



PICT8062

The Crimes of the Powerful

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

Department of Security Studies and Criminology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor (Lecturer and Tutor)

Lara Palombo

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Contact via email

TBA

Wednesday 13-14

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MSecStrategicStud or MIntell or MCrim or M CyberSec or MCTerrorism or GradCertSecStudCr or GradDipSecStudCr or M PICT or GradDipPICT or M PICTMIntSecSt or MIntSecStud or GradDipIntSecStud or MIntRel or GradDipIntRel or MIntBusMIntRel or MTransInterMIntRel or M C P I C T or M C P I C T M I S S or GradDipC P I C T or GradCertC P I C T or GradCertISS or MSecStrategicStudMCrim or MSecStrategicStudMIntell or MSecStrategicStudM CyberSec or MSecStrategicStudMCTerrorism or MIntellMCrim or MIntellM CyberSec or MIntellMCTerrorism or M CyberSecMCTerrorism or M CyberSecMCrim or MCTerrorismMCrim or Master of Cyber Security Analysis or admission to BSecStudMCTerrorism or BSecStudMCrim or BSecStudM CyberSecAnalysis or BSecStudMIntell or BSecStudM SecStrategicStud or (10cps at 6000 level or 10cps at 8000 level)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines crimes committed by powerful individuals and institutions: white collar crimes, corporate crimes and state crimes. From the Nazi death camps of WWII, to the Bhopal and BHP Gulf oil spill environmental disasters of more recent decades, the most harmful crimes are not those committed by offenders on the 'street', but rather by individuals and organisations occupying the most influential and privileged positions in our societies. This unit reorients the criminological gaze upwards, away from traditional street offenders and towards the most powerful criminals who occupy corporate boardrooms, parliaments and military organisations. Students will explore contemporary examples of each of these types of offence, examine the characteristics of powerful offenders, and address why crimes of this magnitude often go unaddressed by both contemporary criminologists and our systems of criminal justice.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and State criminality.

ULO2: Evaluate the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of the social and political life.

ULO3: Demonstrate an understanding of the forms of individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms of financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.

ULO4: Outline the challenges involved in regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.

ULO5: Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

General Assessment Information

Mid-Semester Quiz 1

The mid-semester quiz (online) opens Monday of Week 7 @ 7:00 AM and closes Friday of Week 7 @ 11:55 PM.

Weighting: 15%. This quiz will include questions on the readings and discussions from weeks 1-7

You will have one hour to answer the quiz.

You will only have one attempt at the quiz.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and State criminality
- Have an appreciation of the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of social and political life.
- Understand the forms of an individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms of financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Be familiar with the challenges of regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.

End of Semester Quiz 2

The quiz opens Monday of Week 13 @ 7:00 AM and closes Friday of Week 13 @ 11:55 PM.

Weighting: 15%. This quiz will include questions from the Weeks 8-13 readings and discussions.

You will have one hour to answer the quiz.

You will have one attempt at the quiz.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and state criminality.
- Understand the role of corporate and state criminality in the context of social and political life.
- Understand the forms of an individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms as financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Be familiar with the challenges of regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.

Research Essay

Essay Due: Friday of Week 12 before 11:55 PM

Weighting: 60%. You will submit a 2,500-word essay. You will choose a case of corporate or state crime and use it to illustrate and discuss the theoretical and empirical issues discussed in class.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and state criminality.
- Have an appreciation of the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of social and political life.
- Understand the forms of an individual business or corporate and/or state crime, including such forms as financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Be familiar with the challenges of regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective. • Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

In-Class/ Online Participation

All semester

Weighting: 10%. Internal students are expected to participate actively in class discussions.

External students are expected to participate actively in online discussions.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Have an appreciation of the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of social and political life.
- Understand the forms of an individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms as financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Be familiar with the challenges of regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Mid-Semester quiz | 15% | No | Monday to Friday of Week 7 |
| End of semester quiz | 15% | No | Monday to Friday of Week 13 |
| Final Essay | 60% | No | Friday of Week 12 |
| Participation | 10% | No | Week 13 |

Mid-Semester quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 19 hours

Due: **Monday to Friday of Week 7**

Weighting: **15%**

A quiz with questions from the readings of weeks 1-7

Due Friday of week 7

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and State criminality.
- Evaluate the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of the social and political life.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the forms of individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms of financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Outline the challenges involved in regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

End of semester quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 19 hours

Due: **Monday to Friday of Week 13**

Weighting: **15%**

A quiz with questions on the readings of weeks 8-13.

Due Friday of week 13.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and State criminality.
- Evaluate the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of the social and political life.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the forms of individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms of financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

Final Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 38 hours

Due: **Friday of Week 12**

Weighting: **60%**

Students will submit a 2,500 word essay. They choose a case of corporate or state crime and use it to illustrate and discuss the theoretical and empirical issues discussed in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of

business, corporate, and State criminality.

- Evaluate the role of corporate and State criminality in the context of the social and political life.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the forms of individual business or corporate and/or State crime, including such forms of financial crime, fraud, genocide and corruption.
- Outline the challenges involved in regulating, prosecuting and punishing these crimes from a global and local perspective.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 0 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **10%**

Students will have to actively participate as needed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problems of definition of the various forms of business, corporate, and State criminality.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- You should spend an average of 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to lectures before seminars or tutorials, reading weekly required materials detailed in iLearn, participating in iLearn discussion forums and preparing assessments.

- Internal students are expected to attend all seminar or tutorial sessions, and external students are expected to contribute significantly to online activities.
- In most cases, students are required to attempt and submit all major assessment tasks to pass the unit.

REQUIRED READINGS

- The citations for this unit's required readings are available to enrolled students through the unit iLearn site, and at Macquarie University's library site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed through the library or will be made available by other means.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

- Computer and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.
- This unit has an online presence. Login is via: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>
- Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.
- Information about IT used at Macquarie University is available at http://students.mq.edu.au/it_services/

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

- All text-based assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.
- Assessment tasks must be submitted as a MS word document by the due date.
- Most assessment tasks will be subject to a 'Turnitin' review as an automatic part of the submission process.
- The granting of extensions is subject to the university's Special Consideration Policy. Extensions will not be granted by unit conveners or tutors but must be lodged through Special Consideration: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of, 0 (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55 pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to non-timed sensitive assessments (incl essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time-sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance

assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

WORD LIMITS FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS

- Stated word limits include footnotes and footnoted references, but not bibliography or title page.
- Word limits can generally deviate by 10% over or under the stated figure.
- If the number of words exceeds the limit by more than 10%, then penalties will apply. These penalties are 5% of the awarded mark for every 100 words over the word limit. For instance, if a paper is 300 words over, it will lose $3 \times 5\% = 15\%$ of the total mark awarded for the assignment. This percentage is taken off the total mark, i.e. if a paper was graded at a credit (65%) and was 300 words over, it would be reduced by 15 marks to a pass (50%).
- The application of this penalty is at the discretion of the course convener.

REASSESSMENT OF ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SEMESTER

- Macquarie University operates a Grade Appeal Policy in cases where students feel their work was graded inappropriately: <http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>
- In accordance with the Grade Appeal Policy, individual works are not subject to regrading.

STAFF AVAILABILITY

- Department staff will endeavour to answer student enquiries in a timely manner. However, emails or iLearn messages will not usually be answered over the weekend or public holiday period.
- Students are encouraged to read the Unit Guide and look at instructions posted on the iLearn site before sending email requests to staff.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)

- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2024.01 of the [Handbook](#)