

School of Government

STRA 524
TRANSNATIONAL CRIME
(15 Points)

Trimester One 2008

COURSE OUTLINE

Contact Details

Course Coordinator: **Associate Professor Jim Veitch**
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Other Lecturers: **John McFarlane**

John is a Lecturer and Visiting Fellow in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales at the Australian Defence Force Academy (UNSW@ADFA) in Canberra. He is also a Visiting Fellow at the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University (ANU). He retired from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in 1999, having most recently served as a Special Adviser in the Office of the Commissioner, prior to which he was the AFP's Director of Intelligence. John also has a background in the Australian intelligence community. From January 2000 to February 2004 he was the Executive Director of the Australian Member Committee of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (AUS-CSCAP) and also the Convener and Australian Co-Chair of an Asia-Pacific Working Group on Transnational Crime, established under the aegis of CSCAP. In 2002 – 2003, he was also the Director of the Transnational and Homeland Security Program at the Australian Defence Studies Centre at the Australian Defence Force Academy. From 2005 to 2007, he was a member of the Program Monitoring Group for the Timor Leste Police Development Program, jointly sponsored by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the AFP.

John has written extensively on transnational crime and corruption and their impact on Asia-Pacific security and stability, as well as on issues such as military support for law enforcement, homeland security, police peace operations in disrupted states, and the links between transnational crime and terrorism. His PhD thesis, which he is undertaking through UNSW@ADFA, is titled "The Impact of Corruption, Serious and Organised Crime and the Stability of Disrupted States".

Administrator:**Darren Morgan**

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Email: darren.morgan@vuw.ac.nz**Course Dates, Times and Location****Dates:** Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 May 2008 (inclusive)**Times:** 8.30am to 5.00pm each day**Location:** The course will be held on the Pipitea Campus of Victoria University and you will be advised of your classroom one week prior to the course by email.**Course Objectives**

At the end of this course, you should have an understanding of:

- the issues relating to transnational crime and its impact on international security
- the driving forces behind modern transnational crime
- the principal typologies of transnational crime (including corruption)
- the way crime and terrorism intersect
- the major features of international policy in combating transnational crime
- public policy issues raised by transnational crime
- an appropriate background to consider the greater detail covered in STRA 525 where the impact of transnational crime on New Zealand interests is specifically considered

You will also have enhanced your knowledge of some of the key issues surrounding the security debate in New Zealand and the effect transnational crime has had on that debate.

Your analytical skills, particularly in relation to the analysis of complicated social phenomena in a security setting, should have been sharpened.

You should also have gained an appreciation of the value of investigations and intelligence operations in a modern, globalised setting and of how this affects the environment in which you are working.

Course Content

The course will be conducted from Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 May 2008 (inclusive) in 8 sessions.

The program will begin with an overview of transnational crime, its main actors and threats and also an explanation of why transnational crime has become an increasingly important

issue over the last 15 years. This will be followed by a general account of transnational organised crime, followed by consideration of the illegal markets in which transnational crime operates. There will then be a session which will provide an introduction to such issues as transnational fraud, economic crime, white collar crime and cybercrime, leading in an examination of corruption, governance and disrupted states. The course will end with a consideration of the links between crime and terrorism and, finally, a discussion on measures to deal with the threat of transnational crime, at the national, regional and international levels.

This course serves as an introduction to STRA 525: Transnational Crime Issues, which expands on the issues raised in this course from a specific New Zealand perspective. STRA 525 will be conducted from Tuesday 29 July to Friday 1 August 2008.

