

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminology

CRM 370: White Collar Crime Dr Paul Leighton

F 2016, Mon-Wed 12:30-1:45 in PH 216

Office: 712 Pray Harrold, 734/487-0012

Office Hours: Mon & Wed 11:00- 12:30, Tues 4:30-5:30, and 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.

Jeffrey Reiman and Paul Leighton. 2013. *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison*, 10th ed. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

The book order has been placed with all EMU bookstores. 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: points 42 (6 quizzes total)

Worksheet: 12 points

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

FINAL: 50

You can view your grade through <http://canvas.emich.edu>. (All other references to the class webpage mean paulsjusticepage.com)

All **tests** will be a combination of true/false, multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and short answer (one sentence to a paragraph). **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 14 – 15 pages that reviews the material and provides information answering all the questions on the review sheet. The paper should not have an introduction and conclusion, but it should indicate the question from the review sheet and answer it. Make-up papers will ONLY be accepted with a note certifying medical care, the death of someone close, or with approval from the professor before the test (certain emergencies are an exception). 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. Make sure to put answers in your own words. 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: 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 involves **class participation exercises**, which require you to answer several short questions based on a film we watch in class.

Announced in class quizzes (see schedule of classes for topics). These will be relatively short and require answers for a specific identified reading. 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 for certain medical, work and family situations. Talk to me beforehand if possible, or as soon as possible after missing the quiz.

The **worksheets** 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 at any time.

Importantly, many current issues relate to the class 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, <http://www.emich.edu/policies/policy.php?id=124&term=student%20conduct>. 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, including repeatedly arriving late to class, using a cellular telephone, or talking while others are speaking.

In addition to the articulated course specific policies and expectations, students are responsible for understanding all applicable **University guidelines, policies, and procedures**. The EMU Student Handbook is the primary resource provided to students to ensure that they have access to all University policies, support resources, and students' rights and responsibilities. Changes may be made to the EMU Student Handbook whenever necessary, and shall be effective immediately, and/or as of the date on which a policy is formally adopted, and/or on the date specified in the amendment. **Please note:** Electing not to access the link provided below does not absolve a student of responsibility. For questions about any university policy, procedure, practice, or resource, please contact the Office of the Ombuds: 248 Student Center, [734.487.0074](tel:734.487.0074), emu_ombuds@emich.edu, or visit the website: www.emich.edu/ombuds.

Complete URL:

<http://www.emich.edu/studenthandbook/policies/academic.php#univ>

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.

GRADING SCALE

	89 - 87 = B+	79 - 77 = C+	69 - 67 = D+
100 - 93 = A	86 - 83 = B	76 - 73 = C	66 - 63 = D
92 - 90 = A-	82 - 80 = B-	72 - 70 = C-	62 - 60 = D-

Below 60 = F

ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

Although research shows students who write notes by hand do better, you are free to take notes in/on whatever you like. Please remember that devices connected to social media and the web encourage distraction, and showing up to class then playing on your laptop or tablet does not earn you any points. If you are distracting other students (especially by viewing offensive material in class), I can and will ask you not to bring electronic devices for a period ranging from several classes to the rest of the semester.

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 EMU online.

<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.

Sept 7	Introduction and Greeting
Sept 12	Friedrichs, Ch 1
Sept 14	Friedrichs, Ch 2 – you only need to read p 34-37 and 44-59
Sept 19	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 3 start</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> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #1: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for information about Michigan’s minimum wage and other paycheck information. Your quiz will ask: 1) As of January 1, 2016, what is the minimum hourly wage</p>

	<p>rate; 2) The training wage applies to employees ____ to _____ and for the first _____ days; 3) an employer shall not deduct from the wages of an employee, directly or indirectly, any amount without the full, _____, and _____ of the employee; 4) a complaint alleging non-payment of wages or fringe benefits must be filed within how many months of the alleged violation; 5) the Wage and Hour Program collects more than \$_____ in wages and fringe benefits owed Michigan workers each year. [7 points]</p>
Sept 21	Friedrichs, Ch 3 finish
Sept 26	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 4</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #2: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for The Problem with Pre-Season (and Couture): Extravagant Trips, Biased Reviews & FTC Violations. Your quiz will ask 1) the FTC is tasked with _____, and _____, 2) Under the FTC Act, the FTC is empowered to _____, 3) Under the law, "an act or practice is deceptive if it _____, 4) If a movie studio gives free tickets in exchange for a review, that arrangement must be " _____" in the review, 5) Does the college student who has a reputation as a video game expert need to disclose free equipment or games in his/her reviews [yes or no] [6 points]</p>
Sept 28	Friedrichs, Ch 5, start
Oct 3	Friedrichs, Ch 5 finish/start Ch 6
Oct 5	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 6 finish</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #3: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for the Federal Trade Commission's page on Debt Collection. Your quiz will ask: 1) what does the FDCPA stand for and what three general practices does it stop debt collectors from using 2) 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 3) what three pieces of information are in a validation notice 4) can debt collectors say that you'll be arrested if you don't pay 5) what is ONE of the three places you can report violations. [9 points]</p>
Oct 10	<p>TEST 1 Remember that no one is admitted to the test after the first person leaves. See make up option on p 2 of the syllabus if you will miss the test.</p>

	There will NOT be extra credit later in the semester, so take this test seriously and study for it.
Oct 12	Friedrichs, ch 7 - you only need to read p 200-218
Oct 17	Friedrichs, Ch 8 start
Oct 19	Friedrichs, Ch 8 finish
Oct 24	Friedrichs, Ch 9
Oct 26	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 10 start</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #4: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for the Federal Trade Commission's page about Concussion Protection Claims. Your quiz will ask: 1) what product is mentioned in the headline as claiming to protect from concussions 2) fill in the blanks: "making an objective claim for a product without a _____ basis to support the claim is _____, and "_____ and _____" scientific evidence is generally needed to substantiate health-related claims" 3) the FTC letter recommend that the retailer do what, and 4) what action is the FTC staff going to take. [7 points]</p>
Oct 31	<p>Friedrichs, Ch 10 finish/start Ch 11</p> <p>Note that there are some updates to Friedrichs' text located on the class webpage. For the test, know the jurisdiction of the Secret Service and who has responsibility for money laundering (both have changed since the book was written), and what the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau does.</p>
Nov 2	Friedrichs, Ch 11 finish/start Ch 12
Nov 7	Friedrichs, Ch 12 finish/review
Nov 9	<p>TEST 2 Remember that no one is admitted to the test after the first person leaves. See make up option on p 2 if you will miss the test.</p> <p>There will NOT be extra credit later in the semester, so take this test seriously and study for it.</p>
Nov 14	Reiman and Leighton, Introduction
Nov 16	Reiman and Leighton, start Ch 1

	<p>NO CLASS TODAY – I will be at the American Society of Criminology conference.</p> <p>Please go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) to download the worksheet and read Inside the Federal Bureau of Way Too Many Guns. [12 points]</p>
Nov 21	Reiman and Leighton, finish Ch 1
Nov 23 – 27 NO CLASSES / Thanksgiving	
Nov 28	Reiman and Leighton, start ch 2
Nov 30	<p>Reiman and Leighton, finish Ch 2 (start Ch 3?)</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #5: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for The Crimes of Lead (Chemical and engineering News). Your quiz will ask: 1) what are two actions the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) took to reduce lead, 2) What does Nevin’s 2007 research show, 3) what are the three “executive functions” that lead can interfere with, and 4) what is one way that lead affects the brain that can result in crime [be clear about (a) how lead affects the brain and (b) how this makes crime more likely [8 points]</p>
Dec 5	Reiman and Leighton, Ch 3
<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 issue to resolve. All back work should be turned in before the end of the last class. The late penalty escalates sharply at this point. Work turned in at the final exam will only be counted if you have made prior arrangements with me.</p>	
Dec 7	<p>Reiman and Leighton, Ch 4</p> <p>IN CLASS QUIZ #6: Go to the class webpage (remember paulsjusticepage.com) and find the link for “I got myself arrested so I could look inside the justice system (<i>The Atlantic</i>). Your quiz will ask: 1) what is the author’s position in the justice system and what concern led him to try to get himself arrested, 2) when the black man yelled at him, the police came, saw his stencil and spray paint, and what did they do, 3) what did the police do when he was spray painting the entrance of city hall, 4) what did the police do when he first handed them his license and a letter explaining what he had done? [5 points]</p>

Dec 12	Reiman and Leighton, Conclusion
Dec 19 FINAL EXAM, 9:00am – 10:30 (NOT USUAL CLASS TIME) Remember that no one is admitted to the test after the first person leaves. If you miss the final, I will give you an incomplete until you finish the make up option discussed on p 2 of the syllabus.	

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.