

**White Collar Crime 47:202:343**

**Writing Intensive - 3 Credits**

**Fall 2023 Syllabus**

# Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 pm

# Englehard Hall 203

Instructor: Dr. William Calathes

E-mail: william.calathes@rutgers.edu

Office hours: Thursday 4:00-5:00 (SCJ Rm 534) or by appointment (virtual or in person)

Phone number: 917-837-6047

Course Canvas Page: https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/252253

**Additional Student Support**

Writing Center

Located at Conklin Hall, Room 126, 175 University Avenue, Newark, NJ 07102 E-mail: [nwc@andromeda.rutgers.edu](mailto:nwc@andromeda.rutgers.edu)

Phone: (973) 353-5849

<https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/writing-center>

Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops offered every semester to all students enrolled in a Writing Intensive course.

Canvas Tech Support

E-mail: [help@canvas.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@canvas.rutgers.edu) Phone: (877) 361-1134

<https://canvas.rutgers.edu/students/getting-started-in-canvas-students/>

**Required Book:**

Rosoff, S. M. Pontell, H. N. & Tillman, R. (2020). *Profit without honor: White collar crime and*

*the looting of America.* (7th ed.). Pearson.

**Required Articles:**

Calathes, W., & Yeager, M. (2015). Sweetheart settlements, the financial crisis, and impunity:

A case study of SEC v. Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., *Social Justice, 42* (1), 53-69.

Kramer, R. C. (2016). State-organized crime, international law and structural contradictions.

*Critical Criminology, 24,* 231-245. **https://doi.org/10.1007/s10612-015-9306-3**

McDowell, M. G., (2013). Becoming a waste land where nothing can survive’: resisting state-corporate environmental crime in a forgotten’ place. *Contemporary Justice Review, 16*(4), 394-411. **https://doi.org/10.1080/10282580.2013.857094**

Additional articles may also be posted on Canvas.

# Course Description: White-collar crime focuses on a wide range of criminal activity. These crimes are committed by people who hold some sort of privilege in an economic and/or political position. You will learn about different systems in which white-collar crime can occur, including the economic system, the corporate system, the housing system, systems of social control, and the health care system, as well as crimes in sales-related occupations and environmental crimes. Finally, you will learn about who the perpetrators of these crimes are, who is victimized by these crimes, criminological theories that explain why these crimes occur, how trends in white-collar crimes have changed over time, and how white-collar crime compares to street crime.

# Learning Objectives: This course provides an overview of corporate and white-collar crime and their economic, political, and social impact. Upon completion of this course, you are expected to have solid knowledge of the history of corporate and white-collar crimes and be able to analyze the schemes behind each type of crime. At the culmination of this course, students should be able to:

# 1. Analyze acts that constitute white-collar crime and known about white-collar court proceedings.

# 2. Draw parallels between white collar and conventional criminal activities.

# 3. Articulate the major theories that explain WCC, and the principal research findings associated with each theory.

# 4. Analyze case studies of WCC to explore themes around victimization, social damages, criminal justice, and broader policy responses.

# 5. Explore and critique different philosophies of punishing white collar crime.

# 6. Define and understand the various types of WCC, i.e., crimes against consumers, unsafe products, environmental crime, institutional corruption, securities fraud, corporate fraud, fiduciary fraud, crimes by the government, and medical crime.

# 7. Be conversant about various examples of each of these types of WCC.

# 8. Recognize the various actors and their roles in WCC, i.e., perpetrator(s), victim(s), law enforcement, the courts, corrections, etc.

# 9. Recognize the costs and effects of WCC, i.e., environmental costs, human costs, economic costs, social costs.

# 10. Explore ways in which WCC can be combatted and prevented.

# 11. Enhance critical thinking skills through participation completion of writing assignments.

# 12. Develop analytical and research skills through written assignments.

# Course Requirements: To be successful in this course students will:

# Attend all classes.

# Complete assigned readings prior to class meetings.

# Complete all written assignments in a timely manner.

# Contribute to class discussions constructively and consistently.

# All written assignments require the same APA 7th edition format.

# Pass midterm and final examinations.

# Written Assignments:

# There are five (5) critical writing assignments with opportunities for revision. Two of these assignments must be resubmitted to allow for instructor feedback. Please see posted due dates on course calendar. The writing assignments are based on chapter readings and will be posted. Each paper should be 2 pages (about 500 words, times new roman 12, double spaced).

