**INSIDER ABUSE, CORPORATE FRAUD, AND GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION**

**CCJ 4938 – Section 7**

**Spring 2024**

Instructor: Raymond B. Vickers

Office Hours: By appointment via ZOOM

E-mail: [rvickers@fsu.edu](mailto:rvickers@fsu.edu)

TA: Simon Reby

Office Hours: By appointment via ZOOM

E-mail : [sar11c@my.fsu.edu](mailto:sar11c@my.fsu.edu)

Class Schedule:

January 8th, 2024 – April 26th, 2024

Monday and Wednesday, 3:05 PM – 4:20 PM

Room: CRM 0215

**OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE**

This course will focus on the history of individual bank and corporate failures. It will examine the impact of insider abuse and financial fraud on the national and global economic systems, including the financial meltdown of 2008, the Enron scandal of the early 2000s, the savings and loan crisis of the 1980s, and the banking crises of the 1920s and 1930s.

In addition, we will review the collaboration of the Morgan and Chase banks during the Nazi occupation of Paris during World War II, which will involve the study of the Nuremberg trials, the involvement of Ford Motor Company and Standard Oil with the Nazi Regime, and the Trading with the Enemy Act of 1917.

We will also take a close look at China’s “Silk Road Economic Belt” and its “Maritime Silk Road” projects, including the corruption surrounding the Sri Lanka Port and the other 35 ports financed by China; Montenegro’s billion-dollar road to nowhere; China’s seizing of Uganda’s only international airport; and the financial scandals involving other infrastructure projects in Africa and throughout the world.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

Vickers, Raymond B. *Panic in Paradise: Florida’s Banking Crash of 1926*. University of Alabama Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-8173-5414-5.

Vickers, Raymond B. *Panic in the Loop: Chicago's Banking Crisis of 1932*. Lexington Books, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7391-6641-3.

**RECOMMENDED READINGS AND OTHER MATERIALS**

*Wall Street and the Financial Crisis: Anatomy of a Financial Collapse*, Majority and Minority Staff Report, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, U.S. Senate, April 13, 2011, www.hsgac.senate.gov.

Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. *The Financial Crisis Inquiry Report*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, January 2011.

Brandeis, Louis D. *Other People’s Money and How the Bankers Use It*. New York: Frederick A. Stokes, 1914; reprinted, 1932.

Carosso, Vincent P. "The Wall Street Money Trust from Pujo through Medina." *Business History Review* 47 (Winter 1973): 421-37.

Galbraith, John Kenneth. *The Great Crash, 1929*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1972.

Gordon, John Steele. "Understanding the S&L Mess." *American Heritage* 42 (February)

McCraw, Thomas K. *The Prophets of Regulation*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1984.

Pecora, Ferdinand. *Wall Street under Oath*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1939.

Remini, Robert V. *Andrew Jackson*. New York: Harper & Row, 1966. (Chapter VIII: The Bank War)

Schmitt, Rick. "Prophet and Loss." *Stanford Magazine*, March/April 2009.

Summers, Mark Wahlgren. *The Era of Good Stealings*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Vickers, Raymond B. “Bank Secrecy Should Be Ended—This Would Make the Financial System Safer.” The Long Term View: Secrecy Is Everywhere 6, No. 1 (Massachusetts School of Law at Andover, Fall 2003): 5–11.

\_\_\_\_\_\_. “Sleazy Banking in the ’20s and Today.” Wall Street Journal, May 23, 1989.

\_\_\_\_\_\_. “Open the Vault: The Urgent Need to Abolish Bank Secrecy.” Business Library Review: An International Journal, February 1996, 1–7.

\_\_\_\_\_\_. "Too Big to Disclose." Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Blog. Retrieved from http://rowmanblog.typepad.com/rowman/2011/11/too-big-to-disclose.html. (November 21, 2011)

\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Spring 1997). "Addison Mizzen: Promoter in Paradise." Florida Historical Quarterly, 75(4), 381-407. (Spring 1997)

*Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*. Documentary film directed by Alex Gibney. Released on April 22, 2005.

*Inside Job*. Documentary film directed by Charles Ferguson. Released on October 8, 2010.

“Failed Financial Institutions: Reasons, Costs, Remedies and Unresolved Issues.” Statement of Frederick D. Wolf before the U.S. House Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs. U.S. General Accounting Office Testimony, January 13, 1989.

Stock Exchange Practices. Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Banking and Currency, United States Senate, 72nd Congress, 2nd Session, On S. Res. 84 and S. Res. 239, Resolutions to Thoroughly Investigate Practices of Stock Exchanges with Respect to the Buying and Selling and the Borrowing and Lending of Listed Securities the Values of Such Securities and the Effects of Such Practices. Part 5 (Insull), February 15, 16, and 17, 1933. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1933.

**Course Requirements and Policies**

Grading. Grades in this course will be based on three exams, and one research paper. The exams will be multiple choices that cover all of the lectures and assigned reading material.

