

Queen Mary Summer School 2020

SUM503P State Crime: Government Violence and Corruption
School of Law

Course outline

Date: 20 July - 7 August 2020

Level: 5

Credits: 15 (Queen Mary credits)

Course leader: Dr Thomas MacManus (t.macmanus@qmul.ac.uk)

Assessment: 2,500 word essay (80%) and 10 minute presentation (20%)

Course description:

This module is about crime committed by governments and it explores the definition and nature of state crime in criminological and political discourse. We look at examples of state crime and analyse them as a class. By the end of the course you will have a greater understanding of the worst types of crime.

The course is of interest to any student who wishes to know more about human rights and crimes of the state/government and to learn about a criminological analysis of crimes of the powerful.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will also be able to demonstrate the following generic skills:

- Analysis: can analyse basic criminological texts, evidence, etc. with guidance using given approaches/techniques/principles.
- Synthesis: students will be taught to collect, combine and categorise state crime and criminological theories, ideas and information in a predictable and standard format.
- Evaluation: with guidance, students will be required to critically evaluate material and sources on the subject of state crime.
- Application: students will be shown how to apply given theories and methods carefully to a well defined problem and will present a case study of state crime to the class.

Key transferable skills;

- Learning resources & Management of information: Students will be required to collect appropriate material from a range of relevant, accessible criminological and journalistic sources and undertake research tasks which will test and demonstrate their ability to manage information
- Problem solving: The essay and case study presentation will require students to plan, differentiate and appraise conflicting academic and journalistic sources to construct a coherent criminological argument.

Approximate cost:

The tuition fees for the **State Crime: Government Violence and Corruption** course are **£1,700**. There may be additional costs for field trips, such as entry to exhibitions, which will be in the region of **£10 - £20**.

All reading material is provided digitally so you are not required to purchase any books.

Assessments:

The course assessments are not compulsory, however, if you wish to transfer credit for this course to your home university it is essential to complete the assignments.

2,500 word essay (80%) and 10 minute presentation (20%)

Preparation:

Before you arrive on campus, it is advised that you familiarise yourself with the course content before it begins. You will be given instructions for accessing our Virtual Learning Environment (QMplus) before you arrive on campus.

Teaching:

The course is taught in two two-hour sessions per day (10.00 - 12.00 and 13.00 - 15.00), held Monday to Thursday each week. Teaching in lectures and seminars will be supplemented with a number of structured study sessions and assessment preparation for the coursework.

Course content:

Session 1	Introduction / Torture
Session 2	War / Film screening: The Fog of War
Session 3	Art, War and Culture / Field trip to the Imperial War Museum
Session 4	Civil Society's Resistance / Film screening: Burma VJ
Session 5	Genocide / Genocide in Burma/Myanmar
Session 6	Myanmar I / Myanmar II
Session 7	State-Corporate Crime / State-Corporate Crime in Peru
Session 8	Migration, State Crime and Creative Resistance / Film screening: Fire at Sea
Session 9	State Crime and International Crime / Trafigura in Ivory Coast
Session 10	Presentations / Presentations
Session 11	The Future of State Crime & ISCI / Recap of course material

Suggested reading:

Green, P. and Ward, T. (2004) *State Crime: Governments, Violence and Corruption*. London: Pluto Press. (Book available to buy here: <http://www.plutobooks.com/display.asp?K=9780745317847>)

Please note that the information provided may be subject to change.