# For two resubmissions, I will give feedback on your critical engagement and academic writing. I will track your improvement.

# It is crucial that you submit your weekly assignments on time so that you can receive feedback and improve your writing during the semester.

# Assessments/Evaluations:

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

* Class Participation: 10% of final grade
* Midterm Examination (multiple choice and essay): 20% of final grade
* Final Examination (multiple choice and essay): 20% of final grade
* Five Writing Assignments: 20% of final grade
* Two Revised Writing Assignments – 10% of final grade
* Research Paper 10-12 pages: 20% of final grade

(Research paper topics and instructions to be provided in class and on Canvas).

# Throughout the semester, you will be assigned initial writing assignments, revise two selected assignments, and work on the development of your research paper through topic selection, review of references, and the writing of a draft and final paper. I will provide you with specific feedback on two resubmitted writing assignments and on your research paper draft as well. From this continued feedback, you are required to revise the two writing assignments and resubmit the final research paper. All required documents will need to be turned in with WORD document format.

# Grading Scale:

# A Outstanding 4.0 90-100%

# B+ 3.5 87-89%

# B Good 3.0 80-86%

# C+ 2.5 77-79%

# C Satisfactory 2.0 70-76%

# D Poor 1.0 60-69%

# F Failure 0.0 <60%

If you require further clarification regarding your performance on an assignment, research paper assignment, or exam, you are responsible for setting up an appointment with the instructor.

Requests to review or reconsider any grade received must be made directly to myself within 7 days of the return of the graded coursework. Requests for grade reassessment on exams or assignments must be accompanied by a written explanation detailing why you believe your grade should be higher. Please note that a request to re-grade means that the exam or assignment will be reassessed in its entirety and, in the event of an error in grading, the final grade may increase or decrease accordingly.

# Late or Missing Assignment Policy

**Late work.** Late assignments will be penalized by one letter grade for each day they are late. The penalty will max out at 5 days, meaning that the most you lose for late work is 50%. An assignment is considered late if it is not submitted to Canvas by the stated deadline.

**Missed Work or Exams.** Absences resulting in missed work or exams will be excused for personal or family emergencies.

**Extra Credit**

You can earn up to 3 extra credit points for bringing to class articles from newspapers or magazines that are related to the class discussion. Each time you do so is worth one point**.**

**Attendance**

Class attendance is required. Students are responsible for all lecture material and required readings. The written assignments, research paper, and exam will test your knowledge of all these skillsets. I strongly recommend that you attend class regularly, actively engage in class discussions, and complete all required readings according to the course schedule.

**Canvas**

Canvas will be the learning management system that I will be using. Here is a link to resources that will help you to navigate Canvas in the event you are new to the platform: <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/documentation/students/>.

**Chat GPT and Group Work**

This course assumes that work submitted for a grade by students – all written assignments, drafts, final works – will be generated by the students themselves, working individually, not in groups as directed by class assignment instructions. This policy indicates the following constitute violations of academic honesty: a student has another person/entity do the work of any substantive portion of a graded assignment for them, which includes purchasing work from a company, hiring a person or company to complete an assignment or exam, and/or using generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT).

# Video/Audio/Photography

There is to be absolutely NO recording or taking pictures of the lectures and class participation during the class. If you wish to record via video, audio, or pictures of the lectures, you will need to get explicit permission from me as the instructor. As further notification, I will not record video, audio, or take pictures of the class without your permission. Any violation of this policy will be grounds for disciplinary action.

# General Conduct

Students have a right to learn in an environment that is free from disruptions or offensive comments. Faculty have the right to set appropriate standards of classroom conduct that foster respectful and dignified treatment of faculty, students, and staff. As such, please be mindful of the general code of conduct that would be appropriate in any classroom setting. It is important to engage in a professional and respectful manner with the professor, teaching assistants, and your peers always. Please be prepared to arrive to class on time, and avoid texting, surfing the internet, or checking Facebook or other social media sites during class. In general, please do not engage in any non-class activities during class meetings. If you must arrive late or leave early, please sit near the door, and arrive/leave as quietly as possible to avoid disruption or sign off without any further disruption to the class. If the instructor observes any student using his/her/their cell phone for non-related class issues, the instructor will politely ask for the student to put the cell phone away.

If the problem persists, the instructor reserves the right to follow-up with the student to discuss the issue and or report the issue to Student Affairs if warranted under University Policy.

