

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS145-01, White Collar Crime, Fall 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Kevin Lynch, MA.
Office Location: MacQuarrie Hall 508
Telephone: (510) 798-5189
Email: kevin.Lynch@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM,
zoom:<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/89526528205>
Class Days/Time: Online

Classroom:

Course Description

Understanding of markets and investing and how it relates to white collar crime both legal and ill legal. Growth and development of white collar crime in the United States: crimes at the workplace, in real estate, corporate crime, environmental and government crime. Prerequisite: Upper division standing. Students must achieve a grade of “C” or better (not C-) to fulfill Justice Studies major requirements. 3 Units.

Course Format

This is an online course, beginning Friday, 19, with weekly assignments, videos and exercises.

Justice Studies Department Reading and Writing Philosophy

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives—personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Demonstrate substantive knowledge of the development of white collar crime in the United States: crimes at the workplace, insider trading, crony capitalism etc., at the corporate and governmental levels.*
2. *Understanding of markets, investments, mutual funds, retirement accounts and dividend income funds and how they are manipulated*
3. *Understanding of what white-collar crime is, and what rules or laws should be instituted.*
4. *Understanding the persons who commit it, the means by which they do so, and their prosecution and legal defense in court.*
5. *Demonstrate knowledge of what makes white collar crime difficult to prosecute.*
6. *Develop familiarity with federal statutes intended to control various forms of fraudulent conduct and interpret and apply statutory code provisions, judicial opinions, and apply portions of the United States Sentencing Guidelines.*

Required Textbook

Hansen, Laura L. (2021). *White Collar and Corporate Crime: A Case Study Approach*. Wolters Kluwer, ISBN 978-1-5438-1721-8

Students may purchase texts in the bookstore and online.

Other Readings

Additional course materials will be found on Canvas under Files and Modules.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Internet, computer, microphone & camera.

Library Liaison

Nyle Monday, Nyle.Monday@sjsu.edu, (408) 808-2041

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus. **Late assignments are not accepted without prior arrangement.**

Weekly Assignments

Weekly assignments consisting of readings, quizzes and videos will be posted. Weekly Assignments are due during every **Thursday** or as instructed .(CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Project

Projects will require students to conduct independent research and craft a thesis paper specific to significant contemporary problems impacting the system of justice in the United States, in the form of a **ten-to-fifteen-page written analysis**, due during the last scheduled day of instruction as reflected below. Reliable sources for all assertions should be cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) format. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Final Examination

Students will complete a cumulative final examination using key terms and concepts from readings and class discussion consisting of short answer and essay based questions. (CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Lectures

Lectures will be posted on a weekly or sometimes bi-weekly for clarification and learning. Assignments off of lectures will occasionally be assigned.

Grading Policy

Final grades will be evaluated as follows:

Weekly Assignments (8)	40%
Project	30%
Final Examination	30%

Grading Scale

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>960 to 1000</i>	<i>96 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>930 to 959</i>	<i>93 to 95%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>900 to 929</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>860 to 899</i>	<i>86 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>830 to 859</i>	<i>83 to 85%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>800 to 829</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>760 to 799</i>	<i>76 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>730 to 759</i>	<i>73 to 75%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>700 to 729</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>660 to 699</i>	<i>66 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>630 to 659</i>	<i>63 to 65%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>600 to 629</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

Please Note: Extra credit will not be awarded, late assignments and quizzes will not be accepted for credit without prior agreement.

Success in the course entails that written assignments

Success in the Course with written assignments

1. Use proper grammar and spelling. Make sure to edit at least once and use spell check. Obvious misspelling will result in missed points.
2. Please put answers in your own words. No cut and paste!
3. Make sure your answers come from the reading and not from google.
4. In your answers, make sure you prove to me that you have DONE THE READING.
5. Make sure to send a word doc or pdf for ALL assignments. Anything else will result in no points.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on Syllabus Information web page (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Additional Information

All sources of information to support written assertions must be cited in the American Psychological Association (APA) Format. PLEASE NOTE: Detection of plagiarism will result with NO CREDIT.

JS145-01 / White Collar Crime, Spring 2022

Course Schedule

Week 1	August 21	Lecture on introductions/Course overview; Syllabus, Class, Project, Assignment & Examination formats; <i>Definition of white collar crime by Edwin Sutherland (1939), "Any violations of criminal, civil, or regulatory law, or deviant, harmful, or unethical actions committed during the course of employment in various occupational systems;"</i> Exercise: Personal Essay, <i>White Collar Crime</i> article Due Thursday, August 26
Week 2	August 28	Markets, how do they work? Differences in bull and bear markets, impacts of inflation and the influence of global factors and corporate greed. How do the governments tame inflation? PBS "The Federal Reserve" <i>Prosecutions of white-collar crime are currently at a twenty-year low in the United States. "6,000 in 2016; nearly 11,000 in 1995</i> Exercise: Quiz on the federal reserve, due Thursday, 11:59 pm
Week 3	September 6	Assign Project (DUE NO LATER THAN 12/5); <i>Markets continued, look up these terms on stocks, bonds, interest rates, margins, yields, and ETFs. Assignment: Lecture on markets. Chapter 5 questions. Assignments due Thursday. Questions are in assignments.</i> Exercise: What is the difference between a mutual fund and a dividend income fund; which one would you choose?