The following diagram demonstrates the conceptual relationships between components of the course:

Day 1 Tuesday 13 May 2008	8.30am – 11.30am	1. Understanding transnational crime: main actors and threats
	1.00pm – 5.00pm	2. Transnational organised crime
Day 2 Wednesday 14 May 2008	8.30am – 11.30am	3. Transnational crime and illegal markets
	1.00pm – 5.00pm	4. Transnational fraud, economic crime, white collar crime and cybercrime
Day 3 Thursday 15 May 2008	8.30am – 11.30am	5. Corruption
	1.00pm – 5.00pm	6. The links between crime and terrorism
Day 4 Friday 16 May 2008	8.30am – 11.30am	7. Dealing with transnational organised crime
	1.00pm – 5.00pm	8. Class presentations

Each session will consist of a lecture (supported by PowerPoint) and discussion periods. Class exercises will also be programmed in some of the components requiring participants to undertake individual or group tasks, which will count towards the student's final results. On a number of occasions, videos or DVD's covering issues of particular relevance to the course will also be shown.

Learning Commitment

The learning objectives set for each course are demanding and, to achieve them, candidates must make a significant commitment in time and effort to reading, studying, thinking, and completion of assessment items outside of contact time. Courses vary in design but all require preparation and learning before the first day of contact. Intensive courses usually also require further study after the contact period. Expressed in input terms, the time commitment required usually translates to 65-95 hours (excluding class contact time) per course.

Group Work

Throughout the course, members will be assessed on the quality of their participation in discussions and in Question and Answer sessions.

Readings

There is a large amount of reading associated with this course. It will be assumed that students will, at least, have read the essential readings prior to the delivery of the relevant session. However, students are not expected to have studied all the papers in detail. The selection of which papers to concentrate on will be determined by each student as he/she decides on the topics to be covered in his/her project and essay. The readings will be made available either in hard copy or by reference to a website.

No textbooks are specifically prescribed for this course, but the following books provide helpful background, especially for those students whose professional duties may involve law enforcement or related duties:

Andrew Goldsmith, Markl Israel and Kathleen Daly (Eds.): *Crime and Justice: A Guide to Criminology* (3rd Ed.), Sydney, Lawbook Co., 2005.

Moises Naim: *Illicit: How Smugglers, Traffickers and Copycats are Hijacking the Global Economy*, London: William Heinemann, 2005.

Bertil Lintner: *Blood Brothers: Crime, Business and Politics in Asia*, Sydney: Allen and Unwin, 2002.

Mark Galeotti (Ed.): *Global Crime Today: The Changing Face of Organised Crime*. London: Routledge, 2005

James Morton and Susanna Lobez: *Gangland Australia: Colonial Criminals to the Carlton Crew*, Melbourne University Press, 2007.

The following URLs are particularly useful:

United Nations: *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000)* at www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_eng.pdf

United Nations: *United Nations Convention Against Corruption (2003)* at www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/convention_corruption/signing/Convention-e.pdf

United States State Department: *International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, 2008*, Part 1: Drug and Chemical Control and Part 2: Money Laundering and Financial Crimes, at www.state.gov/p/inl/rls/nrcrpt/2008/vol1/ and www.state.gov/p/inl/rls/nrcrpt/2008/vol2/

The following journals are also recommended:

Global Crime, an excellent quarterly, published by Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group), UK.

Foreign Policy, a bimonthly journal published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, USA.

Assessment Requirements

There are three assessment items in this course: a set essay, a self-selected essay, and a briefing exercise. The table below gives you the opportunity to work out how best to allocate your time:

Assignment Title	Weight	Length	Due Date
1. Set essay	34%	2,500 words	5.00pm, Wednesday 28 May 2008
2. Self-selected essay	33%	2,500 words	5.00pm, Wednesday 4 June 2008
3. Briefing exercise (including overall class participation)	33%	1,500 words	Presentation = Friday 16 May 2008 (the last day of the course) PowerPoint Notes = 5.00pm, Wednesday 21 May 2008

Assignment 1: Set Essay

Weight: 34%

Length: 2,500 words

Due Date: Submit in hard copy by 5.00pm, Wednesday 28 May 2008

Task: On the basis of the preliminary readings for this course, the course content, and your own independent research, consider the strategic impact of transnational crime through a discussion of the proposition "Transnational Crime could be considered as the dark side of Globalisation".

