

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE SYLLABUS

AJS 220 GANGS AND ORGANIZED CRIME

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

PREREQUISITE: AJS 101 and AJS 225

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Gangs have been part of the American criminal landscape since the formation of this nation. This course will look at the organizations' origins and their response to social needs, such as protection, services, cultural identity, and economic gain. The course also focuses on analyzing the group dynamics through their members and their activities. For those looking to work in any of the criminal justice field, understanding the types of organized crime groups can assist in investigatory, prosecutorial, and rehabilitation purposes.

1. COURSE GOAL

- 1.1 Examine current issues that impact the Criminal Justice System
- 1.2 Research criminal organizations' origins and formation.
- 1.3 Understand organizational dynamics related to motivation, interpersonal relationships and correlations to criminal behavior.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 Identify the various gangs and organized crime groups
- 2.2 Research the varying organizations' history and activities
 - 2.2.1.1 Analyze the crime groups using multidisciplinary approaches
 - 2.2.1.2 Consider legal and public policy impacts influenced by crime group activities.
- 2.2.2 Identifying environmental factors that influence gang behavior
- 2.2.3 Explain the pros and cons of criminal justice policy and procedures related to gangs and organized crime, as well as present both sides in a verbal and written discussion.

3. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lecture
- 3.2 Instructional technology
- 3.3 Group discussion
- 3.4 Individual research

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Group discussion
- 4.2 Participation
- 4.3 Writing activities
- 4.4 Presentation/site visits/tours

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Exam and quizzes

- 5.2 Participation
- 5.3 Presentations

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.

6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.

6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.

6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.

6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.

6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.

Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.

For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):

- Submitting an academic assignment
- Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
- Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
- Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
- Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course