

JS135 White-Collar Crime Spring 2010

Instructor: William Cleveland, Jr., J.D.

Class Meeting Days/Hours: Monday-Wednesday, 3:00-4:15pm. Room MH523.

Office Hours: (Room MH528) Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30am and 4:30 – 5:30pm

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

Email: alamedagroup@mindspring.com (Use email as primary contact medium, and always identify yourself – first & last names – and this course number/section in your email.)

Web site: <http://billcleveland.pageout.net> (This syllabus, and all handouts and assignments will be found at this web address. Register and login...no charge. Click on “JS135”).

Course Description:

This class explores white-collar crime in the United States from a number of angles. First, paying particular attention to the definitional difficulties of distinguishing between occupational, corporate, organizational and general white-collar crime we will discuss various types of crime under these ‘umbrella terms’. Second, we will explore possible theoretical explanations for one’s involvement in such crime. Third, we will discuss the response of the Criminal Justice System to white-collar criminals including the investigation, prosecution, defense and punishment processes. Fourth, we will consider ‘special topics’ such as computer crime and political corruption. Finally, we will discuss the future of white-collar crime and our response to offending, offenders, victims, regulation, legislation and punishment.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define ‘white-collar crime’ and distinguish it in categories such as organized crime, corporate crime, organizational crime and occupational crime.
2. Understand what constitutes ‘crime’ in an occupational or corporate context, how it compares to street crime in terms of seriousness, and who is most likely to do it and be punished for it.
3. Explore various theories and establish a theoretical framework to help define, explain and understand the motives behind white-collar crime.
4. Understand the processes relevant to identifying and investigating white-collar criminals, how they differ from investigative processes for other crimes and what the specific difficulties are.
5. Learn the adjudicative and correctional processes within the context of white-collar crime, and how they differ from the court processing of other criminals.

Required Text:

Friedrichs, D. (2004) *Trusted Criminals 2nd Ed.* Belmont: Wadsworth.

Reader: A collection of required reading has been consolidated into a reader that can be purchased online from University Readers by doing the following:

Step 1: Log on to www.universityreaders.com.

Step 2: Click on the white "STUDENTS BUY HERE" button located in the "Student Store" section (upper right-hand corner of the page).

Step 3: Create an account or log in if you have an existing account to purchase.

Step 4: Easy-to-follow instructions will guide you through the rest of the ordering process.

Payment can be made by all major credit cards or with an electronic check.

(NOTE: The instructor receives no remuneration from University Readers, Inc., and has no financial interest in sales of these readers.)

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. There will be one mid-term exam, three open notebook quizzes, an article critique paper and a final exam. Responding to the instructor when called upon will satisfy the class participation portion of the course grade.

Course Add/Drop: Instructors are permitted to drop students who fail to attend the first scheduled class meeting and who fail to inform the instructor prior to the second class meeting of the reason for any absence and their intention to continue in the class. Some instructors will drop students who do not meet the stated course prerequisites. If you decide to drop this course, it is **your responsibility to make sure classes are dropped.** See: http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct

Class Participation:

Students are responsible for keeping up with the assigned reading, and being prepared to discuss it in class. Students will be called upon at random during the semester to add to the discussion, or to assist in a demonstration in class. Records will be kept of the students' participation.

Quizzes and Exams: Examinations and quizzes will cover material from the lectures and the assigned readings, and from guest lecturers. Exams (mid-term and final) will require a combination of responses on a SCANTRON sheet and in a Blue Book, without any memory aids. Two of the three quizzes will be open-notebook tests in class, using SCANTRON only. The first quiz will be taken online at <http://billcleveland.pageout.net>, and will allow the student to use any and all sources to help in answering the questions. The grades for each, and for the paper, will be weighted as follows:

mid-term exam (1)	20%	No notes, no memory aids allowed. Bring SCANTRON & large size (8.5x11") blue book.
quizzes (3)	30%	10% each. Open notebook: use class notes only for Quizzes #2 & #3; all sources may be used for online Quiz #1.)
case summary paper	15%	See additional information below.
class participation	5%	Participating in discussions; assisting in demonstrations; answering when called upon; taking any unannounced written quizzes/surveys.
final exam	30%	No notes, no memory aids allowed. Bring SCANTRON & large size (8.5x11") blue book.

A SCANTRON card [Form 882-E] will be needed for all in-class quizzes and exams. A BLUE BOOK will be needed, as well, for the mid-term and final exams.

Important: Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the Disability Resource Center (924-6000) to establish a record of their disability. Please meet with me to confirm that you have done this if you need course adaptation or accommodations because of a disability. If you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please see me asap.

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; but, 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 quizzes or exams 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.