Preparation/Guidelines: There are no strict guidelines as to what should or should not be included in this essay. The initial readings should set the framework for your essay, and the course presentations should expand on this framework. The discussions in the course, and especially the questions you ask, should give you the opportunity to clarify or expand on the various issues you would like to include in the essay, and your own individual research should provide the final elements in what should be an interesting exercise. When considering the strategic implications of transnational crime, think outside the box, and let your imagination roam freely across the various social, security, economic and humanitarian areas where transnational crime may make an impact. It is suggested that although you should begin to collect the preliminary information as soon as possible, do not start to write the essay until the course has concluded, so that you have the maximum exposure to the relevant issues.

Assessment Criteria: You will be assessed on the scope and quality of your analysis of transnational crime as "the dark side of globalisation".

Spelling, punctuation, syntax, grammar and tone should be appropriate for a background paper designed for someone who is not a specialist in the field. However, the standard of English will not be an assessed factor where English is the student's second language.

Your paper should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the issue and sophisticated analysis of the implications and concerns, evidenced by an array of well selected primary and secondary sources and the application of a logically reasoned argument. Academic conventions of footnoting sources and providing an accurate bibliography are expected.

Assignment 2: Self-Selected Essay

Weight: 33%

Length: 2,500 words

Due Date: Submit in hard copy by 5.00pm, Wednesday 4 June 2008

Task: Submit an essay on a transnational crime.

Purpose: This task gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of a selected transnational crime issue of personal or professional interest, and your ability to comprehensively research and succinctly describe the parameters of the issue and its implications.

Preparation: Consider which of the issues raised in this course are of personal interest to you and which might provide the most fruitful and/or manageable research areas given your personal or professional interests. You might find it useful to frame a question that enables you to explore the multiple dimensions of an issue and/or describe the implications of an evolving situation. Ensure that your topic is agreed by the lecturer before embarking on particularly deep and exhaustive research.

Your topic outline and indicative bibliography must be provided in writing (one page) to the lecturer by the end of Day 3 (Thursday 15 May 2008), for approval.

Guidelines: Ensure your opinions are supported by evidence. Make sure that your research is factual and document it all in your bibliography. If you refer to a research article or source in your essay, you should be sure to footnote it.

Presentation: Present your information in an essay that could be considered a background paper for a decision maker. Include an Executive Summary.

Assessment Criteria: Spelling, punctuation, syntax, grammar and tone should be appropriate for a background paper designed for someone who is not a specialist in the field. However, the standard of English will not be an assessed factor where English is the student's second language. Marking will take into account the structure, coherence and quality of the analysis.

Your paper must demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the issue and sophisticated analysis of the implications and concerns, evidenced by an array of well selected primary and secondary sources and the application of a logically reasoned argument. Academic conventions of footnoting sources and providing an accurate bibliography are expected.

Assignment 3: Briefing Exercise

Weight: 33%

Length: 1,500 words in the form of a PowerPoint presentation in Note Pages format.

Due Date: Friday 16 May 2008 (the last day of the course) for the course presentation, and by 5.00pm, Wednesday 21 May 2008 for the submission, in hard copy, of the PowerPoint Notes.

Task: Assemble and analyse a portfolio of current news clippings or web articles relating to a significant case or category of transnational crime or corruption allocated to you two weeks prior to the commencement of the course. On the last day of the course (Friday 16 May 2008), you will be asked to give a short (ten minutes) briefing to the course on your topic, plus a five minute Q and A session. You will then be required to provide (in hard copy by 5.00pm, Wednesday 21 May 2008) your PowerPoint presentation in Note Page format for assessment.

Purpose: To demonstrate your understanding of the ways in which each article relates to the themes discussed in class, and the readings.

Preparation: You should start assembling your portfolio well prior to the commencement of the course.

Guidelines: You should aim at collecting up to six clippings or articles on your topic. Try to obtain diverse articles with enough substance to be analysed. The articles should consider the international dynamics of a particular crime group or phenomenon at either the national, regional or international levels.

