

Saint Leo University

CRM 330 Organized Crime

Course Description:

This course presents a comprehensive overview of the history and current activities of organized crime groups in the United States. An international perspective is taken, and there is strong emphasis on law enforcement, prosecution, and public policy considerations.

Prerequisite:

POL 123 and CRM 220

Textbooks:

The textbook information which appears on our Saint Leo Bookstore ordering site is as follows:

Abadinsky (2017). Organized Crime 11th Edition. Loose-leaf
(Custom) ISBN-13: 978-1-337-05005-0

Your custom textbook was created from the following National text(s):

Abadinsky (2017). Organized Crime 11th Edition.
ISBN-13: 978-1-305-63371-1

Course Goals/Objectives

As a result of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the Saint Leo University core value of community as it relates to approaching organized crime.
2. Demonstrate awareness of the major patterns of organized crime (both current and historical) in the United States.
3. Locate, analyze, and explain the sources, values, and limitations of organized crime information and weaknesses with the security measures of the day.
4. Describe and evaluate the Lawmaking and Law Enforcement approach to countering organized criminal activity.
5. Demonstrate awareness of the growing international dimensions of organized crime.

Saint Leo University Core Value:

Community: Saint Leo University develops hospitable Christian learning communities everywhere we serve. We foster a spirit of belonging, unity, and interdependence based on mutual trust and respect to create socially responsible environments that challenge all of us to listen, to learn, to change, and to serve.

Evaluation:

Discussions	5%
Reaction Papers (5)	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Research Paper	25%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade	Score (%)
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	0-59

Discussions

Each module will include a discussion assignment in which you are required to participate. This includes posting an initial response (minimum of 300 words) to the discussion question, as well as *substantial* replies to at least two classmates. You are encouraged to cite sources to back up your assertions. See the Discussion Guidelines in the Start Here menu for further information, including the requirements for what constitutes a *substantial* discussion post.

Midterm & Final Exam

The 75 minute Midterm will consist of 40 true/false questions. The 90 minute Final Exam will consist of five short-essay questions that must be answered in at least 250 words each.

Reaction Paper

A Reaction Paper is designed to “develop and sharpen your critical thinking and writing skills. Your objective in writing this assignment is to define an issue clearly and to formulate and clarify your position on that issue by reacting to a controversial statement.” *Each of the five papers is worth 4% of the course grade.* The paper must be at least 500-750 words, excluding the title page, abstract page, and reference page, and must adhere to the APA sixth edition writing format. Please reference the APA example given in the Resources section. If your paper does not fully comply with this format you will lose points.

Research Paper

Students will write a research paper based on one of the topics below. The paper should include an overview of the subject and major relevant points relative to economic, social, and/or legal implications or impacts. Moreover, the paper should incorporate the role of the Saint Leo University core value of community as it relates to local response to terrorism (e.g., task forces, law enforcement/intelligence networks, law enforcement/intelligence gathering centers, collaborative law enforcement efforts, Interpol, ILEA, etc).

Possible topics:

- Organized Crime and Theories of Deviance
- Organized Crime and Firearms Trafficking
- Organized Crime and Street Gangs
- Organized Crime and Connections to Terrorism
- Organized Crime and Human Trafficking
- Organized Crime and Gambling (Casinos)
- Fighting Organized Crime Globally
- Russian Organized Crime
- Drug Trafficking Organizations
- Juvenile Gang Activity
- Outlaw Motorcycle Club Activity
- Organized Crime and Its Effects on Society and the Individual
- Organized Crime and Labor Unions
- Organized Crime and RICO
- Organized Crime and Money Laundering
- Organized Crime and Witness Protection
- Organized Crime and Asset Forfeiture
- Organized Crime and Public Corruption
- Military Gangs
- Prison Gangs
- Transnational Organized Crime Penetration of Governments
- Transnational Organized Crime Subversion of Legitimate Financial and Commercial Markets
- Transnational Organized Crime Involvement in Cyber Crimes

The paper must be at least 2500 words, excluding the title page and reference page, and must adhere to the APA sixth edition writing format. Please reference the *APA Guide* link under *Resources*. If your paper does not comply with this format you will lose points.

Please cite at least five scholarly references for your paper with no more than two from an Internet source. Please be aware that websites such as Wikipedia are not scholarly sources. Access the University's online library resources to find scholarly journal articles, etc. Proquest and EBSCO may be helpful, but remember to limit your search to scholarly journal articles. Please remember to review the information available for locating and citing proper sources in your syllabus. Additional grading criteria will include clarity of presentation, quality of content, mastery of content, care and attention to detail, organization, originality of presentation, and the value and interest of the presentation, as well as proper grammar and punctuation. The Research Paper also needs to incorporate at some place in the paper a discussion of the **Saint Leo Core Value of community** as it relates to the topic.

