

## Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 4302A – Legal Regulation of Corporate Crime
TERM:	Fall 2013
PREREQUISITES:	One of Laws 2302 or Laws 2004 [1.0] (no longer offered), and one of Laws3005*, 3201*, 51.380o*, or permission of the Department
CLASS:	Day & Time: Friday 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Room: Please check with Carleton Central for current room location
INSTRUCTOR:	Professor Neil Sargent
CONTACT:	Office: Loeb D594 Office Hrs: Tuesday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Telephone: 520-2600, ext. 8853 Email: neil_sargent@carleton.ca

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You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

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### Course Description:

Legal, policy and theoretical perspectives on the regulation of corporate crime. Nature and causes of corporate crime. Selected case studies on the role of the state in regulating corporate behaviour. Limits of the criminal justice system in responding to corporate crime.

The course examines the current debates over the regulation of corporate crime from both legal and

policy perspectives. Different theoretical perspectives on the nature and causes of corporate crime, and the role of the state in regulating corporate behaviour will be examined, with a view towards identifying what factors influence the success or failure of the criminal justice and regulatory systems in responding to corporate crime. The role of criminal, civil and regulatory sanctions in deterring corporate crime will also be examined.

### **Required Texts:**

1. N.Sargent, **Coursepak on Legal Regulation of Corporate Crime**. Ottawa: Haven Books, 2013,
2. Sally S. Simpson, **Corporate Crime, Law and Social Control**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002

### **Supplementary Texts:**

3. Celia Wells, **Corporations and Criminal Responsibility**. 2d.ed. Oxford: oxford University Press, 2001
4. Harry Glasbeek, **Wealth by Stealth**. Toronto: Between the Lines, 2003
5. Joel Bakan, **The Corporation. The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power**. Toronto: Viking Press, 2004

### **Course Evaluation:**

Students will be required to prepare a seminar presentation and a term paper during the course. In addition, students will be required to present an essay proposal worth 10 % of the final grade, which will be due by the third week in February. The seminar presentation will be a case study of a contemporary or historical instance of corporate crime and will involve students working in groups on the case study. The seminar presentation will be worth 30% of the final grade. The term paper will be worth 45 % of the final grade. 15% of the final grade will be allocated based on class participation. There will be no final examination in the course.

Seminar Presentation: 30%

Essay Proposal: 10%

Term Paper: 45%

Class Participation: 15%

Total: 100%

**Course Schedule:**

**Week 1: Aims and objectives of the course.** Approaches to the study of corporate crime. Levels of analysis. Complexities inherent in the study of and regulation of corporate crime. Jurisdictional issues and organizational issues.

**Week 2: Defining White Collar and Corporate Crime.** Official accounts of deviance and the problem of counting and fighting corporate crime. Who are the offenders and who are the victims? The significance of definitions of criminality and corporate deviance

**Week 3: Theorizing the causes of white collar and corporate criminality** - individualist theories of white collar crime; organizational theories of corporate crime. The role of the state in controlling corporate and organizational deviance. Is the state part of the solution or part of the problem?

**Week 4: Using the criminal law against corporate offenders.** The hybrid nature of corporate criminal liability. The legal basis of attaching liability to the corporation. Identification theory, delegation theory and corporate culture. Who is part of the 'directing mind and will' of the corporation? Criminal liability of corporate directors and officers

**Week 5: Using criminal sanctions against corporate and white collar offenders.** Sentencing goals and philosophies and their applicability to white collar and corporate offenders. The differential sentencing debate. Sentencing options: Fines, imprisonment, probation, conditional sentencing, restitution, compensatory damages. Role of restorative justice in sentencing white collar and corporate offenders?

**Week 6: The regulatory approach to controlling organizational and corporate deviance.** Structure and objectives of the regulatory process. What should be the primary goal of enforcement efforts- to punish or persuade? Closing the enforcement gap between regulatory objectives and regulatory enforcement. Strict liability offences and the limits of the regulatory sanction

**Week 7: Alternatives to regulatory sanctions:** Negotiated compliance, enforced self-regulation and voluntary compliance systems. Use of alternative dispute resolution approaches for responding to regulatory concerns

**Week 8: Market-Driven incentive mechanisms for achieving corporate compliance.** Using carrots rather than sticks to achieve regulatory compliance goals. Voluntary codes and emissions trading systems. Pros and cons of letting the market reward "efficient" polluters?

**Week 9: Deterring corporate crime through civil and criminal damage awards**  
Use of civil and criminal damage awards as legal accountability mechanisms. The hybrid status of criminal damage awards. The regulatory function of tort law. Pros and cons of mass torts and class action litigation in responding to corporate harms.

**Week 10: International perspectives on controlling corporate crime.** Corporate crime as a trans-national phenomenon. Limits of national enforcement mechanisms for controlling international

corporate crime. Problems of different legal standards and enforcement approaches in different jurisdictions. Extra-territorial application of home or host country law? International standards and enforcement mechanisms for controlling trans-national corporate crime. Parent corporation liability for the illegal actions of its subsidiaries?

**Week 11:** Seminar presentations

**Week 12:** Seminar presentations

**EVALUATION**

**(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)**

**SCHEDULE**

