

**LGST 299/999**  
**Fall 2009**  
**CORRUPTION**

Professor: Nichols  
Office: 600 Huntsman Hall  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to noon, 2:00 to 4:00, or by appointment  
Office Phone: 898-9369

Assigned Reading: The readings for this course may be purchased at the Penn Bookstore or through any other means. The books assigned in this course are also available at Rosengarten on reserve, and the instructor may occasionally have extra copies available for loan. Please complete the assigned reading before each class.

Grading: Short papers for each reading will count for 50% of the grade, a final paper will count for 25% of the grade, and class participation will count for 25% of the grade.

### **TOPICAL ASSIGNMENTS**

Sept. 14; Class 1: Corruption: What is this class, what is this topic, how should we approach the subject, how should we approach the class

Reading: you are encouraged to look at the following websites for an impression of the practitioners' views on corruption:

<http://www.transparency.org/>

[http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,3373,en\\_2649\\_37447\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_37447,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,3373,en_2649_37447_1_1_1_1_37447,00.html)

<http://www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/thematic.htm> [[click "Anticorruption"]]

<http://www.cipe.org/programs/corruption/index.php>

Sept 21; Class 2: Corruption from the ground up: Ethnographies and first-person accounts; it is important to ground a discussion of corruption in the effect that it has on people who live in systemically corrupt polities; these accounts also give voice to persons outside of western academies.

Reading: Michela Wrong, *It's Our Turn to Eat: The Story of a Kenyan Whistle-Blower* (2009/Harper Collins)

Sept. 28; Class 3: Bribes: The classic by John Noonan, respected United States Federal Appellate Court Judge, which for many years stood as the most thorough academic investigation of a largely forbidden topic.

Reading: John Noonan, Jr., *Bribes: The Intellectual History of a Moral Idea* (1988/University of California Press)

Oct. 5; Class 4: Political Economy: Susan Rose-Ackerman, a political economist at Yale Law School, was one of the leading voices at the World Bank on issues of corruption before corruption became a central issue for the Bank, and she continues to work with the Bank in ascertaining and controlling corruption. Her monographs for the Bank are considered by many the foundations of political economy study of corruption; this book brings much of her research into one volume.

Reading: Susan Rose-Ackerman, *Corruption and Government: Causes, Consequences and Reform* (1999/Cambridge University Press)

Oct. 12; Class 5: Political Science: Robert Klitgaard's book and articles influenced much of the thinking by political scientists as corruption became the subject of scholarly and policy attention in the late 1990s.

Reading: Robert Klitgaard, *Controlling Corruption* (1991/University of California Press)

Oct. 26; Class 6: Institutional Economics. Johan Lambsdorff designed Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index; although he is not the most well known economist to write on corruption his perspective is extremely informed and invaluable.

Reading: Johann Graf Lambsdorff, *The Institutional Economics of Corruption and Reform: Theory, Evidence and Policy* (2008/Cambridge University Press)

Nov. 2; Class 7: Practitioners. This reading detours from scholarly analysis of corruption. Should scholarship take the voices of practitioners into account? This reading consists of reports by persons who have undertaken to fight corruption in education.

Reading: Transparency International, *Stealing the Future: Corruption in the Classroom* (2005) – downloadable at [http://www.transparency.org/publications/publications/stealing\\_future](http://www.transparency.org/publications/publications/stealing_future)

Nov. 9; Class 8: History: Historians believe that corruption caused or contributed to the collapse of several large polities. Ramsay MacMullen suggests that corruption caused the collapse of the Roman empire. MacMullen is a noted historian of the classical period, but in this book one can find insights into the nature and effect of corruption.

Reading: Ramsay MacMullen, *Corruption and the Decline of Rome* (1988/Yale Press)

Nov. 16; Class 9: Anthropology. Most of this book uses ethnographic studies, but the introduction provides a good overview of anthropological research on corruption. The anthropologists who contribute to this volume often arrive at conclusions markedly different from those reflected in the scholarship in other disciplines.

Reading: Monique Nuijten and Gerhard Anders, *Corruption and the Secret of Law: A Legal Anthropological Perspective* (2007/Ashgate)

Nov. 23; Class 10: Corruption and economic growth. Paulo Mauro's article was one of the earliest and most influential empirical economic analysis of corruption.

Reading: Paulo Mauro, "Corruption and Growth," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, (1995) volume 110, no.3, pp. 681-712

Nov. 30; Class 11: recent research

Reading: each student is to bring a recent article.

Dec. 7; Class 12: Presentations of drafts of papers.