

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminology

CRM 370: White Collar Crime Dr Paul Leighton

W 2012, T-Th 9:30-10:45 in Strong Auditorium

Office: 712 Pray Harrold, 734/487-0012

Office Hours: T & Th 8:30 – 9:30 & 12:15 – 12:45 or by appointment

DESCRIPTION

Catalog Description: This class examines the definitions, laws, causes and policy responses that shape crimes by corporations, government agencies, professionals and others engaged in legitimate occupations.

REQUIRED READING

David O. Friedrichs. 2009. [*Trusted Criminals: White Collar Crime in Contemporary Society, 4th ed.*](#) Belmont, CA: Thomson-Wadsworth. 0495600822.

Jeffrey Reiman and Paul Leighton. 2010. [*The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison, 9th ed.*](#) Boston: Allyn & Bacon. 020568842X.

The book order has been placed with Barnes & Noble in McKinney Union, Mike's, Ned's, and Campus Book and Supply. Also, the class webpage links to the books at Amazon.com. You may have to try several sources to get the books, but they are available.

Additional (free) readings are required that can be accessed through the class webpage at <http://paulsjusticepage.com> > Classes & EMU > CRM 370

REQUIREMENTS

TEST 1: 50 points

TEST 2: 50 points

In Class Quizzes: 29 points (5 quizzes total)

Worksheets: 10 points

Class Participation Exercises: 10-15 points total (2 - 4 points each, with number of exercises to be decided by professor)

FINAL: 50

All **tests** will be a combination of true/false, multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, short answer (one sentence to a paragraph) and short essay. **No one will be admitted to take the test after the first person has left.** Please make sure you cell phone is turned off. Keep the cell phone and other devices off your desk and

remove earphones during tests and quizzes.

No **make-up tests** will be given in this class. Students who have an appropriate excuse for missing a test can present a typed paper of about 13 – 15 pages that reviews the material and provides information answering all the questions on the review sheet. They will **ONLY** be accepted with a note certifying medical care or the death of someone close. Make-up papers are normally due two weeks after the test, although there is flexibility for deaths and illness that prevent a timely return to school work. Papers may be subject to late penalties if they are turned in after pre-arranged deadlines. As with other papers (see below) email attachments are not acceptable. I am not looking for a general essay on the material – type in the question from the review sheet and answer it. Make sure to put answers in your own word. Copying more than four consecutive words from the book requires putting them in quotation marks and including a page number for a citation. Copying blocks of text without quotation marks is plagiarism and academic dishonesty (passing off someone else’s work as your own). Consequences range from deductions on this paper to failing the class. (See information and links below.)

A note about **appealing grades**: All requests for a change of grade should be written (typed) and accompanied by a copy of your test. Please note any computational errors, identify pages from the text that support your answer or articulate any ambiguity in the wording of the question that caused problems.

Attendance and participation are important for success in the class. Test questions may cover material presented in class that was not covered in the texts and you are responsible for all the information presented. Being present also allows the opportunity to ask questions and further explore areas of interest to you. Consistent and constructive participation in class can help improve your final grade. Part of your grade will involve **class participation exercises**, which will require you to answer several short questions based on a film we watch in class. This is not a quiz in that you are not being graded against a ‘right’ answer, but your grade will be based on thoughtful and substantive responses to the questions.

Your grade for this aspect of class will be based on **a series of announced in class quizzes** (see schedule of classes for topics). These will be relatively short, but should try to be specific about the issue, grounds and critique, etc. Since you are expected to be in class regularly, and since the quizzes are announced ahead of time in this document, no make ups will be given. An excused absence is available with a medical excuse or documentation of a family emergency.

The **worksheet** can be downloaded from the class webpage and complete outside of class as you review a required accompanying video. It should be typed and turned in on the day it is due. While you may work with another student, you should both write your own answers. Sharing a word file means several people turn in the same answers and I do not know if everyone has actually done work or if someone is passing off another person’s work as their own (which is academic dishonesty and plagiarism – see below).

Extra credit is only available as a bonus question on each test and where noted on the quizzes. Put your time and effort into studying for each assignment because

there will not be an extra credit project during the final month. Remember that class participation exercises are usually not announced, so attending class and paying attention during these assignments will help you earn points. **Importantly**, many current issues relate to the field so clippings from the newspaper and questions about linkages of this material to other social debates is **STRONGLY** encouraged.

Plagiarism is appropriating or imitating the ideas, thoughts and language of another and passing them off as your own. This act occurs when students copy portions of a book (usually more than four consecutive words) without using quotation marks and a citation. It is also plagiarism to copy portions of another student's paper.

More generally, education involves not just getting a degree but a search for truth, which requires honesty and personal integrity. Academic dishonesty, including all forms of cheating and/or plagiarism, will not be tolerated in this class. Penalties for an act of academic dishonesty may range from receiving a failing grade for a particular assignment to receiving a failing grade for the entire course. In addition, you may be referred to the *Office of Student Judicial Services* for discipline that can result in either a suspension or permanent dismissal. The **Student Conduct Code** contains detailed definitions of what constitutes academic dishonesty, but if you are not sure about whether something you're doing would be considered academic dishonesty, consult with the instructor.

Students are expected to abide by the **Student Conduct Code** and assist in creating an environment that is conducive to learning and protects the rights of all members of the University community. Incivility and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and may result in a request to leave class and referral to the *Office of Student Judicial Services (SJS)* for discipline. Examples of inappropriate classroom conduct include repeatedly arriving late to class, using a cellular telephone, or talking while others are speaking. You may access the Code online at www.emich.edu/sjs.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Having phones ring in class is distracting and really irritating. Turn the ringer off for the brief time we're in class and let voicemail pick up the call. If you are expecting something important (child care, etc), set the phone to vibrate and sit by the door so you can leave easily without disturbing the class.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES & READINGS

Please read the assignments carefully & note that we are skipping parts of some chapters. Readings for quizzes and papers comes from the internet; they should be accessed through the class webpage. Please bookmark the class webpage and check in here rather than the my.emich.edu page.

<http://paulsjusticepage.com> > **Classes & EMU Info > CRM 370**

Circumstances sometimes require flexibility and students are responsible for any departures that are announced in class. The online syllabus/webpage for this class provides additional information and will be updated throughout the semester.

Jan 10	Introduction and Greeting
Jan 12	Friedrichs, Ch 1
Jan 17	Friedrichs, Ch 2 – you only need to read p 34-37 and 44-59
Jan 19	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 3 start</p> <p>Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and read “Blast at BP Texas Refinery in ‘05 Foreshadowed Gulf Disaster.” Your quiz will ask: 1) How many people died in the blast – and how many more have died and been sent to the hospital since then 2) In 2002, Parus requested a safety audit. What did it find and what did the 2003 and 2004 safety audits find 3) The report by the Telos Group surveyed 1,000 employees and found what, and 4) How big were the fines from OSHA? From the Justice Dept? How big was the 2009 OSHA fine and why was it imposed? [8 points]</p> <p>Remember – the in class quizzes are to be completed in class. You prepare answers and study before class, then I will give you a sheet with these questions on it and you will write out the answers during the part of class where we do the quiz. You need to be in class when the quiz is distributed to take it.</p>
Jan 24	Friedrichs, Ch 3 finish
Jan 26	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 4</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #2: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for information on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA). Your quiz will ask: 1) this act was passed in response to what, and what does it attempt to do, 2) telephone calls at “unreasonable times” are defined as before what time and after what time (be sure to include AM and PM), 3) what can you do if you don’t want the collection agency to contact you – and does this resolve the debt or stop them from filing a lawsuit 4) you can report violations by an in-state collection agency to where – and by an out of state collection agency to where (name, not address). [6 points]</p>
Jan 31	Friedrichs, Ch 5, start
Feb 2	Friedrichs, Ch 5 finish/start Ch 6
Feb 7	Friedrichs, Ch 6 finish

