City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Applied Social Sciences
with effect from Semester A in 2014/2015

Part I

Course Title: Organized Crime
Course Code: SS4302
Course Duration: 1 Semester
No. of Credit Units: 3
Level: B4
Medium of Instruction: English
Medium of Assessment: English
Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title): Nil
Precursors: (Course Code and Title): Nil
Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title): Nil
Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title): Nil

Part II

1. Course Aims:

This course aims to help students understand organized crime. It examines the ideology, organization, structure, internal control, and activities, both legitimate and illegal, of organized criminal syndicates. It considers how organized crime challenges existing laws and criminal procedures, and discusses various issues related to the fight against organized crime.
2. **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Understand the nature and classifications of organized crime;</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Implement sociological and criminological theories to explain organized crime;</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Evaluate the effectiveness of existing counter-measures against organized crime; and</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Develop effective and innovative crime fighting strategies in a rapidly changing social and political context.</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)**

*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No.</th>
<th>TLA1</th>
<th>TLA2</th>
<th>TLA3</th>
<th>TLA4</th>
<th>Hours / course (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 2</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 3</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CILO 4</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe the TLAs:

**TLA1: Lecture**

Mini lectures on related topics conducted by the course lecturer are offered to students. One or two guest speakers will be invited as necessary to share their expertise.

**TLA2: Group exercises and discussion**

Students are encouraged to describe the nature of and explain the underlying factors associated with organized crime.

**TLA3: Group presentation**

Students will be divided into groups for presentation purposes. In their presentations, students need to demonstrate critical thinking and creative solutions towards a self-chosen issue related to organized crime, such as triad society, money laundry, transnational organized crime, corporate crime, and youth gangs etc.
4. **Assessment Tasks/Activities**  
*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No</th>
<th>Type of assessment tasks/activities</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>AT1: Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>AT2: Group presentation and project work</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>AT3: Individual papers</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Further description of ATs:

**AT1: Participation (10%)**  
Students are required to attend 13 lessons in which they need to offer their ideas and arguments in class exercises or group discussions.

**AT2: Group presentation and project work (40%)**  
Students are divided into groups for presentation purposes. Each group has to prepare a 30-40 minute presentation where members indicate their views on one organized crime related issue from different perspectives.

**AT3: Individual papers (50%)**  
Each student is required to submit an essay of 3,000 words (excluding references and appendices), focusing on a particular criminological issue related to organized crime. It shall contain theoretical application, critical analysis and/or practical recommendations.

5. **Grading of Student Achievement** *(Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grading criteria in relation to CILOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Showing excellent ability to describe the nature and characteristics of organized crime and implement sociological and criminological theory to explain organized crime. Demonstration of outstanding capability to evaluate the effectiveness of current legal responses and differentiate pros and cons of different strategies for fighting organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Showing moderate ability to describe the nature and characteristics of organized crime and implement sociological and criminological theory to explain organized crime. Demonstration of moderate capability to evaluate the effectiveness of current legal responses and differentiate pros and cons of different strategies for fighting organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Showing satisfactory ability to describe the nature and characteristics of organized crime and implement sociological and criminological theory to explain organized crime. Demonstration of satisfactory capability to evaluate the effectiveness of current legal responses and differentiate pros and cons of different strategies for fighting organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Showing limited ability to describe the nature and characteristics of organized crime and implement sociological and criminological theory to explain organized crime. Demonstration of limited capability to evaluate the effectiveness of current legal responses and differentiate pros and cons of different strategies for fighting organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Showing very limited ability to describe the nature and characteristics of organized crime and implement sociological and criminological theory to explain organized crime. Unable to evaluate the effectiveness of current legal responses and differentiate pros and cons of different strategies for fighting organized crime</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part III

1. **Keyword Syllabus:**

- organised crime
- triad society
- criminal gangs
- money laundry
- corporate crime
- transnational organized crime
- unlawful societies ordinance
- organized and serious crime ordinance

2. **Recommended Reading:**

**Text:**


**Recommended Readings:**


