

Nottingham Trent University
Course Specification
GLOBAL SUMMER SCHOOL

| Basic Course information | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Course Title: | Serious and Organised Crime |
| 2 | Course Code: | GLB_001 |
| 3 | Credit Points: | 10 |
| 4 | Duration: | 10 days |
| 5 | School: | Social Sciences |
| 6 | Campus: | City |
| 7 | Date this version first approved to run: | 2022/23 |

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

You should have the required English language skills.

9 Modules containing the Module

| <u>Level</u> | <u>Core/Option</u> | <u>Mode</u> | <u>Code</u> | <u>Course Title</u> |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| 5 | Option | FT | | A constituent of the NTU Global Summer School. |

10 Overview and aims

Serious and organised crime (SOC) – as termed in British governance and intervention – is an endless cat-and-mouse game between offenders and authorities. Within this Module, we explore the motivations, activities and structures surrounding the overarching umbrella of ‘SOC’.

Using case studies such as transnational Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), alongside British examples to illustrate the links and progression from local to global, we will discuss the structures and hierarchies of OCGs as well as some of the more prominent forms of organised crime. This examination extends beyond better known forms of organised crime such as slavery, trafficking of people, products or wildlife, and racketeering, into activities facilitating these illegitimate businesses such as corruption, money laundering, and supportive legitimate enterprises.

Through these case examples – and through academic literature and understandings – we will discuss key lessons to learn and identify critical opportunities to prevent, disrupt and tackle SOC and OCGs, whether by using criminal justice systems or by using other administrative powers and policies.

This short course aims to introduce students to a critical understanding of the people, structures and activities involved in SOC.

11 Course content

- Definitions and interpretations of organised crime,
- Prominent crime types and trends in organised crime,
- The structure and methods of organised crime groups,
- Case studies in organised crime,
- Comparisons in national and transnational organised crime groups, their activities, and the efficacy of interventions,
- Key legislation, agencies, policies and powers relating to organised crime both nationally and internationally,
- Opportunities for prevention and disruption of organised crime activity.

12 Indicative reading

Wright, A., 2006. *Organised Crime*. Abingdon: Willan Publishing

Paoli, L., 2014. *The Oxford handbook of organized crime*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

13 Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this course, you should be able to:

K1. Critically assess a variety of interpretations, motivations and activities relating to national and transnational SOC.

K2. Evaluate the impacts of specific OCGs along with their activities and the national and/or international criminal justice and policy responses.

Skills, qualities, and attributes. After studying this course, you should be able to:

S1. Independently appraise the legitimacy and effectiveness of national and international policy responses to organised crime.

S2. Effectively communicate and articulate a research-informed critical account of the activities of OCGs and responses to organised crime.

14 Teaching and learning

Range of modes of direct contact

Lectures, seminars and workshops

Total learning engagement hours: 60

Guided independent learning hours: 10 (non-contact hours)

15 Assessment methods

| <u>Element number</u> | <u>Weighting</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | | A scenario-based assessment wherein students are expected to offer and defend a position to a government enquiry relating to a specific OC issue (topics set by lecturer). |
| 1 | 100% | Oral presentation | 5-minute oral presentation and defence of report followed by 10-minute Q&A |

Further information on assessment

There will be time during the course for informal feedback sessions with your tutor.

Final Assessment: You will receive a pass/fail mark for the course. Written feedback from your tutor will identify strengths evident in the body of work and include some pointers on what to focus on to improve your future work.