Feb 9	TEST 1 Remember that no one is admitted to the test after the person leaves. See make up option on p 2 if you will miss the test.
Feb 14	Friedrichs, ch 7 - you only need to read p 200-218 IN CLASS QUIZ #3: From the class webpage , go to the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse page on Social Networking Privacy and click on the link for General Tips for Using Social Networks. Your quiz will ask: 1) what are tips #2, 9 and 15 – and what was one additional tip you found important. Be sure to know both the general phrase for the tip and 1-2 sentences about why it is important. If you don't get the problem with GEOtagging, click the link on the webpage. [4 points]
Feb 16	Friedrichs, Ch 8 start IN CLASS QUIZ #4: Go to the class webpage and find the link for "Identifying Psychopathic Fraudsters." Your quiz will ask: (1) What do psychopaths want? What are their motivations?; (2) In business situations, do psychopaths target particular individuals? If so, what kinds of persons?; (3) are organizations more "psychopath friendly" now – why or why not; (4) can a psychopath be rehabilitated – why or why not? [6 points] Extra credit: distinguish between two of the following: psychopath, sociopath, narcissistic personality. Be sure to list or describe each type of personality and clearly note what the differences between them are.
Feb 21	Friedrichs, Ch 8 finish
Feb 23	Friedrichs, Ch 9
Feb 27 – Mar 2 – NO CLASSES: WINTER RECESS	
Mar 6	Friedrichs, Ch 10 start WORKSHEET 1: Go to the class webpage and find the link for William Black on Fraud. Download the worksheet from the class webpage and type in your answers as you watch the interview or read the transcript. Turn a hard copy in at the beginning of class – do not email it to me. [10 points]
Mar 8	Friedrichs, Ch 10 finish/start Ch 11
Mar 13	Friedrichs, Ch 11 finish/start Ch 12
Mar 15	Friedrichs, Ch 12 finish/review

Mar 20	TEST 2 Remember that no one is admitted to the test after the person leaves. See make up option on p 2 if you will miss the test.
Mar 22	Reiman and Leighton, Introduction
Mar 27	Reiman and Leighton, start Ch 1
Mar 29	Reiman and Leighton, finish Ch 1
Apr 3	Reiman and Leighton, start ch 2
Apr 5	Reiman and Leighton, finish Ch 2 (start Ch 3?)
Apr 10	Reiman and Leighton, Ch 3
Apr 12	Reiman and Leighton, Ch 4 IN CLASS QUIZ #5: Go to the class webpage and follow the link for Building a better America . Your quiz will ask: (1) how many respondents completed the survey (N=??) (2) when asked what distribution of wealth they would like to put in, [a] people chose the distribution of what country and [b] what percent chose the unlabeled distribution of the US (3) when asked what percent of the wealth the top quintile (20%) <i>should</i> have, people said what (4) the actual wealth held by the top quintile in the US is what [5 points]
Apr 17	Reiman and Leighton, Conclusion
<p>PLEASE NOTE: Professors do not have regular office hours after the last class. Make sure to get in touch before classes end if you have an important issues to resolve. All back work should be turned in before the end of the last class. The late penalty escalates sharply at this point; papers turned in after the last day of class will be worth a maximum of 1 point. Work turned in at the final exam will only be counted if you have made prior arrangements with me.</p>	
Apr 19	Review and Catch up
FINAL EXAM – April 26 (Thurs), 9:00 – 10:30 [Not regular class time]	

I will post final grades to the my.emich system as soon as I have final grades for the entire class. Please check your account rather than email me.
I will not respond to any questions about grades until I have finished final grading for all 3 of my classes, independent studies, graduate thesis and nonthesis papers for the semester. I may not be able to respond to your grade for several weeks.