submitted at the end of your presentation on the date assigned.** For further explanation see Professor or Blackboard under Assignments.

IV. Course Policies

Classroom Conduct

Classroom Conduct: Students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared to work. If you will be late, (more than 10 minutes), please inform me ASAP.

Leaving Early: If you must leave early, you are to inform me prior to class. When you leave, do so quietly and discreetly.

Food: You may eat snack (i.e. candy bar or M & M’s) beverages (coffee, tea, water or soda); so long as you do so quietly and properly dispose of your trash.

Electronics: All cell phones should be turned off or be on silent mode. A laptop may be used for class purposes only. Any other use is prohibited. **NO RECORDING OF CLASSROOM SESSIONS.**

All members of this class are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner. In this class, we may have discussions that challenge our taken for granted assumptions about crime and justice. Students should be prepared to engage honestly and openly about this

material and perhaps even examine their own beliefs about the issues. While I am hopeful that the course materials will spark interesting discussion, personal insults or other types of demeaning, disrespectful, or threatening comments toward other class members about their experiences, backgrounds, or statements will NOT be tolerated. We will treat each other with respect.

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>

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.

Academic Resources

Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University is committed to providing an 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/> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Kate Torres
Coordinator 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/>

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>; 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/>