WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES COURSE SYLLABUS

FACULTY MEMBER:

TERM:

COURSE TITLE: Topics in Criminal Justice: Organized Crime

COURSE NUMBER: CRJ 461

TEXTBOOK: TITLE: Organized Crime, 11th Ed.

AUTHOR: Howard Abadinsky

PUBLISHER: Wadsworth 9781305633711

OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:

PREREQUISITE(s): CRJ 101 and CRJ 205

Technical Requirements that may be required to utilize technology in this course:

- A headset or microphone.
- A webcam.

RATIONALE:

This specialized type of crime continues to be a serious problem in society and influences control on many aspects of American society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

GOAL A:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the structure of organized crime.

Learning Outcomes:

- A-1 Explain the attributes of organized crime groups.
- A-2 Discuss the hierarchal structure.
- A-3 Define the role of various organized crime members in the organization.
- A-4 Explain the elements necessary for membership.
- A-5 List the internal roles of behavior for members of organized crime groups.
- A-6 List the family structure of traditional organized crime.

GOAL B:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the history of organized crime groups in the United States.

Learning Outcomes:

- B-1 Trace the history of the Mafia from its legitimate roots in Sicily to its illegal activity in America.
- B-2 Discuss the history of and growth of the five Mafia families in America.
- B-3 Identify the leading figures in the history of the American Mafia families.
- B-4 Explain the role that prohibition played in the growth of American organized crime.
- B-5 Explain the role that the American Robber Barons played in the growth of American organized crime.

GOAL C:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the growth of organized crime as a national and international crime problem.

Learning Outcomes:

- C-1 Explain the growth of organized crime in New York.
- C-2 Explain the growth of organized crime in Chicago.
- C-3 Explain the growth of organized crime in Philadelphia.
- C-4 Explain the growth of organized crime in New Orleans.
- C-5 Explain the growth of organized crime with international crime groups.

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C-6 Explain the differences between traditional organized crime and the new modern ethnic groups.

GOAL D:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the activity of organized crime and the laws passed to combat it.

Learning Outcomes:

- D-1 Discuss gambling, loan-sharking, extortion and corruption activities of organized crime.
- D-2 Discuss the laws that are used to combat organized crime.
- D-3 Discuss the use of informants, wire taps, witnesses and undercover operatives as the law enforcement tools used in organized crime investigations.
- D-4 Discuss the roles of the FBI, state and local police in the investigation of organized crime.
- D-5 Explain the specialized laws including RICO that are used in the investigation and prosecution of organized crime.

GOAL E:

Students will use appropriate written and oral communication skills.

Learning Outcomes:

E-1 Participate in a group oral presentation on selected topics concerning ethnic organized crime groups.

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E-2 Submit written reports and responses to class participation and assigned readings using APA style.

METHODOLOGY:

A. Teaching Methods: Online lecture, online discussions, video and article reviews.

B. Evaluation Procedures: Comprehensive exams, quizzes, class discussions, written assignments.

There will be three comprehensive examinations equally spaced throughout the semester. Students will also be required to write two research papers about organized crime groups. Students will be responsible to be prepared for class by completing the assigned readings and actively participating in class discussions.

Course Evaluation