Corporations and Corruption:  
White-Collar Crime  
SOCIOLOGY 3567-090, Fall 2017

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Bruce Rigby  
Class Meetings: This is an Online Course  
Office Hours: “Virtual” Office Hours and on campus by appointment  
Office: 913F BEHS Phone: 581-5842 or 581-6153 (message)  
E-Mail: bruce.rigby@soc.utah.edu or through the Canvas mail feature.

Required Text:  

System Requirements: This is an online class that can be “attended” from anywhere there is an internet connection. Assignments and discussions will be submitted electronically. You must also be able to view PowerPoint presentations, as well as have a Media Browser on your system. Students must be able to use an internet browser, send attached files via e-mail, and create message postings.

1. Objectives  
The primary goal of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of white-collar crime and to utilize a sociological perspective in understanding those problems. We will examine a variety of issues including crimes against consumers, environmental crime, institutional corruption, various types of fraud, computer crime, and crimes by the government and public officials. While some of these issues do not appear to affect us directly in our day-to-day lives, they do have an overall effect on our social world.

By approaching these topics from a sociological perspective, the student will learn to think critically and creatively about why these problems persist in our society and what could be done to manage or solve them.

2. Grading Procedures  
The final course grade will be determined by your performance on 2 equally weighted objective type exams, electronic discussion boards, and a semester paper on a topic of the student’s choice, providing it is relevant to the course material and approved by your instructor. There is no comprehensive final exam in this course.

Each exam will be worth 100 points towards your final grade. The paper is worth 50 points, and the discussions are worth 50 points. There are 300 points possible for this course.

Grade Scale:  
A = 93-100% or 278-300 points, A- = 90-92% or 269-277 points, B+ = 87-89% or 260-268 points,  
B = 83-86% or 248-259 points, B- = 80-82% or 239-247 points, C+ = 75-79% or 224-238 points,  
C = 66-74% or 197-223 points, C- = 60-65% or 179-196 points, D+ = 57-59% or 170-178 points, D = 53-56% or 158-169 points, D- = 50-52% or 149-157 points, E = <49% or 0-148 points.
3. Important Dates:
Exam #1: Thursday October 5, 2017 (Chapters 1 – 6)
Exam #2: Tuesday December 12, 2017 (Chapters 7 – 13)
Papers Due: Thursday November 9, 2017

Exams will cover material from your text, Power Points, and any other material from the learning modules. Exams will be taken electronically through WebCT and have a time restriction. Exams will be available from 8:00 AM on the day of the exam until 8 AM the next day. If you miss an exam, an essay type make-up must be scheduled with the instructor within one week of the regular exam. Make-up exams will only be allowed in the case of hospitalization or a death in the immediate family.

4. Paper
One paper is required in this course. The paper will be written by the student on a topic related to this course that is of interest to the individual student and approved by your instructor. The paper should be 5-7 pages in length and should be well researched using outside resources such as books, articles from peer reviewed journals, and other sources available through the University of Utah libraries. The paper is to be submitted via the “Assignment” function as a MS .doc(x) or .pdf file attachment. The paper is due on Thursday, November 9th by 6 PM MDT.

5. Discussions
There will be 5 discussion boards for students to post comments to during the semester. They will be on various topics that your instructor feels are relevant to this course. The discussions will be due approximately every 2 weeks during the semester.
The grading rubric for the discussions is:
- 10 points: Excellent
- 7-9 points: Acceptable
- 4-7 points: Marginal
- 0 points: Not Submitted

6. Testing
Exams in this course will be taken electronically. Exams will be available for a 24 Hour period. Students will have 45 minutes to complete the exams. Exams may NOT be retaken. Make-up exams will ONLY be allowed in the cases of student hospitalization or a death in the immediate family.

7. Student Code: Per University of Utah regulations (Policy #6-400). “A student who engages in academic misconduct,” as defined in Part I,B. and including, but not limited to, cheating, falsification, or plagiarism, “may be subject to academic sanctions including but not limited to a grade reduction, failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from the program or the University, or revocation of the student’s degree or certificate. Sanctions may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.” Please refer to the Student Code for full elaboration of student academic and behavioral misconduct policies (http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php).
ADA NOTICE: University guidelines for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) require the following to be included in all syllabi:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

All written information in this course can be made available in alternate format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

8. Title IX Information: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status, or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677 (COPS).

Course Outline and Schedule

Week 1 (August 21 - 25) Introduction to course and Chapter 1

Week 2 (Aug 28 – Sept 1) Chapter 2, Crimes Against Consumers

***Discussion #1 is due Friday, September 1st***

Week 3 (September 4 – 8) Chapter 3, Unsafe Products

Week 4 (September 11 – 15) Chapter 4, Environmental Crime

***Discussion #2 is due Friday, September 15th***

Week 5 (September 18 – 22) Chapter 5, Institutional Corruption: Mass Media and Religion

Week 6 (Sept 25 – 29) Chapter 6, Securities Fraud

***Discussion #3 is due Friday, September 29th***
Week 7 (October 2 – 6) Review and Exam #1 is Thursday, October 5th

***Exam #1 will be available online for 24 hours beginning at 8AM, MDT, Thursday October 5th***

Week 8 (October 8 – 15) Fall Break, NO Classes

Week 9 (October 16 – 20) Chapter 7, Corporate Fraud

Week 10 (October 23 – 27) Chapter 8, Fiduciary Fraud

***Discussion #4 is due Friday, October 27th***

Week 11 (October 30 - November 3) Chapter 9, Crimes by the Government

Week 12 (November 6 – 10) Chapter 10, Corruption of Public Officials

***Semester Papers are due Thursday, November 9th***

Week 13 (November 13 – 17) Chapter 11, Medical Crime

***Discussion #5 is due Friday, November 17th***

Week 14 (November 20 – 24) Begin Chapter 12, Computer Crime

***Thanksgiving Break is November 23-24, NO Classes)***

Week 15 (Nov 27 – Dec 1) Chapters 12 and 13

Week 16 (Dec 4 – 8) Review

***Exam #2 will be available online for 24 hours beginning at 8AM, MDT, Tuesday, December 12th***

***This is a preliminary syllabus and may be subject to change prior to classes beginning Monday, August 21st***
CSBS EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

BUILDING EVACUATION

EAP (Emergency Assembly Point) – When you receive a notification to evacuate the building either by campus text alert system or by building fire alarm, please follow your instructor in an orderly fashion to the EAP marked on the map below. Once everyone is at the EAP, you will receive further instructions from Emergency Management personnel. You can also look up the EAP for any building you may be in on campus at http://emergencymanagement.utah.edu/eap.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

U Heads Up App: There’s an app for that. Download the app on your smartphone at alert.utah.edu/headsup to access the following resources:

- **Emergency Response Guide**: Provides instructions on how to handle any type of emergency, such as earthquake, utility failure, fire, active shooter, etc. Flip charts with this information are also available around campus.

- **See Something, Say Something**: Report unsafe or hazardous conditions on campus. If you see a life threatening or emergency situation, please call 911!

**Safety Escorts**: For students who are on campus at night or past business hours and would like an escort to your car, please call 801-585-2677. You can call 24/7 and a security officer will be sent to walk with you or give you a ride to your desired on-campus location.