

MULTINATIONAL CRIME

CRJU 631

(graduate)

SIGNIFICANCE/RATIONNALE

The sub-fields of international crime and justice are becoming more important in the larger domain of criminal justice studies because:

- Crime, like other most other human activity in the age of rapid communication and global interdependence, has little respect for national borders. We need look no further than terrorism, drug cartels, organized crime, and computer crime for examples of the growing internationalization of crime.
- The growing links between international crime and domestic crime. The successes and failures of international drug smugglers affect the fortunes of local street-corner drug dealers in the Massachusetts. The theft of nuclear material in the former Soviet Union could facilitate a devastating terrorist incident in the United States
- International law enforcement agencies, courts, and other criminal justice institutions are being created and are rapidly expanding. They will play an important role controlling crime in the future
- Knowledge of foreign languages, foreign cultures and nations, and international crime issues will become increasingly important for those in the criminal justice field.
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THEMES

There will be four analytical foci for this causes

Globalization. Here we will look at several important political, social, economic developments such as

- urbanization
- communication
- transportation
- globalization of national economies and labor markets
- the penetration of local cultures
- immigration within nations and to other nations

The International System and environment. We learn how difficult it is to combat transnational crime because of the anarchic nature of the international system, the self-interest principle, voluntary cooperation, and the importance of power and force

The International Criminal Justice System. We will look at the limited power of international law, international criminal courts and international police institutions.

Important international crime issues. We will investigate important international crime issues and the laws and policies that are dealing with them such as:

- Human trafficking, slavery, and sex trade
- Drug trafficking and smuggling
- Terrorism and piracy

- War Crime and the abuse of human rights
- Cyber Crime and intellectual property

FORMAT

The content of the course will be presented online in units, There will be two units for each of the six weeks of the term (with the exceptions of weeks 1, 3 and 6). For each unit you will:

1. Read the assigned reading from the text book
2. Read any additional reading such as newspaper articles and/or watch videos posted.
3. Respond to an on-line discussion and/or complete assignments
4. Respond to any questions on additional readings and videos
5. Once I have collected material from your response to the on-line discussion question and other questions, I will post a summary of important material in both written and video format, which will be the equivalent of lecture notes in a face-to face class.