

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

**School of Security and Global Studies**

**INTL646**

**Transnational Crime and Narcotics**

**Credit Hours: 3**

**Length of Course: 8 Weeks**

**Prerequisite: INTL500**

### Course Description (Catalog)

INTL646 (3 credit hours) will provide an overview of transnational crime and narcotics and its effects on national security, political, social, and economic development of countries around the world. The focus of this class will be the proliferation and expanding influence of organized crime groups, the increasing links among crime groups, corruption, and links to terrorism from transnational crime and narcotics. This class will examine the diverse dimensions of transnational crime and narcotics in the context of increasing globalization and the exponential impact of technology advances. Recent developments in narco-trafficking, illicit finance, corruption, the rule of law in conflict areas, the use of technology to facilitate crime, and terrorist ties to crime and narcotics will be discussed.

### Course Scope

As an elective in the program, this course enhances knowledge of the core requirements.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of transnational crime and narcotics and its effects on the political, economic, and social development of countries around the world. The emergent links among crime groups, corruption and terrorism are a central theme throughout this course. The diverse range of activities of transnational crime groups in both the legitimate and illegitimate economy will be analyzed. The course will provide an in depth analysis of the illicit narcotics issues specific to Mexico, Colombia, and Afghanistan, as well as an evaluation of security policy considerations relevant to transnational crime and narcotics.

### Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

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CO-1: Analyze the significance of transnational crime and narcotics and the linkages between transnational crime, narcotics, corruption and terrorism as a national security policy concern.

CO-2: Analyze the role of transnational crime and narcotics in the prolongation of conflict.

CO-3: Distinguish how transnational crime and narcotics are perceived in the developing world as opposed to the developed world.

CO-4: Assess the impact of technology as a facilitator of transnational crime and narcotics trafficking.

CO-5: Apply significant policy and practical opportunities and challenges to combating transnational crime and narcotics trafficking.

### **Course Delivery Method**

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

### **Course Resources**

#### **Required Course Textbooks**

There is no textbook for this course

### **Evaluation Procedures**

The course grade is based on the following assessments:

#### **Discussion Forums – 30 percent**

Discussion questions will be provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings and respond to the assigned topic(s). Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to two or more classmates by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

#### **Midterm Assignment – 20 percent**

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This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of two questions, 2-3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. Focus on the required class readings for your answers.

**Specialized Project – 30 percent**

This project will demonstrate your ability to synthesize discipline specific material. This is a task based exercise. 12-15 pages.

**Final Assignment – 20 percent**

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of two questions, 2-3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. Focus on the required class readings for your answers.

ASSIGNMENT	Percentage
Midterm Assignment	20 percent
Specialized Project Assignment	30 percent
Discussion Forums	30 percent
Final Assignment	20 percent
TOTAL	100 percent

**8 – Week Course Outline**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Course Objectives</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
Week 1	Intro & Regional Transnational Crime Organizations	CO 1, 3	Defining Transnational Crime Intelligence and Law Enforcement: Countering Transnational Threats to the U.S. Topology of Dark Networks The Globalization of Crime - Introduction and Chapter One Transnational Organized crime in Central America - Preface and Executive	Week One Forum Discussion

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			Summary Italian Mafia North American Organized Crime	
2	Human Trafficking, Counterfeiting & Smuggling	CO 1,3,4,5	Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction Challenges of Human Trafficking Globalization and Human Trafficking Understanding Trafficking in Persons in the MENA region: Counterfeiting: A Global Threat Godfathers, Pirates, and Counterfeiting	Week Two Forum Discussion
3	Money Laundering & Cyber Crime	CO 1,2	Terrorism and Transnational Crime: Foreign Policy Issues for Congress 2011 Internet Crime Report Transnational Organized Crime and Fragile States Cyberlaundering	Week Three Forum Discussion
4	Transnational Crime & Terrorism	CO 1,2	Hamas: Background and Issues for Congress Endangering WOT with WOD Crime Links Aid Counter Terror Efforts The Crime-Terror Nexus Tracking Narco Terrorist Networks Turbulent Nexus Johnson Remarks Hizballah in Africa	Week Four Forum Discussion <b>Midterm Assignment</b>

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5	Illicit Narcotics	CO 2,3,4,5	The Globalization of Crime: Chapters 4 and 5 The New Cocaine Cowboys Drug Trafficking, Violence, and Instability	Week Five Forum Discussion
6	Narcotics Source and Transit: Colombia, Caribbean and Mexico	CO 2,3,4,5	The Northern Triangle's Drugs-violence Nexus The Globalization of Crime Chapter 7 The Cocaine Coast The Latin American Drug Trade: Scope, Dimensions, Impact, and Response Video The Narco War Next Door	Week Six Forum Discussion <b>Special Project Assignment</b>
7	Transnational Crime & Narcotics: Afghanistan & Central Asia	CO 2,3,4,5	The Globalization of Crime: Chapter 11.4-11.6 High Times on The Silk Road Clans and Politics of Central Asia Beyond Boundaries in South Asia: Bridging the Security/Development Divide With International Security Assistance	Week Seven Forum Discussion
8	Transnational Crime & Narcotics & Security Policy	CO 3,4,5	NOREF Report Globalization of Crime: Conclusion Framing the Issue	Week Eight Forum Discussion <b>Final Assessment</b>

### Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

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[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

### **CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE:**

Students will follow the APA Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework for this course.

See [http://www.apus.edu/content/dam/online-library/resources-services/Fuson\\_2012\\_APA.pdf](http://www.apus.edu/content/dam/online-library/resources-services/Fuson_2012_APA.pdf)

### **Late Assignments**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

### **Netiquette**

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

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- Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), : ), ☺

## Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

### Organized Crime Library Guide:

<http://apus.libguides.com/c.php?g=240990&p=1602610>

## Selected Bibliography

- Gallagher, Anne. 2011. "Improving the effectiveness of the international law of human trafficking: a vision for the future of the US trafficking in persons reports." *Human Rights Review* 12 (3).
- Lusk, Mark and Faith Lucas. 2009. "The challenge of human trafficking and contemporary slavery." *Journal of Comparative Social Welfare* 25 (1): 49–57.
- Peng Wang. 2010. "The crime-terror nexus: transformation, alliance, convergence." *Asian Social Science* 6 (6).
- Picarelli, John. 2006. "The turbulent nexus of transnational organised crime And terrorism: A theory of malevolent international relations." *Global Crime* 7 (1).

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Rollins, John. 2012. *Terrorism and transnational crime: foreign policy issues for Congress*. Congressional Research Service.  
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/terror/R41004.pdf>.