

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

**School of Security & Global Studies**

**INTL 411**

**International Criminal Organizations**

3 credit hours

8 weeks

Prerequisites: None

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor:** See information provided in the Syllabus link in the classroom

**Email:** Please use internal classroom messaging system

### COURSE DESCRIPTION (Catalog)

This course differentiates historical and contemporary patterns, modus operandi, capabilities, and vulnerabilities of organized crime organizations. Course content includes a review of the contemporary literature of South American, Mexican, Asian, European, and African criminal enterprises, traditional organized crime, and transnational criminal enterprises.

**Note:** The course materials, assignments, learning outcomes, and expectations in this upper level undergraduate course assume that you have completed all lower level general education and career planning coursework necessary for proper research, writing, and critical thinking. Students who have not fulfilled all general education requirements through courses or awarded transfer credit should strongly consider completing these requirements prior to taking this course.

### COURSE SCOPE

INTL411 examines the development and nature of international/transnational criminal organizations (ICO)/(TCO), their links and relationships between various ICOs, and discuss how they threaten U.S. national security. We examine criminal enterprises within various global regions and *Red Mafia* and its rise to prominence and implications for crime and national security. Students evaluate U.S. and international efforts to combat transnational crime and identify the agencies involved, and analyze how globalization has contributed to the rise of international criminal organizations and its impact on their societies.

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## **COURSE OBJECTIVES (CO)**

Upon completion of this course of study, students will be able to:

CO1: Analyze the role of globalization in transnational crime.

CO2: Analyze how international crime affects U.S. national security.

CO3: Analyze the impact of the Soviet Union's demise on the rise of international criminal organizations.

CO4: Compare and contrast the history and development of international criminal organizations.

CO5: Evaluate why money laundering is important to criminal organizations.

CO6: Evaluate how successfully U.S. and international law enforcement are combating the ICO problem.

CO7: Analyze international criminal organizations' impact on the economic and social development of countries.

## **COURSE DELIVERY METHOD**

This senior-level undergraduate course in Intelligence Studies, delivered via distance learning, enables students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system are made available to each student.

**Online assignments are due by 11:55 pm (EST) each Sunday.** These include Forum discussions questions (accomplished through a threaded discussion board), examinations and quizzes (graded electronically), and individual assignments (submitted for professor's review). Assigned faculty will support the student throughout the course.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

### **Readings**

Linked open-source material as organized within the Course Outline and Lessons.

### **Additional Resources**

Available within weekly *Readings and Resources* as appropriate.

### **Note**

The use of open-source material in this course is indicative of the significant extent of available literature in the topical area within our society and the open academic environment.

The ongoing focus on security issues will result in more substantial research. Students are encouraged to forward the professor any related literature of which they may be aware for [consideration of] inclusion among current or future course readings.

Please also note that if a link within the Course Outline is not working, you should be able to copy the title information and locate the document via *Google*.

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## EVALUATION METHODS

The points earned on course assignments will determine the course grade. The final grade in the course will be based on total points. Grades will be assigned based on the following composite scores.

| Grade Instruments  | Percent of Final Grade |
|--|------------------------|
| Forum discussions including Introduction (9 @ 4.44% ea.) | 40%                    |
| Exams (Weeks 4 & 8) (20% each)                           | 40%                    |
| Research Paper (Week 7)                                  | 20%                    |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>100</b>             |

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).

### Forum Discussions

The forum discussions are a main component of the course. Forums should be read frequently and consist of quality interactions and dialogues.

Weekly discussion topics are posted within the Forums. Students are expected to:

1. Respond to the discussion questions (350 words) in a well-organized, -written manner supported by the course textbook and/or other scholarly sources. In-text citations and references must be in the most current *APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition* format and style.

Your original posting should be posted as a response to the discussion topic by Thursday. Please **do not** submit your discussion as a document attachment or create your own separate discussion topics in the weekly forum—just respond as a thread to the discussion topic created.

2. Respond with substantive comments to at least two (2) other students' posting (125 words each) and to any follow up question(s) posed by the professor. Limited comments do not earn participation points. Your responses to another's work should be posted as a sub-thread to the classmate's original posting to whom you are commenting.
3. All responses are due no later than Sunday, 11:55 pm (EST). Please note that discussions in this course cannot be made up, and point loss may result if you wait until the last day of each week to begin posting. This does not constitute effective class interaction.

The grading criteria is based on the below APUS rubric for upper level courses.