Week 4	September 13 Pitfalls of the market	Assignment: Watch the Retirement Gambit On frontline and answer questions. Watch Too Big to Jail and answer the questions in assignments
Week 5	September 20 Solution.	Read Chapter 4: Financial Crime (pgs 91-123); Review Key Terms: Lecture - How to protect yourself with market fluctuations? Questions in assignments Due Thursday.
Week 6	September 27 .	The shrinking Middle Class Assignment: Inquire and possibly open an dividend income or growth index fund, the five different types of investors. Due Thursday Questions in Assignments
Week 7	October 4. Race, class and WCC.	Read Freedmen's Bank, and Wells-Fargo Mud People Te-Neishi Coates on housing fraud. Question Due Thursday. They are in assignments
Week 8	October 11. Who are these people?	<i>Final market power, psychology of white-collar criminal. Terms: hubris, Impunity, moral hazard, white privilege, crony capitalism.</i> Assignment: Read "Bad Apples and Bad (Business) Barrells" answer questions. Watch <i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i>. Cite scenes where there are instances of Risk Tolerance, Machiaveliansim, and Love of money. Questions in assignments

Week 9	October 18 Medical fraud	United States of America v. Bernard L. Madoff, 626 F.Supp.2d 420 (2009); Read Chapter 8: Health Care Fraud and Crimes (pgs 207-238) & Glossary (pgs 469-488); Review Key Terms (pg 207); Responses to Discussion Questions (pgs 187, 191, 194, 198, 213, 216, 221, 224 & 227)
Week 10	October 25 Consumer fraud	1972 Ford Pinto & Richard Grimshaw v. Ford Motor Company, 119 Cal.App.3d 757 (1981); Price Gouging & Unfair Labor Practices. Read chapter 5, respond to all Discussion questions. Define terms, plus limited liability, product liability, lemon law.
Week 11	November 1 Religion and Crime	Read chapter Chapter 9, define terms, answer discussion questions, and summarize each section. The Gospel of prosperity, and television evangelism. Lecture: Max Weber <i>Protestant Work ethic and the spirit of Capitalism</i>. Essay question, <i>Does religion inspire or deter white collar crime?</i>
Week 12	November 8 Political white collar crime	; Read Chapter 11: Political White Collar Crime (pgs 305-339); Define Key Terms (pg 305); Answer discussion questions on pages 322-3 and 332-3. Short essay, what crimes is Donald Trump accused of for the Jan. 5 insurrection? What is the evidence against him. How did Trump try to overturn the 2020 election? What is the evidence? Should Trump be convicted of either crime?
Week 13	November 15 Environment al crime.	British Petroleum & the Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Read Chapter 11: Define key Key terms Respond to Discussion Questions. Exercise: <i>Are allergic reactions from food poisoning evidence of a crime? Should big game hunting be illegal? Is environmental crime more or less serious than violent criminal behavior? What is the EPA? Should this government agency have the authority to control private property?</i>

Week 14	November 22. Media	; Read Chapter 13: The Media and White Collar Crime (pgs 375-398); Review Key Terms (pg 373); Chapter 1 in Robinson Exercise: <i>Why does white-collar crime occur? What theory best explains white-collar criminal behavior? Does corporate culture cause white-collar crime?</i>
Week 15	November 29 Investigating prosecution.	Read Chapter 14: Investigating and Prosecuting White Collar Crime (pgs 401-433); Review Key Terms (pg 401); Responses to Discussion Questions (pgs 379, 388, 391, 407, 412, 415 & 421); Short essay, <i>Does the criminal justice system in the United States adequately address and respond to white-collar crime?</i>
Week 16	Dec. 4 .	Preview Final. Prepare questions for Final Review; Prosecution, Deterrence, Rational Choice, Strain & Conflict Theory; Expectations of Self-Policing; Read Chapter 15: Diagnosis and Treatment of White Collar and Corporate Crime (pgs 437-465); Review Key Terms (pg 437); Responses to Discussion Questions (pgs 447, 448 & 451); Final Thoughts; Exercise: <i>What are the three most significant characteristics often associated with white-collar crime?</i>
Final Examination	(Monday) .	Final papers and final exam due, Friday Dec. 9 at 11:59 pm.