SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN CRIMINAL LAW  
Seminar: Organized Crime: How Organizations Shape Morals

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Professor: Pam Pierson  
Office: Room 336  
Email: ppierson@law.ua.edu

Office Hours: 1:30-3:00 PM Wednesdays  
Telephone: 205-348-1139

II. COURSE MATERIAL

Required: Prepared Course Materials (may be purchased from the bookstore).

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will look at how organizations influence moral decision making of its members. We will do so by focusing on three organizations: the Mafia, Enron, and Penn State.

IV. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Be on time  
2. Attendance is required. You may miss class only for good cause.

If either of the above requirements cause you a hardship, please speak to me.

V. GRADING POLICY

Your grade in this course will be based upon three things with the weight of each generally allocated as shown: class participation (20%), your presentation to the class (20%), and your paper (60%).

VI. ADA ACCOMMODATIONS

The Law School is committed to meeting the needs of students with physical, learning, and other disabilities, and provides appropriate accommodations and services tailored to each person's specific requirements. The Law School's assistant deans and the University's Office of Disability Services work together to help individuals with disabilities achieve and maintain individual autonomy.
Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Claude Arrington, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at (205) 348-5751 or carrington@law.ua.edu so that the individual's needs for support services can be evaluated and accommodated in a timely manner.

VII. USES OF TECHNOLOGY

Students may use portable computing or other electronic devices in the classroom for education [or class] use only. Students shall not use portable computer or other electronic devices in an inappropriate manner during class. Inappropriate uses include any and all uses of a portable computing or other electronic device not directly related to the class in session. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following: displaying web pages, receiving, reading, composing, or sending e-mail or instant messages; making or receiving phone calls; taking photographs or videos playing video in any format; recording or making audio tapes or files; and playing games.

Students who appear to be using electronic devices inappropriately will be asked to leave the class session immediately. The class session will be counted as an absence for the day. If you have any question about this class rule, please feel free to contact me.
Special Problems in Criminal Law
Seminar: Organized Crime: How Organizations Shape Morals

Syllabus

Wednesday, January 9
No reading

Overview of Course

Wednesday, January 16
pp. 1-51

I. Organized Crime: La Cosa Nostra

A. Introduction

Wednesday, January 23
No reading

MOVIE: The Good Fellas

Wednesday, January 30
pp. 52-85


*United States v. Bufalino*

*United States v. Brandao*

Wednesday, February 6
pp. 86-116

*United States v. Eppolito*
II. White Collar Crime: Case Study: Enron

18 U.S.C. § 1341 (Frauds and Swindles)
18 U.S.C. § 1346 (Scheme or Artifice to Defraud)

Discussion of Conspiracy of Fools

Wednesday, February 20

pp. 118-131

United States v. Skilling

Wednesday, February 27

No reading

MOovie: Smartest Guy in the Room

Wednesday, March 6

pp. 132-251

III. Football: Report of the Special Investigative Counsel Regarding the Actions of the Pennsylvania State University Related to the Child Sexual Abuse Committed by Gerald A. Sandusky (Freh Report)

Wednesday, March 13

CLASS CANCELLED.

Wednesday, March 20

No reading assignment

GUEST SPEAKER: Gene Marsh

Wednesday, March 27

NO CLASS. SPRING BREAK.

Wednesday, April 3

pp. 252-380

Wednesday, April 10

CLASS PRESENTATIONS
Wednesday, April 17
CLASS PRESENTATIONS

Thursday, April 18
CLASS PARTY. Dinner at the Piersons’

**Dinner at the Piersons’**, 6:30-8:30 PM  
*Spouses and significant others invited*

Directions from law school:
- Take 82 West to Jack Warner Parkway.
- Take Jack Warner Parkway toward “Downtown Tuscaloosa”.
- Go through traffic lights at “Hackberry” and “Marrs Spring”.
- Take the next left, onto Sherwood Drive - go up two houses to the stop sign and turn right into the cul-de-sac.
- #8 Sherwood Drive is in the middle, on your left (two rocking chairs on the porch).

**Attire**: Casual. Weather permitting we will be outside.

*RSVP if declining*: ppierson@law.ua.edu