

Course Outline

COURSE:	CRCJ 3201 A – Crimes of the Powerful: Corporate Crime
TERM:	Fall 2024
PREREQUISITES:	CRCJ 1000 and third year standing
CLASS:	Day & Time: Thursdays 2:35 PM – 5:25 PM Room: LIVE via Zoom on Brightspace, with recordings posted afterwards
INSTRUCTOR: (CONTRACT)	Lori Stinson
CONTACT:	Office: Via Zoom Thursdays (by appointment only) Office Hours: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM, but flexible for other times where needed Email: lori.stinson@Carleton.ca or lstinson@bell.net
*You must use your Carleton email address in all correspondence with the instructor	
LINK TO BRIGHTSPACE PAGE:	https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/288485
TEACHING ASSISTANTS:	Alexis Keizer AlexisKeizer@cmail.carleton.ca

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & AFFIRMATION

ANISHNABE

Ni manàdjiyànànìg Màmìwinìnì Anishinàbeg, ogog kà nàgadawàbandadjig iyo aki eko weshkad. Ako nongom ega wìkàd kì mìgiwewàdj.

Ni manàdjiyànànìg kakina Anishinàbeg ondaje kaye ogog kakina eniyagizidjig enigokamigàg Kanadàng eji ondàpinangig endàwàdjìn Odàwàng.

Ninisidawinawànànìg kenawendamòdjig kije kikenindamàwin; weshkinìgidjig kaye kejeyàdizidjig. Nìgijeweninmànànìg ogog kà nìgànì sòngideyedjig; weshkad, nongom; kaye àyànìkàdj.

ENGLISH

We pay respect to the Algonquin people, who are the traditional guardians of this land. We acknowledge their longstanding relationship with this territory, which remains unceded.

We pay respect to all Indigenous people in this region, from all nations across Canada, who call Ottawa home.

We acknowledge the traditional knowledge keepers, both young and old.

And we honour their courageous leaders: past, present, and future.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the Crimes of the Powerful with particular attention to corporate crime, harm, violence and our response, including our attempts to regulate, criminalize, prosecute and to meaningfully address some of the most pernicious, routinized, rationalized, and invisibilized harm and violence we face that completely dwarfs any measures or threats of street crime.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The general purpose of the course is to introduce students to the basic concepts, theoretical orientations, areas of research, and social, political and economic context of Corporate Crime in Canada and internationally.

By the end of the course students should be able to comfortably:

1. Demonstrate a complex understanding of corporate harm, violence, and crime in its multiple related forms
2. Discuss the main theoretical perspectives used in illuminating and researching corporate crime
3. Understand and explain the barriers to researching and responding to the crimes of the powerful, especially those of corporate offenders
4. Situate the historical, social, political, and economic impetuses, relationships, and contexts through which corporate crime emerges, is framed, and responded to
5. Outline the challenges and obstacles to responding to corporate crime

REQUIRED & SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Almost all required readings, except the 5 from the Snider text, are available free of charge via Ares through the link on Brightspace in the 'Communications and Essentials' Module at the beginning of the course contents and via Ares in the Brightspace tools menu. Please note that readings from the Blakely text can only be used electronically by 3 students at the same time. The Snider text is also only available on physical reserve in the library at present

For those for whom the Crimes of the Powerful are an serious interest and those who will not be able to access the university's library regularly for the Snider text both texts are available through the Carleton University Bookstore. Both books are very affordable and accessible.

* Laureen Snider (2015) *About Canada: Corporate Crime*, Fernwood Publishing (\$20 or less for the book)

* Grace Blakeley (2024) *Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor Bailouts, and the Death of Freedom*. Simon & Schuster. (37 or less, or about 17 for online ownership, not just rental)

Supplementary materials, written and audio-visual, are available via Ares and via links on Brightspace. Please note, you will be able to incorporate these into your written work in addition to the required readings, however, they do not count as equivalent where exams stipulate a minimum number of required readings.

COURSE CALENDAR

Please complete your required readings before the class for which they are listed, and assignments by the due dates indicated in the Components of Final Mark table in the Evaluations section of this outline following this course calendar.

DATE	TOPICS & film resources	REQUIRED READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS (indicated by bullets)
Module 1 September 5	Introduction to Course Essentials & Assignments Researching & Documenting the Crimes of the Most Powerful	Course Outline & Statement on Academic Integrity Writing Resources Folder, Course Communication & Topic Discussion Forum Toombs, S. & Whyte, D. (2006) From the Streets to the Suites: Researching Corporate Crime. <i>CJM</i> 62 Winter 2005/2006, 24-25 & 45. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Outline and Requirements Quiz (Due: 11:59 PM, Sept. 26) • Academic Ethics (including plagiarism) Quiz (Due: 11:59 PM, Sept. 26)
Module 2 September 12	The Corporate Criminal Audio Visual Resource: Bakan, J. (2003) <i>The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power</i> (165 mins)	Toombs, S. & Whyte (2015) Introducing the Corporate Criminal, in <i>The Corporate Criminal: Why Corporations must be abolished</i> , 1-29. Routledge. Blakely, G. (2024) How to Get Away with Murder, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 1-17. Simon & Schuster.