*Substance*, i.e., extent to which answered/addressed all aspects of the topic/question posed in the Forum; initial posting met length requirement; analysis of concepts and theories clearly demonstrates superior knowledge and a clear understanding of the topic; relevant and scholarly resources were located and used appropriately; facts and examples are used in support of presentation (40%).

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*Collaboration*, i.e., filed at least the number of required replies and met the length requirement; replies were substantive, thoughtful responses and contributed to the discussion; answers queries posed by others and remained present and actively engaged in the discussion (30%).

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*Writing quality*, demonstrates a quality of writing consistent with scholarly works in the relevant discipline; facility in the use of subject-matter vocabulary and terminology consistent with the level of instruction; applies concepts with ease; writing style and organization are designed to successfully convey the message and the related information to the reader with maximum effect (10%).

*Citations*, i.e., reference sources relied on are cited appropriately and accurately. No writing of others is left without quotation and/or attribution, as appropriate. *APA* format and style is used correctly and consistently (10%).

*Timeliness*, i.e., filed all required postings in a timely manner (10%).

### **Research Paper** (due Week 7)

This course component requires that you write a 6-8 page paper (excluding title and reference pages) examining a particular aspect of international criminal organizations (e.g., appropriate case studies, comparative international perspectives, a meta-analysis of the extant literature, a new method, technology, or emerging challenge, etc.). Select a topic of your choice from the class to write the paper.

#### *Requirements*

- A) 6-8 pages (excluding title, abstract, and references pages);
- B) A total of at least seven distinct sources used and properly cited and referenced;
- C) *APA* 6<sup>th</sup> Edition format and style throughout;
- D) Paper organized using 5-7 headings (i.e., the 3-4 main aspects of your research, Conclusion and/or Recommendations).

The grading criteria is based on the below APUS rubric for written assignments.

*Content* (50%), i.e., essay illustrates exemplary understanding of the relevant material by thoroughly and correctly addressing the relevant content; identifying and explaining all of the key concepts/ideas; using correct terminology explaining the reasoning behind key points/claims and substantiating, as necessary/useful, points with several accurate and illuminating examples. No aspects of the required answer are missing.

*Use of Source Information* (20%), i.e., credible scholarly sources are used to give compelling evidence to support claims and are clearly and fairly represented. *APA* format and style is used accurately and consistently. Required number of references used in the development of the assignment.

*Grammar* (20%), i.e., paper is clear, concise, and pleasant to read as a result of appropriate and precise use of terminology; total coherence of thoughts and presentation and logical organization; and the essay is error free.

*Structure of the Paper* (10%), i.e., a high-caliber, formatted paper that includes an *APA* cover page, abstract, page number, headers; is double spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font; and conforms to the specific number of required written pages.

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## **Submission Guidelines**

The research paper must be submitted as a *Word.doc* attachment in the Course Tools>Assignments portion of the classroom by 11:55pm (EST) Sunday of Week 7. Please use your last name to label your paper.

### **Turnitin.com**

Please note that all student paper submissions are automatically processed through Turnitin.com, a tool to detect plagiarism. This tool helps ensure a culture of adherence to the University's standards for intellectual honesty. Turnitin also reviews student papers for matches with Internet materials and thousands of student papers in its database, and returns an *Originality Report* to instructors.

### **Exams** (due Weeks 4 & 8)

The midterm and final exams consists of an analysis question/statement developed from the readings for the relevant period; each comprises 20 percent of your total grade. The above grading criteria for written assignments will apply.

The midterm exam require students to write a 1,000 word (3-4 page) essay that compares, contrasts, and analyzes the organization, methods, and history of criminal organizations within at least two different nations.

The final exam requires students to write a 1,000 word (3-4 page) essay expanding on the issues related to cybercrime, human trafficking, or U.S.-Mexico crime issues (pick one), without largely repeating the information within the course readings.

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).

| Topic   | Learning Objectives   | Readings   | Assignments                              |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WEEK 1</b></p> <p>Introduction to International Organized Crime</p> | <p>1) Analyze the role of globalization in transnational crime.</p> <p>2) Analyze how international crime affects U.S. national security.</p> | <p>FBI. <i>U.S. Justice Department</i>. <a href="#">Organized Crime: It's not just the Mafia anymore</a>.</p> <p>Thachuk, Kimberley L. <a href="#">Transitional Threats: Smuggling and Trafficking in Arms, Drugs, and Human Life</a>.</p> <p>United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. 2012. <i>Facts</i>. <a href="#">Transnational Organized Crime – The Globalized Illegal Economy</a>.</p> <p>United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. 2010. <a href="#">The Globalization of Crime: A Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment</a>.</p> <p>Wagley, John R. <a href="#">Transnational Organized Crime: Principle Threats and US Response</a>, <i>CRS Report to Congress</i>, Washington D.C.: Congressional Research Service, 20 March 2006.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p>UNODC. 2009. <a href="#">One Hundred Years of International Drug Control</a>.</p> <p>In addition to these readings, you may see the below video links on:<br/> <a href="#">The Mumbai terrorist attack</a>; and<br/> <a href="#">The culture of gangs and globalization</a>.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Forum</p> |