Your final grade will be calculated using the following formula:

Exam 1: 25% of grade

Exam 2: 25% of grade

Final Exam 25% of grade

Research Paper: 25% of grade

Exams 1 and 2 will be administered approximately during weeks 6 and 13 of the semester. The third exam will be administered during final exam week.

The research paper is required, an outline can be found on canvas with more information and the due date.

Class Attendance. In order to do well in this course, you are expected to attend each lecture.

Required Readings. Assigned readings will be announced in class or on the class page (announcements). It is your responsibility to keep track of all assigned readings.

Electronics. All cell phones are to be turned off prior to the start of class and remain off until the end of class. Do not text message, browse the Internet, or talk on your cell phone during class time; cell phones are disruptive to both the instructor and your classmates. If you plan to take notes on your computer, be sure you are only taking notes for this class. Do not browse the Internet or do work for any of your other classes.

**University Attendance Policy**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

"Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.”

**Academic Honor Policy**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at [http://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy](https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy))

**Academic Success**

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

*To receive academic accommodations, a student:*

(1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS);  
 (2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and,  
 (3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the

Office of Accessibility Services  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice)  
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
oas@fsu.edu  
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

**Confidential Campus Resources**

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program   
University Center A, Rm. 4100  
(850) 644-7161  
Available 24/7/365  
Office Hours: M-F 8-5  
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling and Psychological Services  
Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor  
942 Learning Way  
(850) 644-8255  
<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services  
Health and Wellness Center  
(850) 644-6230  
<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>

**Free Tutoring from FSU**

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services' comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see <http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring> or contact [tutor@fsu.edu](mailto:tutor@fsu.edu). High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

**Honorlock**

Your exams will be proctored online through Honorlock this semester. [Honorlock](https://support.testing.fsu.edu/kb/article/1541-honorlock-resources-for-students/) is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You do *not* need to create an account, download a software application, pay a fee, or schedule an appointment in advance. All that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, a microphone, and a stable internet connection. (Most laptops come with a built-in webcam and microphone.)

* **To get started, you may need to** [**install Google Chrome**](https://www.googleadservices.com/pagead/aclk?sa=L&ai=DChcSEwiSko7M9bDwAhUJ5cgKHbYuBBsYABAAGgJxdQ&ae=2&ohost=www.google.com&cid=CAESQOD2PWJL1mZ2lnlNvf8qjK2Px8-P8aXt2Lpeu_RJAFM33PVhwSdAqcnwr3JqRyaf6iqfnxsHZRx3G12Wpl9e9yg&sig=AOD64_0ht52Qs3jHZEq8kFDhoGyBY42sNg&q&adurl&ved=2ahUKEwiZ6oTM9bDwAhXNm-AKHav5BYQQ0Qx6BAgEEAE) **and then**[**download the Honorlock Chrome Extension**](http://www.honorlock.com/extension/install)**.** You should also review the information provided in FSU's [Honorlock Resources for Students](http://assessmenttestingsupport.bbsupport.happyfox.com/kb/article/1541-honorlock-resources-for-students/) guide. *It's very important to check your system compatibility and internet connection speed in advance as explained in the guide.*
* **When you are ready to take your test, you should log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam.** Click “Launch Proctoring” to begin the Honorlock authentication process where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID with a clear photo, and perform a [complete scan of your room](https://honorlock.kb.help/-students-starting-exam/completing-a-room-scan-using-honorlock/). Be sure to carefully follow all instructions provided.
* **The new student toolbar provides easy access to exam aids and Honorlock support.** This new toolbar accessible at the bottom of the exam window will allow you access to a calculator (if allowed by your instructor), exam guidelines, allowed websites and, Honorlock's chat support, among other tools. You can find additional information in [the Honorlock student toolbar overview article](https://honorlock.kb.help/students-during-exam/honorlock-student-toolbar-overview/).
* **Honorlock records your computer screen and webcam and intelligently flags any suspicious activity for my review.** If my review confirms that the flagged activity is a violation of FSU's [Academic Honor Policy](https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy) or [Student Conduct Code](https://sccs.fsu.edu/conduct-codes/student-conduct-codes), it may be escalated to Academic and/or Student Affairs for further action.
* **The Honorlock Chrome Extension may be uninstalled after taking any of your exams, but please note that it will remain inactive when an Honorlock-enabled exam is not in use.** For more information or for other security or privacy concerns, please visit FSU's [Honorlock Security and Privacy FAQ](https://distance.fsu.edu/honorlock-security-and-privacy-faq) page.
* [**Honorlock Support**](https://honorlock.com/support/) **is available 24/7.** If you encounter any issues, I urge you to contact them by chat within the Honorlock session. If you encounter issues with Canvas, visit [ODL Technical Support](https://support.canvas.fsu.edu/kb/article/801-about-fsu-odl-technical-support/) or email [canvas@fsu.edu](mailto:canvas@fsu.edu).
* **Need a testing accommodation due to a disability?** Please be sure to inform me well in advance of your need for accommodation. Please read [Testing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](https://support.testing.fsu.edu/kb/article/1447-testing-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities/) for further guidance.

**If you are unable to use Honorlock to complete your exams, please contact me within the first 2 weeks of the semester.**