Module 3 September 19	The Corporation, History and Political Economy	Snider, L. (2015) Criminal Corporations, in <i>About Canada: Corporate Crime</i> , 1-22. Fernwood Publishing. Blakely, G. (2024) The United States of Fordlandia, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor Bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 19-39. Simon & Schuster.
Module 4 September 26	Disaster Capitalism: 'Crisis', 'Corruption', Collusion, and Consequences? Film Resource: Gibney, A. (2021) The Crime of the Century (43 mins)	Blakely, G. (2024) Disaster Capitalism. in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor Bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 42-71. Simon & Schuster. Sayer, A. (2016) Moral economy, unearned income, and legalized corruption, in D. Whyte, & J. Wiegratz (eds.), <i>Neoliberalism and the Moral Economy of Fraud</i> . London: Routledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Outline & Requirements Quiz DUE 11:59 PM, September 26 • Academic Ethics & Plagiarism Quiz DUE 11:59 PM, September 26
Module 5 October 3	The violence of the Industrial Financial System ...the Disappearance of Corporate Crime?	Snider, L. (2015) Financial Crimes, in <i>About Canada: Corporate Crime</i> , 74-99. Fernwood Publishing. Blakely, G. (2024) American Made Sweatshops: How Big Business Plans, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 75-108. Simon & Schuster.
Module 6 October 10	Law, Finance, Fraud, and Paying the Costs of Doing Business Film Resource: Gibney, McLean & Elkin (2005) Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room (110 mins)	Blakely, G. (2024) Buying Time: How Big Banks Plan, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 109-137. Simon & Schuster. Snider, L. (2014) Interrogating the Algorithm: Debt, Derivatives and the Social Reconstruction of Stock Market Trading. <i>Critical Sociology</i> , 40(5): 747-761. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'INTRODUCE YOUR INFORMED CORPORATE CRIME CONCERN' DISCUSSION POST DUE
Module 7 October 17	Catch-up, Wrap-up & Prepare for the Midterm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE: 11:59 PM, November 7 Access to Midterm Exam Submission portals open by 11:59 PM October 17	
October 24	READING WEEK – NO CLASSES	
Module 8 October 31	State-Corporate Crime	Blakely, G. (2024) Capital's Cronies: How States Plan, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i> , 140-172. Simon & Schuster. Lynch, M.J., Fegadel, A. & Long, M.A. (2021) Green Criminology and State-Corporate Crime: The Ecocide-Genocide Nexus with Examples from Nigeria, <i>Journal of Genocide Research</i> 23(2), 236-256

<p>Module 9 November 7</p>	<p>Environmental Crimes</p>	<p>Snider, L. (2015) Environmental Crimes, in <i>About Canada: Corporate Crime</i>, 23-49. Fernwood Publishing.</p> <p>Whyte, D. (2020) Introduction: Corporate Ecocide, In <i>Ecocide: Kill the Corporation before it Kills</i>, 1-21. Manchester University Press.</p> <p>Supplementary</p> <p>Maitland, A., Lawson, M., Stroot, H., Poidatz, A., Khalfan, A. and Dabi, N. (2022) <i>Carbon Billionaires: The investment emissions of the world's richest people</i>, 1-32, Oxfam International, November 7 Briefing Note.</p> <p>Woodside, J. (2024) Fossil fuel companies pour on the pressure to weaken disclosure rules. <i>National Observer</i>, August 8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE
<p>Module 10 November 14</p>	<p>Everyday Corporate Violence: Corporate Manslaughter & other Safety Crimes</p>	<p>Snider, L. (2015) Safety Crimes. in <i>About Canada: Corporate Crime</i>, 50-73. Fernwood Publishing.</p> <p>Bittle, S., Tombs, S. and Whyte, D. (2019) Corporate Killing Personified: Twisting the Corporate Hand to Fit Inside the Criminal Glove, in <i>The Class Politics of Law</i>, 114-134. Fernwood.</p> <p>Supplementary</p> <p>Kahn, B. (2023) New climate paper calls for charging big US oil firms with homicide. <i>The Guardian</i>, March 22.</p> <p>Canadian Press (2015) Manslaughter charges dropped against 2 BP supervisors over 11 rig worker deaths. <i>National Observer</i>, December 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INFORMED COLLEGIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A CLASSMATE'S POST DUE
<p>Module 11 November 21</p>	<p>Corporate Colonialism & Neo-Liberal Violence</p>	<p>Blakely, G. (2024) Money at Six Percent: How Empires Plan, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i>, 173-211. Simon & Schuster.</p> <p>Comack, E. (2018) Corporate Colonialism and the 'Crimes of the Powerful' Committed Against the Indigenous Peoples of Canada, in <i>Critical Criminology</i> 26, 455-471.</p>
<p>Module 12 November 28</p>	<p>Lifting the Veil and Tackling the Demon</p> <p>Film Resource: Bakan, J. (2020) <i>The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel</i> (107 minutes)</p>	<p>Snider, L. (2015) Tackling Corporate Power, in <i>About Canada: Corporate Crime</i>, 100-125. Fernwood Publishing.</p> <p>Blakely, G. (2024) Taking Back Control: Democratic Planning at Scale, and Conclusion, in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i>, 241-271. Simon & Schuster.</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>Blakely, G. (2024) "The Architect and the Bee: How to Plan Democratically" in <i>Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor bailouts, and the Death of Freedom</i>, 215-240. Simon & Schuster.</p>
<p>Module 13 December 5</p>	<p>Catch-up, Wrap-up, & Review for the Final Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM Due: 11:59 PM, Saturday, December 21 	