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

Paper assignment: a case study

You will be required to locate, read and describe, in a case brief format, a white-collar crime case that has already been adjudicated and appealed. You will read the decision of the appellate court, including any and all dissenting opinions written by judges/justices of the appellate court. In addition, discuss the significance of this particular case, and how it might influence, or already has influenced, the state of the law. Also discuss how this case may have affected the future conduct of law enforcement with regard to cases like this one. You will need to read other sources to get perspectives on the law and the impact of the case you have chosen. Cite those sources in the text in APA style, and include a References List at the end of the paper, in APA style. An example of the case brief, and additional instructions will be found on my website. Click on COURSE CONTENT. Go to SESSIONS. Click on the session labeled "CASE STUDY", then the document "CASE STUDY REQUIREMENTS."

Approval of case: Pre-approval of the case is not necessary. However, a paper on a case that is not a white-collar case, based on the facts that were presented in the original trial, will be scored no higher than 60 (D-). When selecting a case, pay attention to our definitions that we discussed in class.

Deadline: MARCH 22. Paper must be in "hard copy". No email submissions will be acceptable, unless previously approved by the instructor. ***Papers submitted after 8:30pm, March 22, will not be accepted,*** absent compelling exigent circumstances, and such are rare.

For APA style citations see internet APA sites, for example:
<http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial.aspx>

Extra Credit: For five extra points added to your paper's score, see ***Plagiarism: The Crime of Intellectual Kidnapping***, SJLibrary.org,
<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/plagiarism/index.htm>

Use your student ID number (Tower Card) to register as "SJSU Students - First Time" and complete the module and quizzes. You must score 70 or better to receive extra credit. Send me an email copy of your quiz score. *(If you are taking more than one of my courses in the same semester, you may get credit for this quiz in ONLY ONE of them. If you got credit in a previous semester, you may do it again and get credit this semester.)*

Order of topics, reading assignments, and quiz/exam/paper due dates:

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 may change, but exams and quizzes will be administered on the dates indicated, and will cover 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 are "open notebook" tests, you may use any notes you took from the readings, but not the actual books or articles.

DATE	TOPICS	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Jan. 27	Discuss course syllabus	Friedrichs, Ch. 1 for next week
Feb 1-3	Defining white-collar crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 1 Reader: <i>Robber Barons</i> (DeLong)
8-10	Corporate crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 3 Reader: <i>Can you trust...?</i> (Nussbaum) Reader: <i>A hero...a smoking gun...</i> (Zellner)
Feb 15	SJSU FURLOUGH DAY – NO CLASSES	
17	Occupational crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 4 Reader: <i>Bernie Madoff: Ponzi squared.</i>
22-24	Theories concerning white-collar crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 8 Feb 22: Quiz #1 (online - open books)
Mar 1-3	Governmental crime	Mar 1: Quiz #1 due NLT 11:55pm Friedrichs, Ch. 5 Reader: <i>With Fannie and Freddie...</i> , (Fox)
8-10	Finance/banking industry crime Mar 10: Review for Exam #1	Friedrichs, Ch. 6 Reader: <i>Mortgage Giant...</i> (Morgenson)
15	MIDTERM EXAM: Bring LARGE (8.5x11”) blue book & SCANTRON, pens, pencils. Dictionary allowed (optional). NO NOTES OR MEMORY AIDS ALLOWED	
17	Contrepreneurial crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 7
22	Contrepreneurial crime (cont’d.)	CASE BRIEF PAPERS DUE (no late papers accepted)
24	Cleveland’s personal furlough day – no class	
29-Apr2	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES	
Apr 5-7	Cyber crime	Friedrichs, Ch. 7
12-14	Law & social control of WCC APR 12: QUIZ #2 in class (open notes) (SCANTRON)	Friedrichs, Ch. 9
19-21	Policing and regulating WCC	Friedrichs, Ch. 10 Reader:
26-28	Prosecuting, adjudicating WCC	Friedrichs, Ch. 11 Apr 28: LAST DAY TO TURN IN EXTRA CREDIT*. (Email ok)
May 3-5	Prosecuting, adjudicating WCC May 3: QUIZ #3 in class (open notebook) (SCANTRON)	Friedrichs, Ch. 11
10-12	Responding to the challenge of WCC	Friedrichs, Ch. 12
17	REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM	
19	FINAL EXAM (12:15-2:30pm) NO NOTES OR MEMORY AIDS ALLOWED. Bring LARGE bluebook, SCANTRON, pens, pencils, (dictionary optional)	

*Unlike the required paper, which must be submitted in hard copy, any and all extra credit that you choose to submit may be emailed. CAVEAT: Send only Word (.doc or .docx), PDF (.pdf), RTF (.rtf), or Text (.txt). NO ZIP FILES. Remember to include your name and this course number (JS135) in all emails to me.