You should photocopy, scan, or print articles, and include them as part of the final submission, explaining:

1. How they relate to the themes discussed in the course;
2. How they clarify, expand upon, or conflict with the set readings;
3. What they reveal about transnational crime or corruption as transnational security issues.

Presentation: Your analysis of the selected topic should demonstrate a multidisciplinary approach, taking into account the history, structure, politics, economics and security implications of the issue under consideration. On the last day of the course (Friday 16 May 2007), you will be expected to provide a ten minute presentation to the class, followed by a five minute Q and A.

Assessment Criteria: You will be assessed on the clarity and timings of your class presentation; your handling of the questions asked; the quality of your written submission and analysis of your chosen topic; and your overall class participation in the course.

Please submit ALL assignments IN HARD COPY to:

Post Experience Programmes,
School of Government,
Victoria University of Wellington,
Level 8 Reception,
Rutherford House,
23 Lambton Quay,
P.O. Box 600,
Wellington.

Students should keep a copy of all submitted work.

Penalties

The ability to plan for and meet deadlines is a core competency of both advanced study and public management. Failure to meet deadlines disrupts course planning and is unfair on students who do submit their work on time. It is expected therefore that you will complete and hand in assignments by the due date. Marks may be deducted where assignments are submitted after the due date. For out of town students, two calendar days' grace is given to allow for time in the post.

If ill-health, family bereavement or other personal emergencies prevent you from meeting the deadline for submitting a piece of written work or from attending class to make a presentation, you can apply for and may be granted an extension to the due date. Note that this applies only to extreme unforeseen circumstances and is not necessarily awarded. You should let your Course Coordinator know as soon as possible in advance of the deadline if you are seeking an extension.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To fulfil the mandatory course requirements for this course, you are required to:

1. Submit all assignments by the due date;
2. Attend all contact sessions of the course.

Communication of Additional Information

Additional information may be provided in class, by post, by email or via Blackboard.

Withdrawal Dates

Students giving notice of withdrawal from this course after **Wednesday 14 May 2008** will NOT receive a refund of fees.

Students giving notice of withdrawal from this course after **Tuesday 17 June 2008** are regarded as having failed the course, unless the Associate Dean subsequently gives approval to withdraw.

Notice of withdrawal must be in writing / emailed to the Masters Administrator. Ceasing to attend or verbally advising a member of staff will NOT be accepted as a notice of withdrawal.

Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

Railway West Wing (RWW) – FCA Student and Academic Services Office

The Faculty's Student and Academic Services Office is located on the ground and first floors of the Railway West Wing. The ground floor counter is the first point of contact for general enquiries and FCA forms. Student Administration Advisers are available to discuss course status and give further advice about FCA qualifications. To check for opening hours, call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

Easterfield (EA) - FCA/Education/Law Kelburn Office

The Kelburn Campus Office for the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, Education and Law is situated in the Easterfield Building on the ground floor (EA 005). This counter is the first point of contact for:

- Duty tutors for student contact and advice.
- Information concerning administrative and academic matters.
- Forms for FCA Student and Academic Services (e.g. application for academic transcripts, requests for degree audit, COP requests).
- Examinations-related information during the examination period.

To check for opening hours, call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

Notice of Turnitin Use

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine www.turnitin.com. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources, including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied. See the Victoria University Calendar or go to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy/students.aspx

For information on the following topics, go to the Faculty's website www.victoria.ac.nz/fca, under Important Information for Students:

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

Manaaki Pihipihinga is an academic mentoring programme for undergraduate Māori and Pacific students in the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Sessions are held at the Kelburn and Pipitea Campuses in the Mentoring Rooms, 14 Kelburn Parade (back courtyard), Room 109D, and Room 210, Level 2, Railway West Wing. There is also a Pacific Support Coordinator who assists Pacific students by linking them to the services and support they need while studying at Victoria. Another feature of the programme is a support network for Postgraduate students with links to Postgraduate workshops and activities around Campus.

For further information, or to register with the programme, email manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz or telephone (04) 463 6015. To contact the Pacific Support Coordinator, email pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz or telephone (04) 463 5842.