EVALUATION

(Both the midterm and final exams must be completed for a passing grade)

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. This means that grades on final exams and final grades for the course cannot be released before they are officially approved by the Dean.

COMPONENTS OF FINAL MARK

EVALUATION FORMAT	WEIGHT	DUE DATES
Academic Integrity Quiz	2 %	September 26
Course Requirements Quiz	2 %	September 26
Introduce yourself & your principal informed Concern with Corporate Crime	4 %	October 10
Take-home Midterm	40 %	November 7
Informed Collegial Contribution to a Classmate's Post & Concern	2 %	November 14
Take home Final Exam	50 %	December 21

Detailed descriptions and instructions for all assignments (including rubrics for the Discussion Posts) will be included on the Brightspace course page in the Module where the assignment is first due and submitted.

The descriptions and instructions for the two introductory true/false quizzes, and the instructions and the rubrics for the Discussion Forum Posts and Responses will be there when the course opens on Brightspace.

Explicit and Detailed instructions for both the Timed Quiz portions, and the Take-home Long Answer Questions for the **Midterm and Final Exams** will be provided on the course page in the Module for which they are listed prior to the last live class preceding them.

Both the Midterm and the Final Exam will contain separate timed quizzes and flexible take-home long answer sections (with a choice of questions) that are completed online independently (at different times and dates within at least a two-week window). The midterm exam addresses only content from readings and lectures up to the midterm (Modules 1-6), and the Final covers only content from after the midterm, and until the end of the regular semester (Modules 8-12). Both sections (timed quiz and long answer) will also be discussed in depth in the midterm and final exam modules, and in the last class preceding the beginning of the exam period.

GRADING

Grades will be distributed according to the following template:					
A+	90-100%	A	85-89%	A-	80-84%
B+	77-79%	B	73-76%	B-	70-72%
C+	67-69%	C	63-66%	C-	60-62%
D+	56-59%	D	53-56%	D-	50-52%
F	Below 50				

All written work will be graded for insight, analytical skill, inclusion and organization of relevant course materials, appropriate academic form, references, and **appropriate citation (including page numbers)**, clarity of expression (including logical flow, readability, grammar, correct word usage and spelling), accuracy and relevance of content. **Poorly written work will be penalized**, so please go through the **'Writing, Citing & Grading' materials in the Brightspace Communications & Essentials Module** for detailed information on organizing, formatting, writing, correctly citing, and referencing your work, and for specifics criteria and examples on evaluation and grading.

Reusing your own or anyone else's work from this or any other course is prohibited. Rather students should

focus on demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of the required, specified, and relevant materials from this course in all assessments. Also, in accordance with Carleton's Academic Integrity Standards **the use of generative artificial intelligence tools (e.g., ChatGPT) is not permitted.** Any use of generative AI tools to produce assessed content is a violation of Carleton's academic integrity standards and will be treated as such.

Late Submissions and Missed Exams are not encouraged, although exceptions are made for illness or other challenging situations. Documentation is not required for term work extensions or deferrals. Please contact your professor as quickly as possible should you require accommodation or extensions on deadlines past those pre-approved and programmed in (as the end dates) already provided on the course page. Each day of late submission beyond the pre-programmed and pre-approved extensions may result in a penalty of 5% per day cumulative.

Please remember, **instructors cannot grant extensions on final exams no matter the circumstances.** Extensions on final exams **must go through the official deferral process** (<https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/>). Information and forms (including the "Academic Consideration for Coursework" form) are available online at: [Academic Consideration Policy - Registrar's Office \(carleton.ca\)](#).

Email to Professor or TA should include the Course Code (CRCJ 3201 B) in the subject line. When required emails should receive a response within two business days, please keep those time constraints in mind when emailing for virtual appointments. **Emails should not include questions answered on the course outline or Brightspace, requests for extra credit assignments, or whether required readings are required. They are.**

Virtual Campus: For any technical difficulties, questions, or problems with any of Carleton's virtual learning and management platforms contact the system support folks immediately responsible for the respective systems (via help links on respective pages, like your Brightspace page) or general main page help listing: <https://carleton.ca/its/help-centre/learning-in-an-online-environment/>.

PLAGIARISM

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.*" This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include, but are not limited to books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT)
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy-protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

STATEMENT ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a link to information about all the resources, both on campus and off, that you may find helpful: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes can be found here: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline>