THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Transnational Criminal Orgs - CRIJ 5335 001 / INSS 5335 001
Summer 2022

Course #: CRIJ 5335 001 (35480) / INSS 5335 001 (35487)
Credit Hrs: 3.0
Course Meetings & Location: 100% Online
Prerequisite Courses:
Course Begin Date: June 6, 2022
Course End Date: July 29, 2022 (11:59 PM, Mountain Standard Time)
Instructor: Tim Clark, PhD.
Office Location: I do not have a physical office on campus.

Email: twclark@utep.edu
Emailing my UTEP account is the best way to guarantee I get the message. Typically, I will respond within 24 hours and usually in the evening hours.

Phone: If there is an emergency, you may contact me on my cell phone 256-284-3063. You may leave a message or text and I will get back to you as soon as I get to my phone. Please use my cell phone only if your question is urgent and cannot wait for me to respond to e-mail. Due to the way that Blackboard and the Internet work, there has been a few disruptions. If that happens to you, do not panic. There is no need to text or call me (I have no magic button). Just send me an email.

Description:

This course scientifically examines the modern activity of transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), including an examination of governmental approaches (national and international) that have been employed to counter transnational organized crime (C-TOC). In doing so this will provide with an increased understanding of these criminal threats. Specifically, this will course will provide a focused-look on five major categories of transnational organized crime (TOC): 1) Human Exploitation, 2) Environmental Crime, 3) Drug Trafficking, 4) Cybercrime, and 5) Illicit Goods (non-drug) Smuggling. Additionally, it will provide you with the opportunity to create to two types of intelligence and criminal intelligence: baseball cards and white paper. Through the creation of each of these products, you will acquire detailed knowledge on one TCO, as well as the ability to create such products for current or future employers in the criminal justice, National Security or intelligence fields.
**Learning Objectives:**
This course will:

1. Teach you the scientific definitions of transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) and transnational organized crime (TOC)
2. Teach you social scientific theories of transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) and transnational organized crime (TOC)
3. Teach you an increased understanding of transnational crimes of human exploitation
4. Teach you an increased understanding of transnational crimes of environmental crime
5. Teach you an increased understanding of transnational crimes of drug trafficking
6. Teach you an increased understanding of transnational crimes of Cybercrime
7. Teach you an increased understanding of transnational crimes of illicit goods (non-drug) smuggling
8. Teach you the governmental approaches (national and international) that have been employed to counter transnational organized crime (C-TOC)
9. Teach you to scientifically research a transnational criminal organization (TCO)
10. Teach you to write a Baseball Card (a types of intelligence and criminal intelligence product).
11. Teach you to write a White Paper (a types of intelligence and criminal intelligence product).
12. Better prepare you to work in a criminal justice, National Security or intelligence agency or organization that creates policy or counters transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) and transnational organized crime (TOC)

**Required Books:**
To reduce costs to the student, there is no textbook that is required to be purchased for this course. All the reading material in the course will be provided within the modules (either by links and embedded pdfs). Whenever possible, video has been substituted for readings on a topic to add variety of medians for diverse learners.

The course will include various readings at no-cost to the student including:

[we will be completing this entire book as I have chosen as it as the core text as it is organization matches the organization of this course]

**Technical Requirements:**
The University of Texas at El Paso provides free 24/7 Helpdesk support to academic students and faculty members teaching on-line. The Helpdesk can provide answers to questions about using technology and services, as well as technical support. Please visit the technical support page for more information.

Microsoft Office. If you do not have Microsoft Office, check with your University of Texas branch store for the special Microsoft Office package which includes Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Contact the UTEP Bookstore (915)747-5594 for more info.