# E-mail communication

Your Rutgers email account is the official form of communication for this class, and you should check it regularly. You are responsible for all information about the class sent to that email address. I will only respond to emails from your Rutgers address. When you send me an email, write your main topic/concern in the subject line, keep emails professional, and sign your name. I will try to respond within 24 hours.

# 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.

**Course Calendar**

**September 7 Introduction**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 1

**September 14 Corporate Crime/Crimes Against Consumers**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 2

Writing Assignment 1 Due*: White Collar v. Street Crime*

Term Paper Assignment Instructions

**September 21 Corporate Crime/Unsafe Products**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 3

Critical Feedback: Provided on WA 1

**September 28** **Environmental Crime**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 4; McDowell

Writing Assignment 2 Due: *Big Tobacco*

**October 5 Institutional Corruption: Mass Media and Religion**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 5

Critical Feedback: Provided on WA 2

Research Paper Assignment Due: Topics/Preliminary References

**October 12 Securities Fraud and Corporate Power**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 6; Calathes & Yeager

Writing Assignment 3 Due:*White-Collar Criminals of Chapter 6*

**October 19 Midterm Examination**

Critical Feedback: Provided on WA 3

**October 26 Corporate Fraud**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 7

**November 2 Corporate Fraud/Fiduciary Fraud**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 8

**November 9 Crimes by Government**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 9: Kramer

Writing Assignment 4 Due: *Sarbanes-Oxley*

**November 16 No Class Meeting – ASC Conference: (work on your own)**

Critical Feedback: Provided on WA 4

Writing Assignment: Work on Research Paper Draft

**November 21 (Tuesday) Corruption of Public Officials**

Rosoff, et.al, Chapter 10

Writing Assignment5Due:*Lobby Abuses*

**November 23 Holiday – No Class Meeting**

Writing Assignment Due: Research Paper Draft

**November 30 Medical Crime**

Rosoff, et al. Chapter 11

Critical Feedback: Research Paper Draft

**December 7 Conclusions/Proposals to Transform Society**

Rosoff, et al., Chapter 13

Critical Feedback: Provided on WA 5

Term Papers Due

**December 14 Final Examination**

Critical Feedback: Provided on Research Papers

**Accommodation and Support Statement**

Rutgers University-Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. RU-N has identified the following resources to further its mission of access and support:

**For Individuals Experiencing Disability:** The Office of Disability Services (ODS) works with students with medical, physical, and/or mental conditions who encounter disabling barriers to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations for access. Students who have completed the process with ODS and have approved accommodations are provided a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) specific to each course. To initiate accommodations for their course students must both provide the LOA and have a conversation with the course instructor about the accommodations. This should occur as early in the semester as possible. More information can be found at the RU-N ODS website (ods.newark.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973) 353-5375 or via email at [ods@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:ods@newark.rutgers.edu).

**For Individuals who are Pregnant:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-5063 or via email at [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu).

**For Short-term Absence Verification:** The Office of the Dean of Students can help with absences related to religious observance, emergency, or unavoidable conflict (illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing [deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu).

**For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries:** The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (broken or sprained limbs, concussions, recovery from surgery, etc.). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu>.

**For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University’s Title IX Policy and Grievance Procedures located at <https://uec.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/60-1-33-current-1.pdf>

**For support related to Interpersonal Violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA) can provide any student with confidential support. VPVA is a confidential resource and does not have a reporting obligation to Title IX. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing run.vpva@rutgers.edu. VPVA also maintains a confidential text-based helpline available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support. Students do not need to be a victim/survivor of violence to receive assistance; any student can receive services, information, and support.

**For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a plan of support plan and address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Connect with the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing [careteam@rutgers.edu](mailto:careteam@rutgers.edu).

**For Psychological Support (Stress, Mood, Family Issues, Substance Use concerns and other personal challenges):** The Rutgers University-Newark Counseling Center provides individual therapy and support groups for students dealing with psychological issues. To schedule an appointment, email counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or call (973) 353-5805.

Additional support is available to any RU-N student through Uwill services:

• Umatch: Teletherapy with flexible scheduling, starting with a free account.

• Uhelp: Crisis support at 833-646-1526 (available 24/7/365).

• Urise: Wellness-based video collection with a free account.

Access Uwill@RUN at https://my.rutgers.edu using your netid. Services are confidential and free.

**For emergencies,** call 911 or Rutgers University Police Department at (973) 353-5111.

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