The assignment must be your original work. You are required to use no more than 15% of others quoted work when completing any assignments within this course of study. Your research paper must therefore be 85% original. No previously submitted papers, articles, reports or project, in whole or in part, to any university or college will be accepted.

Submit the Research Paper to your instructor via the course Assignment box by **no later than Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT in Module 6**. (This Assignment box may be linked to Turnitin.)

Grading Rubric for Research & Reaction Papers

Criteria	Ratings				
	Null	Novice	Basic	Proficient	Exceptional
The paper extensively develops the issue and ideas are presented in a clear, concise manner	0	14	16	18	20
The paper provides a fundamental overview of the topic as it relates to the criminal justice system.	0	14	16	18	20
Shows depth and understanding of the subject matter with appropriate analysis of the topic selected (this includes Saint Leo core value requirement in the Research Paper).	0	14	16	18	20
Meets acceptable college level standards with respect to form and substance; meets APA style requirements.	0	14	16	18	20
Free of typographical errors; typed in a double-spaced format with bibliographic references; free of plagiarism.	0	14	16	18	20
Total					100

Written Assignments and the APA Format:

The Department of Criminal Justice recognizes the value of excellence in writing for students in Criminal Justice. In part, each professor is expected to provide guidance on improving a student's writing skills. Students are required to use only the APA (American Psychological Association) format to write and develop a scholarly paper for submission in the Social Sciences. APA has been adopted by the Department as its writing standard for all academic written assignments. No other writing style is acceptable.

APA is the American Psychological Association, and the style is one of many in the academic world used to regulate the language, citations, procedure, and formatting of manuscripts and other examples of writing in the social sciences. Please be consistent throughout each written paper. *Refer to APA Guide under Resources on the Course Menu for APA specifics.*

All projects, assignments, or papers submitted for grading will be required to include a separate cover page, a separate abstract page and a separate reference page. All references are to be cited using the American Psychology Association (APA) format (6th edition). Other formats will not be accepted. For each scholarly paper and group assignment(s), the work will be assessed using an individual grading rubric for each assignment. This tool and process helps the students identify and professor measure the key points necessary to successfully complete written or group assignments. *Wikipedia is not an appropriate source for any scholarly writing and is not permitted for any assignment in this program.*

Module 1**Defining and Explaining Organized Crime****Objectives**

At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:

- Provide an operational definition of organized crime.
- Provide a comparative and contrasting view of organized crime and terrorism.
- Examine general organized crime structures.
- Examine the relevant sociological and psychological theories of organized crime.
- Provide a perspective of transnational organized crime.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Post Introduction to the Discussion Board	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 2**Criminal Justice and Organized Crime****Objectives**

At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:

- Identify law enforcement and criminal justice strategies and statutes used to combat organized crime.
- Examine the role and activities of fusion centers, the National Gang Intelligence Center, and Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.
- Examine the guidelines for the federal prosecution of individuals and organizations under the Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organizations Act and other statutes.
- Describe the federal witness security program.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned websites	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 3 Organized Crime in the United States

Objectives

At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
Examine the presence of organized crime in the United States.
Discuss the impact of organized criminal activities.
Provide an overview of specific organized crime groups.
Examine the historical presence of organized crime in certain American cities.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 4 Transnational, International, and Domestic Organized Crime

Objectives

At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
Examine organized crime involvement by individuals of Italian, Latin, and African American descent.
Examine the operating structures of various criminal groups.
Examine the U.S. Law Enforcement to combat International Organized Crime.
Identify members of the U.S. Intelligence Community.
Examine the Merida Initiative.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion question	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete Midterm Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 5 Transnational, International, and Domestic Criminal Organizations

Objectives At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
 Examine organized crime involvement by individuals of Asian and Russian descent.
 Examine the operating structures of various criminal groups.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 6 Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs

Objectives At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
 Examine the illegal activities of Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs.
 Examine the operating structures of Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Research Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 7 **Criminal Enterprises**

Objectives At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
Examine the national drug threat.
Identify the high intensity drug trafficking areas.
Examine the global human trafficking problem.
Identify criminal enterprise crimes.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 8 **Money Laundering and Racketeering**

Objectives At the conclusion of this module, students will be able to:
Examine racketeering activities in labor and business.
Examine money laundering schemes.
Identify law enforcement and statutory initiatives undertaken to combat money laundering.

Assignments:

Items to be Completed:	Due No Later Than:
Read the assigned materials	
Explore Assigned website	
Post Initial response to the discussion	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Post Responses to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete Final Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT