

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CRIMES OF THE POWERFUL
Status: Definitive
Code: **7025LAWCJ** (107869)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Law
Teaching School/Faculty: Law

Team	Leader
Noel Cross	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 15 **Total Delivered Hours:** 20
Total Learning Hours: 150 **Private Study:** 130

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10
Tutorial	10

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	4,000 word essay	100	

Aims

To consider various definitions of crime and the relationship between these and the various sources of power within society.

To discuss and critically analyse the crimes that can occur as a result of imbalances of power in society, on individual, corporate, national and international levels.

To critically analyse the responses to crimes of the powerful, both in the criminal justice process and in wider society.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Analyse the social construction of crime, and the various definitions of crime put forward by writers on crime and criminal justice
- 2 Demonstrate critically why some crimes are regulated rather than prosecuted
- 3 Critically assess the various sources of power within society, and how they assist in the commission of detected and undetected crime
- 4 Show critical awareness of the different kinds of wrongdoing that can be considered as 'crimes of the powerful', including domestic, racial and sexual violence (individual power), corporate, business and white-collar crime (for example, transnational crime involving prostitution, drugs, money-laundering and people-trafficking), and state crime (crimes occurring when states violate domestic or international laws)
- 5 Demonstrate a critical awareness of how different 'crimes of the powerful' are responded to by criminal justice (nationally and internationally), and different academic viewpoints on what criminal justice's response to them should be

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

CW	1	2	3	4	5
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Outline Syllabus

Critical introduction to the examination of the links between crime and Power

- *thinking critically about competing definitions of crime and power*
- *a historical overview of the links between crime and power*
- *issues and problems in measuring and researching crimes of the powerful*

Analysing major forms of crimes of the powerful

- *corporate and occupational crime*
- *organised crime*
- *racial, sexual, and domestic violence*

Analysing major forms of increasingly international crimes of the powerful

- *international drug-related crime*

- *people trafficking and people-smuggling*

- *terrorism and the 'war on terror'*

- *crimes of the state*

Learning Activities

10 lectures: listening, note-taking, critical reflection

10 tutorials: reading, discussion and presentation of material

Private study: reading, researching information sources

Assessment: researching, planning and writing the essay

Notes

The module aims to equip students with the skills required to demonstrate a critical understanding of crimes involving the abuse of social and/or individual power. Discussion will centre on the different strata of causation and response in this area - at the individual, national and international levels - and a critical understanding of theoretical and empirical debates relating to these issues