

Selected Issues: Organised Crime (B001741)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 4.0 Study time 120 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	microteaching	0.0 h
			group work	10.0 h
			lecture	0.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Janssens, Jelle RE23 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
Master of Laws in Laws	4	A
Master of Laws in International and European Law	4	A
Exchange Programme in Law	4	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Conceptualizing and definition of organized crime, phenomenon, United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Measuring Organized Crime, Causes and Facilitating Factors of Organized Crime, organized crime markets, Models of Organized Criminal Groups, Cyber Organized Crime, crime-terror nexus, Law Enforcement Tools and Cooperation, Prosecution Strategies, Sentencing and Confiscation in Organized Crime

Position of the course

The course is advanced and studies the phenomenon organised crime, giving attention to both etiological discussions and the policy reaction. The course aims at integrating the courses Etiological Criminology and Criminal Justice Criminology and applying these on the phenomenon of organised crime.

Contents

- 1 The discovery of organised crime: definitions and conceptualisation
- 2 Research on organised crime: approaches & methods
- 3 Causes and Facilitating Factors of Organized Crime
- 4 Organized Crime Markets
- 5 Models of Organized Criminal Groups
- 6 Infiltration of Organized Crime in Business and Government
- 7 Cyber Organized Crime and the Crime-Terro Nexus
- 8 Organised crime policies: international cooperation, prosecution, sentencing, strategies and confiscation

Initial competences

- It is recommended to have the final competences of the courses Etiological Criminology and Criminal Justice Criminology or having acquired the required competences in another way.
- Able to read and analyse French and English articles and texts.
- Able to communicate written and orally in English.

Final competences

- 1 Applying in-depth knowledge of actors of European/international institutional and the policy development context of criminology and criminal justice when addressing organized crime and reactions to it.

- 2 Applying in-depth knowledge of organized crime (and reactions to it) in scholarly research.
- 3 Addressing organized crime multidimensional.
- 4 Having knowledge of current debates and issues regarding organized crime (and reactions to it).
- 5 Critically analysing organized crime (and reactions to it) through research and the application of theory.
- 6 Articulating a scientifically-reasoned, substantiated opinion about organized crime (and reactions to it) that takes ethical, cultural and legal issues into account.
- 7 Being able to think independently and critically about the reaction (incl. policy) to the phenomenon of organized crime.
- 8 Demonstrating an active attitude towards current events.
- 9 Being able to write a clear report on the results of (own) scholarly research and/or personal views.
- 10 Being able to present personal views and/or results of (own) research, adapted to the target audience.
- 11 Respecting cultural differences, pluralism and ethical standards.
- 12 Have a critical and academic attitude towards relevant sources and literature concerning organized crime and use these sources and literature critically.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, microteaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture (27h): combination of lectures by the lecturer and by guest lecturers (i. e. experts on certain topics)

Group work (10h): students are divided into groups (3-4 students per group) and write a paper in English with regard to a predetermined topic.

Microteaching (8h): the paper will then be presented in English during plenary sessions during 10-15 minutes with a 15 minutes plenary discussion afterwards. All groups read each other's papers and prepare at least one question or point of discussion, which functions as main input for the discussion. Students doing the presentation also prepare a number of points for discussion. The lecturer stimulates and guides interaction and discussion, and gives comments and suggestions.

Learning materials and price

E-Reader available through Minerva: Cost: 0 EUR.

References

- Paoli, L. & Vander Beken, T. (2014). Organized crime: A contested concept. In: *The Oxford Handbook of Organized Crime*. Paoli, L. (ed.). New York: Oxford University Press, 13-31.
- Fijnaut, C. (2014). Searching for organized crime in history. In: *The Oxford Handbook of Organized Crime*. Paoli, L. (ed.). New York: Oxford University Press, 53-95.
- Vander Beken, T., & Janssens, J. (2015). The tides of thought and policy on the assessment of organised crime in Belgium. In Petrus C van Duyne, A. Maljevic, G. A. Antonopoulos, J. Harvey, & K. von Lampe (Eds.), *The relativity of wrongdoing : corruption, organised crime, fraud and money laundering in perspective* (pp. 159-186). Nijmegen: Wolf Legal Publishers.

Course content-related study coaching

In order to process and incorporate the subject material and to achieve the final attainment levels, (optional) individual support by the lecturer(s) and/or an assistant is provided through e-mail or personal contact (on appointment).

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Periodic evaluation: oral exam with open questions. On short-answer questions students are required to reply in a few sentences. Essay questions require a more detailed answer, in which the student reflects on the causes, mechanisms, current events and/or other aspects of organized crime.

The non-periodical (permanent) evaluation: addressing a topic and case study that is related to the field of financial and economic crime. The students present the results through a PowerPoint presentation logically and well-founded during 10 to 15 minutes. Three elements are central to the evaluation of the paper: (1) integration of the course elements, (2) the quality of the literature study and the integration of the sources and (3) critical reflection. The presentation will be evaluated based on (1) the integration of the course elements, (2) the form of the presentation and (3) the individual presentation skills. Formulating questions or points of discussion is also taken into account for the overall evaluation.

The student will be given a possibility to retake the oral exam (periodic evaluation) as well as prepare another paper and deliver its presentation (non-periodic evaluation).

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic evaluation (50%) - Non-periodic evaluation evaluation (50%)

The periodic evaluation is an oral exam on 20 points. The non-periodic evaluation is based on the paper, the presentation and the review and also accounts for 20 points. The total (on 40) will afterwards be reduced to a score on 20.

The **oral exam** during the periodic evaluation is based on two questions: a shortanswer question and an essay-question.

The **non-periodic evaluation:**

- Paper: 12/20
 - Integration: 6/20
 - References: 3/20
 - Critical reflection: 3/20
- Quality of questions/points of discussion: 2/20
- Presentation: 6/20
 - Integration: 2/20
 - Form: 2/20
 - Presentation skills: 2/20

The student is obliged to participate in all evaluations (both periodic and non-periodic); otherwise, he/she will be declared "failed" in this subject. More specifically, this means that in the case that the mark for one (completed) part of the evaluation is 10 or more, the final mark for this course will be reduced to the highest fail score.

Facilities for Working Students

Working students can write and present a paper individually if they would chose to do so.