

JS134 Organized Crime Spring Semester 2006

Instructor: William Cleveland, Jr., JD

Office: Room MH529

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 11:45am -12:45pm and 4:15– 5:15pm.

Office Telephone: no phone (do not leave messages on the listed number)

Email: alamedagroup@mindspring.com (Use email as primary contact medium.)

Class Meeting Days/Hours: Thursdays, 5:30 – 8:15pm.

Web site: <http://billcleveland.pageout.net> (This greensheet, and all handouts and assignments will be found at this web address. Register and login...(no charge). Click on "JS134" in list of courses.)

Course Description: This course will explore the origins of 20th century organized crime (OC), its evolution to transnational crime, the ethnic variations of OC, and the responses of governments to the OC problem. Students will gain an appreciation for the driving influences of OC, the businesses in which OC groups thrive, and the impact of OC on the cultures, economies and governments of nations. Law enforcement tools and strategies will be discussed, with special attention to the Hobbs Act and RICO statutes.

Required Text: *Organized Crime*, (seventh edition), by Howard Abadinsky, published by Wadsworth/Thomson, 2003.

Course Format:

The primary mode of delivery of this course is lecture. Students should augment their lecture notes with outside sources, as indicated in lectures and in the text. See instructor's web site for additional readings.

Class Participation: Students are responsible for keeping up with the assigned reading, and being prepared to discuss it in class. Students will be divided into teams to research and report orally to the class on current events or special interest topics that are relevant to OC. Each team will have at least two weeks to prepare. All team members must participate to receive credit.

Quizzes and Exams: Examinations and quizzes will cover material from the lectures, the assigned readings, and from the oral reports. The student's grade will be determined by the results of two exams, two quizzes, and class participation (oral reports), as follows:

mid-term exam	25%	No notes, no memory aids allowed. Bring SCANTRON & blue book.
quizzes (2)	30%	15% each (Open notebook: use class notes only.)
research paper (optional)	For extra credit	This assignment is optional. See additional information below. Grad students MUST write a paper (see below).
class participation	10%	Participating in discussions; assisting in demonstrations; answering when called upon; taking any unannounced written quizzes/surveys.
final exam	35%	No notes, no memory aids allowed. Bring SCANTRON & blue book.

A SCANTRON form (Form 882-E) will be needed for all quizzes and exams. A large size BLUE BOOK will be needed, as well, for the mid-term and final exams.

- **Graduate students:** The paper is not optional, and the grade will be 30% of your course grade. To compensate for this, so that the total points for the course grade equal 100, you will not be required to take the two quizzes. But, should you desire, you may take one or both, and the higher of the two scores will be counted as extra credit toward your mid-term exam grade. (See instructor for details.)

Exams and quizzes will cover only the topics that have been covered in lectures up to that date. Any assigned readings that are relevant to those topics may also be covered on the exam or quiz. Since quizzes (but not exams) are “open notebook” tests, you may use any notes you took from the readings, but not the books or articles themselves.

Research Paper (optional – for extra credit) The paper is graded A, B, C or “no credit”. To rate “credit” for the paper, the quality must be deemed by the instructor to be equivalent to a grade of C or better. Extra credit points (10 for a C-quality paper, 15 for a B-quality paper, 20 for an A-quality paper) will be applied to the midterm exam grade. Should fewer than the allowed number of extra credit points bring the midterm exam score up to 100, the points left over will be added to the lower of the two quiz scores.

- **Topics:** See “handout” on instructor’s web site, captioned: *Approved topics and requirements for JS-134 research papers*. Your paper must be written on one of these topics. An exception is made for graduate students, who may select their own topic. (**Grad students:** see “handout” on instructor’s web site, captioned, *Research paper requirements for graduate students*.)
- **Length:** 5 pages maximum, not including cover page and references list.
- **Formatting:** Submit in hard copy, single-spaced, in 12-point Times, or Times New Roman font, with one-inch margins. (Emailed versions will not be read.)
- **Sources:** References (sources) must number at least five, authored by named persons; no web sites may be used as sources if they do not name the person who wrote the material you are using. (An exception is made for official government web sites...any government...as those sites proclaim official policy.) At least two of the sources are to be “scholarly” or “expert professional” sources. Sources are to be cited within the text using the APA style citation method. The references list must also be in APA style. (See instructor’s web site for memo re “anonymous” and “expert professional” sources.)
- For APA style citations see internet APA sites, for example: www2.sjsu.edu/orgs/pkp/resources.htm. Then click on “APA Citation Style – Cornell University”.
- **Content and subheadings:** See instructor’s web site for “handout” mentioned above under “Topics”. Follow the subheadings in the referenced memo, and use them in your paper.
- **Due date:** March 23.

PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION: *Papers submitted more than one class meeting past the due date will not be accepted. A five points penalty will be assessed if the paper is submitted past the due date.*

Papers submitted after April 6 will not be accepted.

In accordance with University policy, any student caught cheating or plagiarizing can be given a score of “0” for that exam or paper, and, at minimum, will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs with appropriate recommendations for disciplinary action. For the University policy, see http://sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S04-12.pdf

Extra Credit Work

See optional research paper, above. Any additional extra credit assignment is at the discretion of the instructor, and is not guaranteed, other than the following:

For five extra points added to your lower quiz score, see ***Plagiarism: The Crime of Intellectual Kidnapping*** located on the SJSU web site at <http://130.65.109.143/plagiarism/index.htm>

Use your student ID number (Tower Card) to register as a "SJSU Students- First Time" and complete the module and quizzes. Send me an email copy of your quiz score, if my name is not listed for you to select.

Missed exams and quizzes:

Missing an exam or quiz is a serious matter. Taking an exam after others have taken it may give one an undue advantage. If a student misses an exam or quiz, a make-up exam or quiz will be afforded. There will be a *five-point deduction* from the exam or quiz grade, *unless* the student has a medical doctor's note explaining the absence on the scheduled exam day, or documentation of the student's participation in a University-sponsored activity, or documentation of a serious family emergency.

Failure to complete any of the exams, quizzes or the paper will result in a score of “0” for that assignment, or an “I” for the course, at the instructor's discretion (depending upon the circumstances). Extra credit points cannot be used in lieu of any of the required assignments.

Order of topics, reading assignments, and exam/paper deadlines:

The order of topics and readings indicated below will be followed, so that the student may know how to keep ahead of lecture topics in the readings. The exact dates of lecture topics cannot be predicted with certainty.

- History: Italian organized crime.
Reading: Chapter 7 of text
- History: Origins of organized crime in the United States
Reading: Chapter 3

February 16: Quiz #1 – (Scantron) (open notebook)

- History: Organized crime in New York
Reading: Chapter 4

- History: Organized Crime in Chicago

Reading: Chapter 5

- Attributes and structure of organized crime

Reading: Chapter 1

March 16: Mid-term Exam – bring large size Blue Book and Scantron form

March 23: Research papers due

- Causes of, and influences contributing to, organized crime

Reading: Chapter 2

- The business of organized crime (gambling, loansharking, etc.)

Reading: Chapter 11

April 13: Quiz #2 (Scantron) (open notebook)

- US government responses to organized crime

Reading: Chapter 14

- Russian organized crime

Reading: Chapter 9

- Asian organized crime

Reading: Chapter 10

**May 18: Final Exam at 2:45pm
(Bring large size BLUE BOOK, and SCANTRON form.)**