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| Topic   | Learning Objectives  | Readings  | Assignments  |
|---|--|---|--------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 2</b><br/>Organized Crime in Russia, West Africa, East Asia.</p> | <p>3) Analyze the impact of the Soviet Union's demise on the rise of international criminal organizations.</p> <p>4) Compare and contrast the history and development of international criminal organizations.</p> | <p>Bakowski, Piotr. <a href="#">Russian Organized Crime: The EU Perspective</a>. 2011.</p> <p>Finckenauer, James O. (2007). <a href="#">Russian Organized Crime in the United States</a>. International Center, National Institute of Justice.</p> <p>United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. <a href="#">Transnational Organized Crime in East Asia and the Pacific: A Threat Assessment</a>. April 2013.</p> <p>Ibid. <a href="#">Transnational Organized Crime in West Africa: A Threat Assessment</a>. February 2013.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p>Grigg, William N. <a href="#">Dirty cops in the former Soviet Union run both sides of the law</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">Thachuk, pp. 79-149</a>.</p> <p>United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. 2002. <a href="#">UN Report: Results of an analysis of 40 criminal groups</a>, pp. 1-48 &amp; 83-123.</p> <p>In addition to these course readings, you may review this <a href="#">video</a> link on the Russian Mafia.</p> | <p>Forum</p> |

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| Topic   | Learning Objectives   | Readings  | Assignments                      |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 3</b></p> <p>Organized Crime in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.</p>   | <p>1) Analyze the role of globalization in transnational crime.</p> <p>2) Analyze how international crime affects U.S. national security.</p>   | <p>Beittel, June S. Congressional Research Service. April 15, 2013. <a href="#">Mexico's Drug Trafficking Organizations: Source and Scope of the Violence</a>. (You have to copy the URL to open)</p> <p>Franco, Celinda. <a href="#">Transnational Organized Crime in Central America and the Caribbean: A Threat Assessment</a>. Congressional Research Service. September 2012.</p> <p>Seelke, Clare Ribando. <a href="#">Gangs in Central America</a>. Congressional Research Service. November 26, 2012. (You have to copy the URL to open)</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p><a href="#">Thachuk, pp. 150-222</a>.</p> <p>In addition to these course readings, you may review this <a href="#">video</a> link on the MS-13 criminal gang organization.</p> | <p>Forum</p>                     |
| <p><b>WEEK 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICO Activities and Definitions</li> <li>• Principles of Money Laundering</li> </ul> | <p>5) Evaluate why money laundering is important to criminal organizations.</p> <p>6) Evaluate how successfully U.S. and international law enforcement are combating the ICO problem.</p> | <p>Financial Action Task Force. <a href="#">What is Money Laundering?</a></p> <p>Ibid. <a href="#">Global Money Laundering &amp; Terrorist Financing Threat Assessment</a>. July 2010.</p> <p>Ibid. <a href="#">Laundering the Proceeds of Corruption</a>. July 2011.</p> <p>Ibid. <a href="#">International Standards on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation. Recommendations</a>. February 2012.</p> <p><a href="#">Meuller, Gerhard. Transnational Crime: Definitions and Concepts</a>. In Phil Williams &amp; D. Vlassis (eds.) <i>Combating Transnational Crime: Concepts, Activities and Responses</i>. 2001.</p>   | <p>Forum</p> <p>Midterm Exam</p> |

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| Topic  | Learning Objectives   | Readings  | Assignments  |
|--|---|---|--------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyber crime</li> <li>• US and International Agencies Combating ICOs</li> </ul> | <p>6) Evaluate how successfully U.S. and international law enforcement are combating the ICO problem.</p> <p>7) Analyze international criminal organizations' impact on the economic and social development of countries.</p> | <p>Fischer, Eric A., Edward C. Liu, John Rollins and Catherine A. Theohary. <a href="#">The 2013 Cybersecurity Executive Order: Overview and Considerations for Congress</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. March 1, 2013.</p> <p>Finklea, Kristin M. <a href="#">The Interplay of Borders, Turf, Cyberspace, and Jurisdiction: Issues Confronting U.S. Law Enforcement</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. July 20, 2012.</p> <p>Grobosky, P. N. <a href="#">Crime in cyberspace</a>, in P. Williams &amp; D. Vlassis (eds.) pp. 195-207.</p> <p>Interpol <a href="#">Overview</a>.</p> <p>Ibid. <a href="#">Cybercrime</a>.</p> <p>Kruger, Lennard G. <a href="#">Internet Governance and the Domain Name System: Issues for Congress</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. January 2, 2013.</p> <p>Nye, Joseph. <a href="#">Cyber war and peace: Greater dependence on networked computers and communication leaves the US more vulnerable to attack than others</a>. <i>Aljazeera</i>. April 2012.</p> <p>Rosenblum, Marc R., Jerome P. Bjelopera and Kristin M. Finklea. <a href="#">Border Security: Understanding Threats at U.S. Borders</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. February 21, 2013.</p> <p>Tehan, Rita. <a href="#">Cybersecurity: Authoritative Reports and Resources</a>. (You must copy URL to open or open from the lesson) Congressional Research Service. February 28, 2013.</p> <p>U.S. Department of Justice. <a href="#">The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)</a>.</p> | <p>Forum</p> |

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|  |  | <p>Ibid. <a href="#">Strategy to Combat International Organized Crime</a>. April 2008.</p> <p>You may also review this <a href="#">video</a> link on cybercrime.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b><br/> <a href="#">Europol website</a>.<br/> <a href="#">EU Organised Crime Threat Assessment, 2011</a>.</p> |  |
|--|--|--|--|

| Topic  | Learning Objectives   | Readings  | Assignments  |
|--|---|---|--------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trafficking in human beings.</li> <li>Corruption and impact on development.</li> </ul> | <p>6) Evaluate how successfully U.S. and international law enforcement are combating the ICO problem.</p> <p>7) Analyze international criminal organizations' impact on the economic and social development of countries.</p> | <p>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. <a href="#">Trafficking in Human Beings</a>.</p> <p>U.S. Department of State. December 2012. <a href="#">Seventh Report to Congress Pursuant to the International Anticorruption and Good Governance Act (Public Law 106-309)</a>.</p> <p>In addition to these course readings, you may review this <a href="#">video</a> link on the U.N. policy on fighting transnational crime.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p>U.S. Department of Commerce. <a href="#">Addressing the Challenges of International Bribery and Fair Competition</a>.</p> | <p>Forum</p> |

| Topic | Learning Objectives | Readings | Assignments |
|-------|---------------------|----------|-------------|
|-------|---------------------|----------|-------------|

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|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U.S. and U.N. Strategies for Combating Transnational Crime</li> <li>Policy Options for Fighting Int'l. Criminal Orgs.</li> </ul> | <p>6) Evaluate how successfully U.S. and international law enforcement are combating the ICO problem.</p> <p>7) Analyze international criminal organizations' impact on the economic and social development of countries.</p> | <p>UN Internet site. <a href="#">The International Convention Against Transitional Organized Crime</a>.</p> <p>U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime. <a href="#">Drug Trafficking</a>.</p> <p>U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime. <a href="#">Terrorism</a>.</p> <p>FDIC. <a href="#">History of Anti-Money Laundering Legislation</a>.</p> <p>Rollins, John and Liana Sun Wyler. <a href="#">Terrorism and Transnational Crime: Foreign Policy Issues for Congress</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. October 19, 2012.</p> <p>In addition to these course readings, you may review this <a href="#">video</a> link on the U.N. policy on fighting transnational crime.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p><a href="#">U.N. World Drug Report</a>, 2012.</p> <p>U.N. Organized Crime <a href="#">webpage</a>.</p> <p>U.S. Department of Justice <a href="#">website</a>.</p> <p>F.B.I. <a href="#">website</a>.</p> | <p>Forum<br/>Research paper due.</p> |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|

| Topic   | Learning Objectives   | Readings  | Assignments                 |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| <p><b>WEEK 8</b></p> <p>U.S.-Mexico Border Crime Issues</p> | <p>7) Analyze international criminal organizations' impact on the economic and social development of countries.</p> | <p>Beittel, June S. Congressional Research Service. April 15, 2013. <a href="#">Mexico's Drug Trafficking Organizations: Source and Scope of the Violence</a>. (You must copy URL to open)</p> <p>Finklea, Kristin M. <a href="#">Southwest Border Violence: Issues in Identifying and Measuring Spillover Violence</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. February 28, 2013.</p> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <p>Bettiel, June. May 2009. <a href="#">CRS Report Mexican Drug-Related Violence</a></p> | <p>Forum<br/>Final Exam</p> |

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|  |  | <p>U.S. Department of Justice. <a href="#">Strategy to Combat International Organized Crime</a>. April 2008.</p> <p>Kandel, William A. <a href="#">The U.S. Foreign-Born Population: Trends and Selected Characteristics</a>. (You must copy URL to open) Congressional Research Service. January 18, 2011.</p> <p>In addition to the readings, you may review this <a href="#">video</a> link on violence on the U.S.-Mexico border.</p> |  |
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## **POLICIES**

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#) – Please note that, as stipulated in the *Handbook*:

“Except in extreme circumstances, you must have successfully completed at least 50 percent of the already assigned course work **AND** currently have an overall passing grade in the course” to be eligible for consideration.

If you do not meet the eligibility requirements above, but have an extreme circumstance such as deployment during the course to an area without internet access, a serious medical issue or other similar situation, you may request a Special Circumstance Extension via the FORMS menu on the campus portal and select *Course Extension (Special) Request Form*.

### **Writing Expectations**

Students are expected to apply ALL the formal rules of writing and *APA* format and style, and adhere to plagiarism prevention policies. All submissions will be carefully reviewed in these aspects.

### **Citation and Reference Format and Style**

The citation and reference style for this course is based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). 2010. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

All submissions in this course must be written in accordance with this format and style throughout. This means in-text citations and references in the forum submissions and exam too. For the research paper, all aspects – e.g., title and reference pages, headers and page #s, in-text citations, subheadings, 1” margins, double-spaced, five space paragraph tab/indentations, hanging indents for reference page, etc., will apply.

To facilitate your understanding of proper formatting, sample items are included under *Course Overview*>*APA Writing Style Sample Paper*. If needed, additional information is available within the following websites.

- <http://www.apastyle.org/>
- [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/PDFs/r\\_apa.pdf](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/PDFs/r_apa.pdf)
- [http://www.vanguard.edu/faculty/ddegelman/index.cfm?doc\\_id=796](http://www.vanguard.edu/faculty/ddegelman/index.cfm?doc_id=796)
- [http://webster.commnet.edu/apa/apa\\_index.htm](http://webster.commnet.edu/apa/apa_index.htm)

You cannot adequately complete assignments unless you read the guidelines, *APA* format details, and grading rubric.

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## **Late Assignments**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

## **Deductions:**

**Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day**  
**Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day**

## **Netiquette**

Online universities promote the advance of knowledge through positive and constructive debate--both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting--basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the joy and excitement of learning that does not include descent to personal attacks or attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

## **Technology Limitations**

While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The classroom system may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

## **Humor Note**

Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily be misunderstood or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), : ), ☺

## **Disclaimer Statement**

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

## **ONLINE LIBRARY**

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions may be directed to [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

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***Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:*** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

***Electronic Books:*** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.

***Electronic Journals:*** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

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**Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](http://tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

**Request a Library Guide for your course** (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS.

*Program Portals* contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.

*Course Lib-Guides* narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., INTL431) or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: [librarian@apus.edu](mailto:librarian@apus.edu).

## TURNITIN.COM

[Turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com) is a tool to improve student research skills that also detect plagiarism. Turnitin.com provides resources on developing topics and assignments that encourage and guide students in producing papers that are intellectually honest, original in thought, and clear in expression. This tool helps ensure a culture of adherence to the University's standards for intellectual honesty. Turnitin also reviews student papers for matches with Internet materials and thousands of student papers in its database, and returns an *Originality Report* to instructors and/or students.

The *Similarity Index* measures the amount of matching text within a submitted paper. It is acceptable to have matching text as long as it is properly quoted, cited, and referenced. Similarity scores above 24 percent typically garner closer scrutiny from the professor to confirm that appropriate citation methods are applied to source material.

|               |   |                  |
|---------------|---|------------------|
| <b>Blue</b>   | = | 0% matching text |
| <b>Green</b>  | = | 1-24% match      |
| <b>Yellow</b> | = | 25-49%           |
| <b>Orange</b> | = | 50-74%           |
| <b>Red</b>    | = | 75-100%          |

Review your paper and adjust as needed to ensure an appropriately low score.

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