



Course Syllabus

Fall 2016 CJ 390.01W
August 29- December 16
White-Collar Crime
ONLINE

Professor: Elvira White-Lewis, JD/Ph.D. Associate Professor

Office Location: Ferguson Social Science 204

Office Hours: Virtual: 9-11 MTWR; TR, 11-12:00 noon and 1:45-2:30pm and by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5326

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: elvira.white-lewis@tamuc.edu

Class time: Virtual

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Materials - Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Roseff, S., Pontell, H. and Tillman, R. (2014). *Profit without honor: White-collar crime and the looting of America*. Upper Saddle River. Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-300850-0

Books should be available in the University bookstore or you may choose to purchase/rent online to save money.

Optional:

Additional readings may be selected by the professor as the semester progresses and made available through DocSharing in eCollege.

Course Description:

The course examines the theories, ideas, nature and scope that are dominant in the field of white-collar crime. An examination of the structural foundation of occupational political and organization/corporate crimes with some comparison of street (predatory) type crimes will occur in this class. Multi-level responses and forms of intervention will also be discussed.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with the various definitions of white-collar crime.
2. Develop an understanding of other tenets that may be used to include white-collar crimes such as organizational or corporate crimes and to develop a reasonable amount of knowledge about the various types of white-collar crime.
3. Explain the rationales or explanation for the committing of white-collar crimes.
4. Increase the students' skills in writing and thinking critically of this topic known as white-collar crime through course discussions.
5. Understand the existence and perpetration of white-collar crimes as a phenomenon in an interconnected world.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

CLASS FORMAT: Every effort will be made to provide the best possible learning experience for students by blending lectures, discussions, and appropriate reading assignments. We will be discussing many current, interesting, and often controversial subjects. Thus, a mature attitude is assumed of all students. **Do NOTHING that will interfere with anyone else's opportunity to learn in this class. Disruptive Behavior as in inappropriate comments of any kind will not be tolerated.**

EXPECTATION: This is a 300 level course and I expect 300-level work from you. If you feel you are not yet ready to tackle this level of coursework, then I advise you to enroll for this class at a later date. There will be writing assignments due throughout the semester. I expect clear writing with adequate style, correct grammar, and (when applicable) proper use of scholarly references. **All** submitted written assignments must be typed in 12 point, Times New Roman font, double spaced, on standard paper with one inch margins. All assignments are to be submitted via drop-box in the e-college system or via e-College discussion board as assigned. **Wikipedia is not accepted** as a primary source for any assignment for this class.

EXAMINATIONS: There will be two major examinations worth 100 points. The exams will include multiple choice, true/false and short answer questions. The exams are scheduled in the course outline. Adjust your schedule now--do not make plans that conflict with exam dates! If you miss one of the exams for an **excused** reason, you will take the make-up exam immediately following the final exam on the same date.

All exams will be taken via e-college.

Exam grades will be posted on e-college.

COURSE PROJECT: Annotated Bibliography

You are required to complete **1** homework assignment for this course which is an annotated bibliography. You will assume the role of a person who has been harmed as a victim of white-collar crime and who wants to develop a victim assistance program for other victims. To begin this process, research must be conducted to develop resources to be used in developing the proposal. Identifying a minimum of 10 scholarly and professional resources, you will develop an annotated bibliography. A minimum of 2.5 pages is required, and all pages must be numbered. An APA formatted title page is also required. Papers must be submitted via dropbox in week 12 to receive credit and no late papers will be accepted. The time/date stamp for eCollege is the only accepted form of verification of receipt. No late assignments will be accepted. I will submit an example of an annotated bibliography in doc sharing during the first week of classes. You will not be permitted to use any of the examples that I give as examples. The 10 resources must include a combination of refereed journal articles (3), web sources (2) newspapers/periodicals (2) and the remaining three (3) of your choice. Wikipedia is not to be used for this assignment in any form. **This assignment is due on November 16, 2016 by 11pm CST.**

This course also requires that you utilize APA citation format for all discussions/ assignments/exams. See Course and University Policies/Procedures for more information on how to cite using APA.

Discussion Posts: (10 discussion posts)

Student Learning Outcomes #1, #2, #3, and # 4: The student will obtain a basic understanding of important issues in White Collar Crime. The student will learn to utilize critical thinking skills. The student will learn how to apply course concepts to 'real life' white collar/issues. The student will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums by analyzing and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.

The discussion forums are related to the chapter readings and other materials. Upon completion or near completion of the assigned readings and activities, you are expected to engage in an **ongoing** discussion/debate with your classmates. Your contributions to the discussion forums will be graded for **quality, timeliness** of your contributions, and a

detailed analysis linking together theory (readings) to application (activities/'real life' CJ/white collar crime issues).

Discussion posts will be posted within the first week class. The content of these posts may be found in eCollege (See below under Technology Requirements for more on accessing/turning in assignments using ECollege). Posts are due by 11:00PM CST on the days in the class schedule.

You are required to answer the discussion questions using your textbook/additional materials (if applicable/required) as your primary source(s). Additional source materials are always welcome and should be cited accordingly and are sometimes required in order for you to complete the assignment. Please read the assignment directions carefully.

Your posts should be **A MINIMUM** of 250 words in length. Please keep in mind that **ALL** posts must be substantive and meaningful. Proper grammar and word usage are required. I will take this opportunity to remind you that your discussion posts are formal assignments and will therefore be graded as such.

Comment Posts: (20 posts)

Student Learning Outcomes #2 and # 4: The student will learn to utilize critical thinking skills. The student will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums by analyzing and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.

Comment posts are responses you make to the 10 discussion posts that you and your classmates have posted during the course. You are to post two (2) substantive peer comments by the deadline per week by Saturday evening at 11PM CST. Comment posts should be a **MINIMUM** of 100 words in length.

Comment posts should be meaningful. Merely agreeing or disagreeing with a classmate will not be looked upon favorably and will result in a loss of points. A meaningful post is one that moves the discussion forward in some substantive way through providing one's perspective, additional information through research, or reframing the discussion in some new way. You are expected to engage in an **ongoing** discussion/debate with your classmates. Your comments will be graded for **quality, timeliness** of your contributions, and **relevance**. Further you are expected to be in the class a minimum of two (2) days per applicable week.

NO LATE COMMENTS ARE ACCEPTED.

Academic Honesty

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including (but not limited to) receiving a failing grade on the assignment, the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. In **ALL** instances, incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Department Head. Please be aware that academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

Cheating is defined as:

- Copying another's test or assignment
- Communication with another during an exam or assignment (i.e. written, oral or otherwise)
- Giving or seeking aid from another when not permitted by the instructor
- Possessing or using unauthorized materials during the test
- Buying, using, stealing, transporting, or soliciting a test, draft of a test, or answer key

Plagiarism is defined as:

- Using someone else's work in your assignment without appropriate acknowledgement
- Making slight variations in the language and then failing to give credit to the source

Collusion is defined as:

- Collaborating with another, without authorization, when preparing an assignment

If you have any questions regarding academic dishonesty, ask. Otherwise, I will assume that you have full knowledge of the academic dishonesty policy and agree to the conditions as set forth in this syllabus.

Students should also reference the following link for more detailed information.

<http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/academics/colleges/artsSciences/departments/sociologyCriminalJustice/frequentlyAskedQuestions/academicHonesty/default.aspx>

APA Citation Format Policy

It is very important that you learn how to cite properly. In some ways, citations are more important than the actual text of your paper. Therefore, you should take this task seriously and devote some time to understanding how to cite properly. If you take the time to understand this process up front, it will save you a significant amount of time in the long run (not to mention significant deductions in points).

In the social and behavioral sciences (including Criminal Justice), we use APA (American Psychological Association) format. As a rule of thumb, one cites whenever they are paraphrasing other people's words or when they quote other's words directly. You may choose to access the following websites:

www.apastyle.org

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02/>

www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/apa

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION: It is essential to regularly participate in online classes to do well in this course. Lectures and discussions are designed to supplement the book, not repeat it.

Study guides are not provided for any exams. Your study guides are your notes from your reading and class discussions. Attendance or an online presence is expected a minimum two (2) times per week. If you miss more than two week's worth of classes (4 class sessions or more) you may want to consider dropping the course.

GRADES: Final grades will be based on the two exams (100 points ea. =200 pts.); Annotated Bibliography Project (100 pts.); and discussion/participation (200 pts). The following grading scale will be used to calculate final grades:

Assignment Type	# of Assignments	Point Value	Total Points
Examinations	2	100	200
Annotated Bibliography	1	100	100
Discussions and comments	10	20	200
		TOTAL	500

Grades earned on each assignment will be added together and will be divided by the total number of points possible in the course. Below is the overall point scale for the course.

Total points possible for the semester = 500

A = 90% - 100% (500-450 pts)
B = 80% - 89% (449-400 pts)
C = 70% - 79% (399-350 pts)
D = 60% - 69% (349-300 pts)
F = Below 60% (<299 pts)

You will find your course grades in the grade book located in eCollege. This gradebook will keep a 'real-time' accounting of the points you earn on assignments for this class. In this way, you may track your progress in this course throughout the course of the semester.

All Grades will be posted on e-college

EXTRA CREDIT: Do not ask, there will not be any with this one exception for this semester as you will see below. Two types of students usually want to do extra credit work: those who would like to make an even "higher" A; and those who are failing the course. In either case, extra credit makes no sense. Put in the time, energy, and effort on the "regular" work and you will not need any "extra" credit.

Credit for voting in November 2016. It is important in a democratic society to exercise your right to vote. If you do not vote, do not complain. You will be given an additional five (5) points if you choose to exercise that right this November. Please send to me via email confirmation from the election location. A copy of the "I voted" sticker is not sufficient and is not acceptable. You can scan your confirmation without party affiliation. If you are not able to vote, please send me an email at the beginning of the semester and I will give you an alternative assignment. Failing to register on time is not a sufficient excuse.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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The following hardware and software are necessary in order to use ECollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, ECollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to ECollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

For those of you who are not familiar with ECollege, I **strongly** suggest you take the tutorial offered online. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact the personnel in Technology Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To log in to the course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu. Once you log in to eCollege, click on My Courses and select CJ 390-01W.

Please note that this is an online course and as such, all aspects of the course (including assignments/discussions/comments/exams) will be submitted/completed through eCollege. Your grades will also be available in eCollege.

This class will run on a 7-day, Monday -Sunday schedule. After logging in to the course, students will notice that the weekly/unit content area is located on the left navigation bar. These weekly/unit content areas are identified as Week 1 /Unit 1 Week 2/Unit 2, etc. (this corresponds to the course schedule located in the syllabus.)

Student should access course materials by clicking on the proper weekly/unit content area. Students should read the weekly overview that contains information about what is to be covered in class, along with a series of weekly tasks (these tasks correspond to the links available and each weekly unit and to what appears in the syllabus).

Students should then click on the lecture link and take the time to read the material I have posted when applicable. The lecture is an attempt to integrate information from the course readings and includes information from the text/readings as well as other information that I consider important to your understanding of the subject matter.

Students will complete discussions by clicking on the **Discussion** link that will be visible if a discussion forum is scheduled for that week (students will know if discussions are required

based on information contained in Weekly Tasks and in the syllabus). At that time, students will be able to read the discussion question and post accordingly (keep in mind that all discussion forums are open and available for posting on August 29, 2016—the first day of class). Students should pay particular attention to the requirements for discussion posts as outlined in the syllabus. Students should plan to respond to the posted online course discussion questions with an original discussion post (Discussions) and by replying to their colleagues' posts in the discussion forum (Comments).

Students will complete assigned exams by clicking on the **Exam** link that will be visible if an exam is scheduled for that week. Students should click on the **Exam** link in Week 16 in order to access the Final Exam.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

My primary form of communication with the class will be through Announcements in eCollege and Email. Any changes to the syllabus or other important information critical to the class will be disseminated to students via Announcements and your official University Email address available to me through MyLeo. It will be your responsibility to check your University Email regularly.

Students who wish to discuss an issue with me personally should do so through Email. Students are encouraged to discuss issues/questions that are relevant to the class through the eCollege **Virtual Office**.

Students who Email me can expect a reply within 24 hours M-F. Students who Email me during holidays or over the weekend should expect a reply by the end of the next regularly scheduled business day.

ECollege Student Technical Support:

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Chat Support: Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the '*Help*' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

For assistance with the library: To access the Library databases and Library tutorials you must open a separate browser session. Minimize your eCollege session and open another browser window going to the Library's web site directly: <http://www.tamuc.edu/library> not from within eCollege.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES
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Course Specific Procedures:

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

[Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

POLICIES ON ENROLLMENT, "X's", AND WITHDRAWAL: All policies regarding last day for enrollment, withdrawal from class, and the use of "X" will be rigidly adhered to in this course. Students should check the student handbook, current semester schedule, and the appropriate bulletin boards, which indicate the specific deadlines for withdrawing from courses without penalty. Seeing that all university procedures are followed is the students' responsibility.

Schedule:

This schedule is tentative and I reserve the right to modify it, with notice, as needed during the semester. Please be advised that we will cover several chapters every week in the order they appear in your text. In the case of weeks where multiple chapters are covered much of the material represents materials included in other courses such as Introduction to Criminal Justice and thus this will be a review, clarification and emphasis on certain key concepts. All alterations to the schedule will be announced in class and posted as an announcement in e-college and it is your responsibility to be aware of these changes.

Important dates are listed below: **Note that class is two (2) days minimum per week presence online.**

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR		
Week	Topic	Assignment
1 August 29	Course Review Syllabus <i>Introduction</i>	Read Chapter 1 Discussion Board #1 Introduction Discussion –Due 9/1
2 September 5	Crimes Against Consumers	Read Chapter 2 Discussion #2
3 September 12	Unsafe Products	Read Chapter 3 Discussion #3

4	September 19	Environmental Crime	Read Chapters 4 Discussion #4
5	September 26	Institutional Corruption: Mass Media and Religion	Read Chapter 5 Discussion # 5
6	October 3	Securities Fraud	Read Chapter 6 Discussion # 6
7	October 10	Corporate Fraud	Read Chapter 7 Discussion # 7
8	October 18th or 20th	Midterm Exam cumulative	
9	October 24	Fiduciary Fraud	Read Chapter 8
10	October 31st	Crime by the Government	Read Chapter 9 Discussion # 8
11	November 7	Corruption of Public Officials	Read Chapter 10 Discussion #9
12	November 14	Medical Crimes	Read Chapter 11 ASC Conference –New Orleans, LA. Nov. 16-19th **Annotated Bibliography Due by 11pm CST November 16th via dropbox in week 12
13	November 21 November 24	Computer Crimes	Read Chapter 12 Thanksgiving Holiday 11/24
14	November 28	Conclusion	Read Chapter 13 Discussion # 10
15	December 5	Review and Ask questions week	Last class day 12/9
16	December 12-16	Final Exam week	

*****Final Exam:**

Cumulative

Make-up exams immediately following final exam via e-college

Note: Instructor intends to follow syllabus but reserves the right to make revisions as deemed necessary and appropriate and will notify students in writing.

Appendix

DISCUSSIONS: Each week/unit will require two submissions: 1) an answer to a discussion question and 2) two (2) responses to fellow students discussion questions. The guidelines are under the unit's discussion; NOTICE, there are two separate dates for each submission. There are weekly unit questions worth a combined 20 points each, a total of 200 points.

Initial Discussion Grading Rubric

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Exemplary	Possible Points
Answered Question (s)	Did not answer question. < 0 >	Less than 250 words. < 3 >	250 word or more. < 5 >	10
Cite Article APA format	Did not cite article < 0 >	Did not use correct APA format. < 3 >	Used correct APA format. < 5 >	5
Response	Did not answer question. < 0 >	Less than 50 words. < 2 >	250 word or more. < 5 >	5
TOTAL:				20