SYLLABUS-TRANSNATIONAL CRIMES (2025_SUMM_30291_CJ_4323 2W1_Transnational Crime) Start Date: 07/07/2025 End Date: 08/13/2025 Classroom: Online	Assistant Professor Ercan BALCIOGLU Tel: (432) 837-8336 ercan.balcioglu@sulross.edu Class hours: Online Office hours: By Appointment

Contacting Me: The best way to reach me is via email. Do not hesitate to contact me for any reason. I will respond to email inquiries as soon as possible.

COURSE MATERIALS

The following course materials are required

1. Marmo, Marinella; Chazal, Nerida; Goldsmith, Andrew (CON) (2016) *Transnational Crime & Criminal Justice*. Sage Pubs Ltd. ISBN13: 9781412919241. ISBN10: 141291924X

2. Recommended-American Psychological Association (October 2019). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Seventh Edition, https://apastyle.apa.org/products/publication-manual-7th-edition-spiral

Additional resources, including supplementary readings, videos, and other materials, will be made available on Blackboard throughout the semester.

SRSU Library Services

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library at Sul Ross State University provides free resources and services for the entire SRSU community, including books, articles, and online databases accessible at www.library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. A photo ID is required to check out physical materials. Librarians are available for assistance via email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), phone (432-837-8123), or in person.

For RGC students: You also have access to the Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries located in Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass. These libraries provide additional space and resources, as well as access to online materials via library.swtjc.edu. Moreover, they serve as pickup locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) services from the Alpine campus. Logging into your Sul Ross Blackboard account connects you directly to the library webpage, where you can explore online databases and access articles on the reading list. Please note, the syllabus is subject to updates. Regularly check course announcements for changes. The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus as necessary.

Course Description

This course explores the growing threat of transnational crime and violence from a global perspective. It addresses issues such as drug trafficking, human smuggling, and terrorism, emphasizing their impact on international security and governance. Students will analyze the causes of transnational crime, study specific crime types and networks, and evaluate national and international responses. The course is structured around four key themes:

1. The nature and scope of transnational crime

2. In-depth analysis of specific offenses

3. Control and prevention strategies

4. Regional and global case studies

Through critical readings and comparative analyses, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and challenges in combating crime that crosses national borders.

Course Learning Objectives

This graduate course is designed to support your transition from student to independent researcher and scholar in the field of Transnational Crimes. As a graduate-level, reading-intensive course, you are expected to move beyond basic comprehension—critically analyzing academic texts and engaging with diverse scholarly sources. Success will require strong organization, especially during the accelerated pace of summer online learning.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and classify the various forms of transnational crime
- Critically analyze major categories of transnational crime, including drug trafficking, human trafficking, transnational sex crimes, and money laundering
- Understand international efforts to combat transnational crime, including cooperative frameworks in policing, prosecution, adjudication, and
- Evaluate organized crime networks within major global regions and their cross-border consequences
- Apply critical thinking and evidence-based analysis to develop informed perspectives on transnational crime
- Demonstrate academic writing proficiency, including the correct use of APA citation, adherence to formal writing standards, and clarity of expression

Student Learning Outcomes

CJ-GRAD-SLO 1: The student will be able to analyze the function and decision making of the court systems of the United States, including the ability to assess the impact the impact of court rulings, in particular those of the Supreme Court.

CJ-GRAD-SLO 2: Student will be able to identify and apply criminological theories and competing theory arguments.

CJ-GRAD-SLO 3: Student will be able to develop a working knowledge of the process and application of the methods of scientific research, including the ability to critique a piece of research based on its methodology and develop the ability to apply research to Criminal Justice and Homeland Security policy.

Course Assessments

1 - Discussion Board Posts (100 points total): Participation in discussion is an important part of this course. The master's degree in Homeland Security & Criminal Justice is expected to be well informed about core concepts and contemporary issues. The graduate student should be able to demonstrate evidence of reflective thought while discussing a topic and the ability to support a position based on

evidence from literature. In addition, the ability to engage in discussion with respectful consideration of others' opinions is expected.

There will be five (5) discussion board topics in this course. Students must post one (1) comment and two (2) responses to each discussion board topic. The one (1) comment should be your response to the question posted on the discussion board. The other two (2) posts should be your thoughtful responses to other students' posts.

There are two separate weekly deadlines for discussion board posts! To receive credit, you must post your comment to the discussion board question post by ***Monday midnight***. In addition, you must post two (2) responses to other students 'posts by ***Sunday midnight.*** Your grade on the discussion board is based on participation. Each discussion board assignment is worth 20 points (10 points for your comment + 10 points for your responses). However, to receive full credit for these posts, you must fulfill some basic requirements:

- Comments should be a minimum of 150 words and responses should be a minimum of 50 words.
- You must use at least 1 external resource in your comments with proper in-text citation (see APA Manual Ch. 8) and proper reference entry (see APA Manual Chapters 9-11) at the end of your comment.
- All of your posts should be relevant to the topic being discussed but should also attempt to introduce a new point of view or piece of information or otherwise further the discussion.
- All of your posts should use correct grammar and punctuation.
- Misuse of the discussion boards will not be tolerated.
- Read the "Discussion Board Guidelines" on Blackboard prior to posting to the discussion board.

2 - Quizzes (100 points total): There will be four (4) quizzes. You will take a Quiz for every week to measure the knowledge of the week's required readings. These examinations will cover topics in the field of transnational crimes as well as the assigned readings. The questions will be posted on ***Monday,*** and the due date will be next ***Sunday*** at 11:59 PM every week.

4 - Final Exam (100 points): The Final Exam is comprehensive; thus, it will test students on all the topics covered during the course. The Final exam is worth 100 points. No make-up test will be given unless an uncontrollable emergency or illness arises (written proof required).

5 - Final Paper (100 Points): You will write a final paper on one of the transnational crimes covered in chapters 4-13. The paper should.

a) be 10 to 15 pages (this is the body of your paper excluding everything else)

b) include these parts: Title page (1 page), Table of Contents (1 page), Abstract (1 page), Body of the paper - one of the transnational crimes covered in chapters 4-13 (10+ pages), References (1 page), Appendices (if any) (see APA Manual for formatting guidelines),

c) be typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point Calibri font,

d) include at least five scholarly citations other than the ones we covered in the class (not website articles, Wikipedia, news agencies, magazines, etc.), and

e) be written according to APA formatting and citation style.

A plagiarism detection software ([SafeAssign](#)) is used in this course. SafeAssign will detect and report all instances of plagiarism including where the student copied and pasted directly from a source. Students will receive a grade of "0" in these instances and possibly fail the course. Your final paper will be submitted through SafeAssign.

Technology Requirements
This course requires frequent use of **Blackboard**. Students must check it regularly for announcements, assignments, grades, and course materials. Key Blackboard tools include email, course documents, discussion boards, grade center, SafeAssign, and external links.
Basic Computer Skills Needed:
- Sending/receiving email with attachments
- Browsing the internet and downloading files
- Using word processing software (e.g., MS Word)

Required Technology:
- A reliable computer with stable internet access
- A current web browser capable of streaming content and downloading materials
- Access to Blackboard using your **LoboID and password**

For assistance, tutorials are available on the Blackboard support page.

Participation Policy
This is a fully online course with no class meetings scheduled. However, active participation is expected. To start, please complete the non-graded **"Introduction" post** to introduce yourself to your classmates and your professor.
Students are expected to:
- **Log into Blackboard regularly** to check announcements, assignments, and deadlines
- **Complete all assignments and exams online** by their posted due dates
- **Contact the instructor via email** with any questions about course materials, assignments, or exams.

Consistent engagement is key to success in this course.

Attendance Policy
Although this is a fully online course, student engagement and participation are still mandatory. The University's attendance policy applies to all distance learning courses. A student may be dropped with an **"F" grade** for excessive non-participation—defined as **more than 3 weeks of inactivity** in a long semester, **1 week in a summer session**, or **3 days in a midwinter session**.
Inactivity includes:
- Not logging into Blackboard
- Not submitting assignments
- Not participating in required activities
- Not communicating with the instructor
- Not following the participation guidelines in the syllabus

Students must respect academic integrity and copyright laws. All submitted work must be their own unless group work is specifically assigned. Additionally, students accessing the course from a remote site are expected to treat the host campus, its facilities, and staff with professionalism and care.
Students are required to check their **SRSU email accounts regularly**, as all official communications—including those sent via Blackboard—will be directed there.

Late Assignment Submission Policy
All coursework and assignments must be submitted **by the stated deadlines**. Late work is generally **not accepted**, as students are informed of all due dates at the beginning of the term and are expected to plan accordingly.

Exceptions will only be made in cases of **documented and university-recognized excuses**. If a student misses an assignment or exam, they must promptly provide a valid explanation and supporting documentation.

Students are strongly encouraged to review the syllabus regularly and stay informed of all deadlines throughout the semester.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty as outlined in the **Sul Ross Student Code of Conduct**. Any form of academic dishonesty—including **cheating, plagiarism, collusion, fabrication, or falsification of records**—will not be tolerated and will be addressed in accordance with university policies.

Definitions:
- **Cheating:** Using unauthorized materials or assistance during exams, altering academic records, or obtaining answers through dishonest means.
- **Plagiarism:** Submitting another's work, ideas, or words as your own without proper citation.
- **Collusion:** Assisting or being complicit in another student's academic dishonesty.

Using tools like **ChatGPT or other AI generators** is prohibited unless explicitly permitted for a specific assignment. Violations may result in penalties ranging from a failing grade on an assignment to failure of the course, and may lead to further disciplinary action.

Maintaining academic integrity protects both the value of your education and the credibility of the university.

APA Style

This course will use the American Psychological Association (APA) Seventh Edition formatting and style guide for all written assignments. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of APA a number of resources have been provided below. Please note that all external sources must be appropriately cited. A failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and is a violation the course academic honesty standards. Beside numerous online sources you can also visit the following link for help with APA https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html.

Student Support Services

Sul Ross State University offers various programs to help students succeed, including advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and writing assistance. For a complete list of services, visit Student Support Services **at** https://www.sulross.edu/section/311/student-support-services. For more information, contact SSS at (432) 837-9118 or visit Ferguson Hall, Room 105.

Counseling Services: Sul Ross students have access to nine free counseling sessions through TimelyCare. For 24/7 support, visit TimelyCare/SRSU. In-person counseling is also available in Ferguson Hall, Room 112 (Alpine campus), and via telehealth for remote and RGC students.

Students with Special Needs - Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA)

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartze Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at
432-837-8203, or email mschwartze@sulross.edu The office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall # 112, and the mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SRSU, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

Departmental Undergraduate Program Marketable Skills
(*Aligned with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board – 60x30TX Plan*)
The 60x30TX initiative aims for 60% of Texans aged 25–34 to hold a degree or credential by 2030. One key component of this goal is that all graduates from public institutions in Texas will complete academic programs with clearly defined marketable skills—competencies valued by employers that support career readiness and lifelong employability.
Marketable skills include both technical and soft skills—often referred to as "employability" or "transferable" skills—developed through coursework, research, internships, and co-curricular activities. Graduates of the Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Undergraduate Programs at Sul Ross State University will demonstrate the following marketable skills:

1. Effective Verbal and Written Communication
2. Data Literacy and Quantitative Analysis Skills
3. Critical Thinking and Observational Abilities
4. Teamwork and Collaborative Work Practices
5. Cultural Competency and Multicultural Understanding
6. Analytical Skills in Crime Causation and Prevention
7. Knowledge of Legal Codes, Procedures, and Public Safety Protocols

These skills prepare students for diverse roles in law enforcement, homeland security, public service, and justice-related professions.

Other Course Expectations
- This is an upper-level college course, and students are expected to produce work that reflects that level of academic rigor. This includes the use of proper APA formatting, correct grammar, clear sentence structure, and organized presentation of ideas.
- Students are responsible for carefully reviewing the syllabus to stay informed about assignment requirements and due dates. Please contact the instructor promptly if clarification is needed.

Grading

Grading Components

Assessment	Points
Discussion Board Posts (5 x 20 points)	100
Weekly Quizzes (4 x 25 points)	100
Final Exam	100
Final Paper	100
Total Possible Points	400

Course Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	400 – 360
B	359 – 320
C	319 – 280
D	279 – 240
F	239 & below

Course Schedule

This course schedule is subject to change as needed to meet the needs of the course. Students will be notified of adjustments when they are made. Also, any additional reading materials, resources and other information will be posted on Blackboard. Students will be notified of how to access this information by the instructor.
All times are in central time

DATES	TOPICS	COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES
Week 1 July 7 – July 13 Chapters 1 –2	Syllabus Introduction 2 Globalization and Mobility	Discussion Board 1 Comments Due: 11:59 pm 6/1 Discussion Board 1 Responses Due: 11:59 pm 6/1 Quiz 1 will be available on Monday 7/7 and close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 7/13
Week 2 July 14 – 20 Chapters 3 – 4.	3 Risk, Networks and Cyberspace 4 The Creation and Circulation of Justice Norms INTRODUCTION RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC	Discussion Board 2 Comments Due: 11:59 pm 6/8 Discussion Board 2 Responses Due: 11:59 pm 6/8 Quiz 2 will be available on Monday 7/14 and close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 7/20
Week 3 July 21– 27 Chapters 5 –6.	Part 2 Forms of Transnational Crimes 5 Global Mobility Markets: The Migration of the 'Body' and its Exploitation 6 Organized Crime: Threat and Response in the Global Era (Andrew Goldsmith)	Discussion Board 3 Comments Due: 11:59 pm 6/15 Discussion Board 3 Responses Due: 11:59 pm 6/15 Quiz 3 will be available on Monday 7/21 and close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 7/27
Week 4 July 28 –Aug 3 Chapters 7 –8	7 Terrorism in a Networked World (Andrew Goldsmith) 8 Crimes against the Environment ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY	Discussion Board 4 Comments Due: 11:59 pm 6/22 Discussion Board 4 Responses Due: 11:59 pm 6/22 Quiz 4 will be available on Monday 7/28 and close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 8/3
Week 5 Aug 4 – Aug 10 Chapters 9 – 10. !!! END OF TERM !!!	9 State Crime, Human Rights and Crimes of Globalization 10 Towards Global Criminal Justice? FINAL PAPER SUBMISSION (Due Date Aug 10, 2025)	Discussion Board 5 Comments Due: 11:59 pm 7/2 Discussion Board 5 Responses Due: 11:59 pm 7/2 Final Paper Due: Wednesday 11:59 pm 8/10 Comprehensive Final Exam will open at 12:00 am on Thursday 8/7 and close on Friday at 11:59 pm 8/9

END OF COURSE EVALUATIONS: Student evaluations of faculty are administered online at the end of each term/session for all courses with five or more students. Students will receive an email containing a link to a survey for each course in which they are enrolled. All responses are anonymous.