Adobe Flash: This application is for advanced multimedia presentations/interactions over the internet. You may download this player from the Adobe Download site.
Components of your Grade:

There are seven (7) Discussions in the course
(5 points each, initial post = 2, 
3 = follow-up & replies to those that posted on you) 35 points

There are six (6) Assignments in this course
1. Select a TCO to Research (Module 1) 5 Points
2. List of Relevant Literature for your TCO (Module 2) 5 Points
3. Most Recent News about your TCO (Module 3) 5 Points
4. Organizing your Notes (Module 4) 5 Points
5. TCO Baseball Card (Module 5) 25 Points
6. Final Version of your TCO White Paper (Module 7) 50 Points

For a Total of 130 points

Grading Scale:

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Communication in the Class:

Discussion Participation: (At time prompted, you will be required to post one coursework relevant comment weekly that should be at least 150 words. Additionally, you will be required to provide at least three replies per module for one of your fellow students and or in response to other’s replies to your initial posting. These comments should be at least 50 words. Each module’s discussion allows you to earn up to 5 points each (two points for the initial post, and a maximum of three points by posting a reply to other’s posts or by replying to others replies to your own post (for a maximum of three points for replies).

Private Conversation with the Instructor:
Sometimes you may want to communicate with me outside the public blog forums. If you so desire, just send me an email, and if we cannot solve the issue via email, I am always glad to arrange a time for us to talk on the telephone.
Student's Responsibilities:
Students will be expected to read the course readings and watch videos, actively engage in conversation with your fellow students in the discussion. You will also be expected to make a substantial comment to each module's question listed on the Discussion Board set up for this course.

Course Pacing:
As a criminal justice practitioner, intelligence analyst, or policy maker, we are often expected to meet hard deadlines. What this means is this course is that you need to meet both weekly deadlines and must complete all modules in order. This means that you have a weekly deadline of each Sunday at Midnight, and you have a deadline of **July 29, 2022 (11:59 PM, Mountain Standard Time)** to complete all the course material, posting on the discussion and assignments. Any course material not completed by that time will receive as score of zero. **No excuses will be accepted.**

Military Students:
As a military Veteran, I am supportive of current students serving as active duty and reserve components of the U.S. military. If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service, overseas deployment or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact me no later than end of the first week of class. However, it is expected that you as a professional will not enroll in the course if you knowingly expect (i.e. have orders prior to the start of the semester) to be deployed in an environment without computer access.

COVID-19
As this class is fully-online there is not requirements that you be on campus. Just in case you have to visit campus for another reason, please consult the UTEP COVID website for latest information. https://www.utep.edu/resuming-campus-operations/dashboard/

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:
As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if a student needs an accommodation, then the Office of Disabled Student Services located at UTEP need to be contacted. If you have a condition, which may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of the Disabled Student Services. You may call 915-747-5148 for general information about the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the rights that you have as a UTEP student with a disability. Individuals with disabilities have the right to equal access and opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and The Disabled Student Services Office at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Copyright Notice
Many of the materials that are posted within this course are protected by copyright law. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

Scholastic and Professional Integrity:
Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.
**Scholastic and Professional Integrity:**
In an on-line course scholastic integrity takes on a new importance as you are given more freedom from supervision. In the on-line course environment, it is academically dishonest to gain assistance during graded portions of the course. In this course this would be on quizzes, all exams, as well as having someone else write your entries and comments on blogs.

I view academic dishonesty among criminal justice majors as blasphemy as you all are striving to work as servants of the law. Negative action for academic dishonesty can result in being barred from employment and will most likely arise on any background and polygraph examinations you will take for the cool jobs. At UTEP Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. I will take violations seriously and will refer the case to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work.

**The University Writing Center:**
The University Writing Center offers free synchronous online one-on-one writing assistance for UTEP Connect students. Graduate and undergraduate consultants work with writers on projects for a wide variety of classes and aid during all parts of the writing process, including prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. Online assistance is available by appointment through the UWC's website (uwc.utep.edu). Most UWC consultants are bilingual Spanish and English speakers. Consultants will not edit your paper for you, and you are the one ultimately responsible for the work you submit and the grade you earn. Instead, Writing Center consultants will guide you through the writing process and teach you valuable writing skills. Visit the UWC's website to learn more about the services they provide or make an appointment for an online consultation. Online consultations take place during regular business hours (see website) and must be made at least one day in advance.
**Effective Electronic Communication:**

Keep your messages concise and clearly written. Most ideas can be stated in a couple of paragraphs, although sometimes a longer message may be needed to develop your thoughts adequately. Keep in mind that people are more apt to read and digest shorter messages than long ones.

1. **Be respectful of other's ideas, opinions, and beliefs.** It's fine to disagree with someone, but please respect their right to think differently.

2. **Avoid posting simple two- or three-word statements such as "I agree" or "Good point".** If you think someone has made an especially strong point and you want to say so, then explain why by adding a few sentences describing your response or adding to the original point. Typically, a good post is about 150 words, and a good response is about 50 words. (I will not count these, so if they are close no problem).

3. **I will not be checking for spelling or grammar, but the more attention to these your give, the clearer your message will be.** I understand most Spanish (though not extremely skilled in slang) as well as many of your fellow students, so if you need to you can occasionally post in a mixture of English and Spanish to get your point across, then go ahead and do so.

4. A message that demonstrates substance contributes to the understanding and application of ideas by doing one or more of the following:

   a. **Reflection about meaning:** Describe thoughtfully what something means or new insights it provides or raise a question as a seed for clarification or further discussion.

   b. **Analysis:** Discusses relevant themes, concepts, main ideas, components, or relationships among ideas or identifies hidden assumptions or fallacies in reasoning.

   c. **Elaboration:** Builds on ideas of others or ideas found in the readings by adding details, examples, a different viewpoint, or other relevant information.

   d. **Application:** Provides examples of how principles or concepts can be applied to actual classroom situations or discuss the implications of theory for practice.

   e. **Synthesis:** Integrate multiple views to provide a summary, a new perspective, or a creative refashioning of ideas.
Course Schedule CRIJ 5335 / INSS 5335 on-line

Course Schedule & Recommended Dates of Completion:

**Course Begin Date:** June 6, 2022
**Course End Date:** July 29, 2022 (11:59 PM, Mountain Standard Time)

**Week 1/Module 1:** Introduction to Transnational Crime & Transnational Criminal Organizations
*Discussion 1/ Module 1: Discussion of Theories and Commando Vermelho*
  Initial post by Thursday June 9, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
  All Replies Complete by Sunday June 12, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 1/Module 1: Select a TCO to Research*
  Assignment due by Sunday June 12, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

**Week 2/Module 2:** Human Exploitation
*Discussion 2/ Module 2: The Interagency Planning Group to Combat Sex Trafficking*
  Initial post by Thursday June 16, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
  All Replies Complete by Sunday June 19, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 2/Module 2: List of Relevant Literature for your TCO*
  Assignment due by Sunday June 19, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

**Week 3/Module 3:** Environmental Crime
*Discussion 3/ Module 3: CLICK HERE: Environmental Crimes and National Security Threats*
  Initial post by Thursday June 23, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
  All Replies Complete by Sunday June 26, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 3/ Module 3: Most Recent News about your TCO*
  Assignment due by Sunday June 26, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

**Week 4/Module 4:** Drug Trafficking
*Discussion 4/ Module 4: Countering Drug Traffickers in Non-Permissive Nations*
  Initial post by Thursday June 30, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
  All Replies Complete by Sunday July 3, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 4/ Module 4: Organizing your Notes*
  Assignment due by Sunday July 3, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

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**Week 5/Module 5: Cybercrime**

*Discussion 5/ Module 5: Reading and Feedback on Others’ TCO Baseball Cards*
- Initial post by Thursday July 7, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
- All Replies Complete by Sunday July 10, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 5/ Module 5: Baseball Card on your TCO*
- Assignment due by Sunday July 10, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

**Week 6/Module 6: Illicit Goods (non-drug) Smuggling**

*Discussion 6/ Module 6: Freeform Discussion*
- Initial post by Thursday July 14, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
- All Replies Complete by Sunday July 17, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 6/ Module 6: No assignment due this module*

**Week 7/Module 7: Countering Transnational Criminal Organizations**

*Discussion 7/ Module 7: Choosing the right C-TOC methods for your TCO*
- Initial post by Thursday July 21, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)
- All Replies Complete by Sunday July 24, 2022 (Midnight, Central Standard Time)

*Assignment 7/ Module 7: Final Version of your TCO White Paper*
- Assignment due by Friday, July 29, 2022 (11:59 PM, Mountain Standard Time)
Additional Information of Specific Assignments

TCO White Paper  50 points

A white paper is a core product of intelligence and criminal analysis. It provides the analyst the ability to organize their information on a network and serves as a product to inform executives, action officers, and other analysts. It is like research papers that you may have done in advanced undergraduate or graduate coursework. Thus, this paper you will systematically analyze of TCO from the provided list to better understand the successes and failures by detailing five areas—structural factors, cultural factors, geo-political factors, resources, and actions of its threats. Using these foci, this analysis will identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities. You will use this paper as a case study.

The paper will typically include ten sections and be 5-10 pages in length (double-spaced 12 point font excluding references and cover pages):

I. Introduction: This section will provide a statement of what the paper seeks to do, and provide an overview of the paper structure, and what they key findings are.

II. Geographic Current and Historical Areas: This section will detail where the organization has operated and where it currently operates.

III. History of the Organization: This section of the paper will provide a history of the organization including who the founders were, why it was founded, and significant events in its history and development.

IV. Success or Failure: You will describe whether each of this organization is a success or a failure based on either their current situation or how they were at the end a historical point of time that is at the end of your period of analysis.

V. Structural Factors—The TCO’s structural factors are measured on the internal organization of the TCO. Measures include: their size; the nature of network connections; degree that structure is hierarchical or dispersed; the diversity of the portfolio of illicit and licit endeavors; their connections to legitimate businesses; and the level of visibility of the TCO. Your goal is to identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities of the organized based on its structure.

VI. Cultural Factors—The TCO’s cultural factors are measured on the internal beliefs, norms, values, and techniques, tactics, and practices (TTPs) for the purposes of understanding these as a TCO’s strength or vulnerability (or both). These measures include ideological, religious, or political purposes; the degree that the rank-and-file members and leaders adhere to this purpose; the age of the organization; the collective history of the organization; the adherence to codes of conduct; the collective experiences of its members; the level of violence they invoke; the ability to adapt; and the tech savviness of the TCO. Your goal is to identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities of the organized based its culture.

VII. Geo-Political Factors—The model hypothesizes that TCOs may be affected by geo-political factors that affect their likelihood of success or failure. These measures include: the geography of the TCO’s area of operations; the level of corruption in the society; the level of support from external actors (such as states, businesses, tribal groups, other TCOs, etc.); the legitimacy of governments in the TCOs operating area; and cultures of the population(s) in areas where the TCO operates. Your goal is to identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities of the organized based geo-political factors.
VIII. Resources—The model also posits that the TCO’s resources may influence their level of success and failure. Measures of resource include: the amount of wealth of the TCO has (both net and liquid wealth); the number of personnel in the organization; the TCO’s access to weapons and technology; and access to financial institution to launder money and to provide credit. Your goal is to identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities of the organized based its resources.

IX. Actions of Threats—The model also threats to the TCO. These threats include the ability of government security forces to mobilize resources to counter the TCO; the amount and relative power of rival or competitive organizations to the TCO; and international legal and security force efforts against the TCO. Your goal is to identify critical strengths and vulnerabilities of the organized based on actions of its threats.

X. Conclusion: This section describes the findings in the paper, specifically why were they a success or failure based on your analysis of critical strengths and vulnerabilities drawn from your discussion of their structural factors, cultural factors, geo-political factors, resources, and actions of its threats.