



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

CJS2201: CRIMINAL LAW

LECTURER: DR.SCHOLASTICA OMONDI

OFFICE: ROOM 6B

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The course covers the history and development of criminal law, elements of a crime, parties to a crime and types of offenses. The general principles of substantive criminal law are studied through the analysis of judicial opinions and text. The scope, purpose and definition of criminal offenses are examined.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A course in substantive criminal law which includes definition of law, definition of crime, general principles of criminal responsibility, element of the major crimes, punishment, basic concepts of criminal law with emphasis on the penal law of Britain, the United States and the Local situation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to describe the key concepts in criminal law. Demonstrate knowledge in terms of crime causation. Show an understanding on culpability and criminal capacity. Demonstrate an understanding on the principles of legality. Apply the knowledge acquired in their various spheres.

COURSE CONTENT

- Nature of crime,
- Sources of criminal law
- Principle of criminal liability (Actus Reus and Mens Rea),
- Exemption for criminal responsibility (insanity, necessity, mistake, intoxication etc.)
- Parties to crime (principal's assisting/concealing offences, anticipatory offences-attempt, conspiracy incitement),

- Classification of crime (Crime against person, property and public order and state security);
- Criminal punishment
- Challenges and reforms

TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

Material disseminated through lectures, assigned supplemental readings, electronic media, handouts, class discussions, written assignments and research project.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT

Video materials on DVDs/or CDs and Power point instruction.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Students are evaluated on a percentage scale of one hundred. Students must invest in their academic experience through regular class attendance and class participation which is ten percent of their grade; class assignments and/or quizzes or activity is thirty percent of their grade; a mid-term exam is thirty per cent of their grade; and the final exam is worth another thirty per cent of their grade which equals a total of 100 per cent.

Course text

Ormerod, David. (2007). Smith and Hogan Criminal Law: Cases and Materials. Oxford University Press.

Accumulative points and letter grade

90-100	A
87-89	A-
84-86	B+
80-83	B
77-79	B-
74-76	C+
70-73	C
67-69	C-

64-66 D+

62-63 D

60-61 D-

0-59 F