

M Forensics, criminology and law

Faculty of Law

The programme information in this document is based on the selection criteria that you entered in the online prospectus (

www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/web/Faculties/FL/course_description_master_forensics_criminology_law.htm?channel=pd

Should it not contain the information that you were looking for, we recommend that you try again using different selection criteria.

Please bear in mind that the programme information is continuously updated. It is therefore wise to check the online prospectus regularly.

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Psychology and law

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

10-8-2013 1:30

Period

Period 1 Startdate: 02-Sep-13 Enddate: 25-Oct-13

Code

CRI4015

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

R. Horselenberg

Description

Focuses on the psychological aspects of criminal law, such as the reliability of testimonies. Special attention is paid to the ways criminal evidence is gathered and interpreted by law enforcement officials, public prosecutors, lawyers and judges

Goals

At the end of the course the student is able to: To get acquainted with a criminal file; to be able to distil the problems of the case; to be able to search for literature and give presentations about them; to obtain knowledge about common theories in legal psychology and to apply these theories in real cases.

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

Teaching methods

PBL

Assessment methods

WRITTEN EXAM

Key words

Advanced Criminal Procedure

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

1-5-2013 1:24

Period

Period 1 Startdate: 02-Sep-13 Enddate: 25-Oct-13

Code

CRI4024

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

J.G.F. Fermon

Description

Concentrates on the developments in criminal procedure from a Human Rights perspective, especially the European Convention on Human Rights. The emphasis will lie on the interaction between the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and national criminal proceedings. The course will elaborate on the prohibition of torture and inhumand or degrading treatment and violent police conduct (Article 3 ECHR) the right to liberty in relation to pretrial detention (Article 5 ECHR), the presumption of innocence and right to fair trial (Art. 6 ECHR) and the right to privacy in relation to investigative measures (Art. 8 ECHR).

Goals

- insight into the influence that the ECHR exerts on national law of criminal procedure; - insight into areas in which the ECHR holds or can hold little to no influence; - insight into the interaction between national law and human rights conventions, and national judicial authorities and the ECtHR; - knowledge of important judgments of the ECtHR in which a violation of Art 3, 5, 6 and 8 ECHR in criminal procedures has been established, and of the most important basic principles that can be deduced from this case law; - development of a critical stance towards studied problems.

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

- BLL. In case of a Bachelor in other discipline entrance exam for the master Forensics Criminology and Law is required

Recommended literature

- Harris, O'Boyle and Warbrick, Law of the European Convention on Human Rights, 2nd. Ed., Oxford University Press, 2009
- Human Rights Handbooks nrs. 1, 3, 5, 6 available on the ECtHR website:
http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/publications/hrhandbooks/index_handbooks_en.asp

Teaching methods**Assessment methods****Key words**

- Human rights and criminal procedure, - Torture, - Deprivation of liberty, - Fair trial, - Presumption of innocence, - Right to silence, - Criminal procedure and privacy,

Forensic psychopathology

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

29-4-2014 1:28

Period

Period 2 Startdate: 28-Oct-13 Enddate: 20-Dec-13

Code

CRI4016

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

M. Jelacic

Description

Deals primarily with offenders' criminal liability (e.g. the issue of diminished responsibility). Emphasis is put on a number of mental disorders and the meaning and relevance of these disorders in relation to criminal behaviour and criminal liability. Special attention will be given to offenders with either psychosis or personality disorders.

Goals

- Learning to distinguish between different kinds of psychopathology; - Obtaining knowledge about the development, symptoms and treatment of these disorders; - Learning how the different kinds of psychopathology can play a role in criminal behaviour

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

A reader with articles on forensic psychopathology will be made available.

Teaching methods

PBL

Assessment methods

WRITTEN EXAM

Key words

Offenders, criminal responsibility, mental disorders.,

Criminological perspectives

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

1-5-2013 1:24

Period

Period 2 Startdate: 28-Oct-13 Enddate: 20-Dec-13

Code

CRI4017

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

J.M. Nelen

Description

The course Criminological Perspectives will introduce students to the field of crime, crime causation and crime control. More specifically, the course will provide a better understanding of: 1) The assumptions our scientific knowledge of crime (development) is based upon; 2) Various explanations of crime from different disciplines and on various levels; 3) Possibilities to apply and integrate criminological theories; 4) The rationale behind the contemporary response to crime. By reviewing current as well as former insights, the development of criminology as a science is portrayed, as well as the way it is influenced by developments in society. The course is characterized by tutorial groups where, according to the PBL model, students apply their insights to current cases, real-life problems and policy issues. In addition, a number of lectures will be given

Goals

Upon completion of this course, the student must: •be able to recognise the differences and similarities between the various theoretical movements as to research questions, explanations, assumptions, levels of explication and opportunities for theoretical integration; •know the contents of the main criminological explications and be able to apply them to concrete (knowledge) issues; •be able to draw conclusions based on information about research results as to the empirical tenability of theories; •be able to comprehend the rationale behind the current fight against and prevention of crime and substantiate this with practical examples.

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Recommended literature**Teaching methods**

PBL

Assessment methods

WRITTEN EXAM

ASSIGNMENT

Key words

Crime causation and crime control,

Criminalistics and Forensic DNA

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

17-4-2014 1:32

Period

Period 4 Startdate: 03-Feb-14 Enddate: 04-Apr-14

Code

CRI4026

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

J.T. Israëls

Description

The course on Criminalistics and forensic DNA research deals with forensic DNA research and some recent developments in criminalistics that are the result of the DNA revolution of the last thirty years in other areas of technical forensic research. The emphasis is especially on the problems created by new insights about logically correct reporting of the outcomes of forensic research. And on the necessity of blind testing, which is the result of psychological research on expectancy effects. And there is some discussion of recent problems with dactyloscopy.

Goals

To understand how forensic DNA research works. To know the different stages, from the collection of biological material up to the comparison of DNA profiles with databases. To understand the biological and technical aspects of the structure of DNA and the way a DNA profile is made. To understand what is the prosecutor's fallacy, how this logical error pops up nearly inevitably and how it has been tried to solve this problem. To understand why blind testing is important. To have some elementary understanding of dactyloscopy and what are some of the main problems in that forensic field.

Instruction language

Prerequisites

Not being afraid of 'hard sciences' and a little bit of mathematics.

Recommended literature

Literature: - In 2014: John Butler, Fundamentals of Forensic DNA Typing. Probably in 2015 a different book on forensic DNA research will be prescribed. - Various articles that will be collected in a reader.

Teaching methods

PBL

LECTURE(S)

Assessment methods

WRITTEN EXAM

Key words

Criminalistics, Forensic DNA, Bayesian statistics, bias.,

Evidence

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

16-11-2013 1:29

Period

Period 5 Startdate: 14-Apr-14 Enddate: 13-Jun-14

Code

CRI4021

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

G.F. Vermeulen

Description

The course deals with evidence related issues in European criminal justice systems (Council of Europe (CoE) and EU). Students are invited to study key notions of (procedural) criminal law and cross-border or international cooperation, both from a domestic and a European perspective, focused around criminal investigation and evidence gathering (both in the pre-trial and trial stages) as well as evidence admissibility or exclusion before court and the evaluation and weighting of evidence in court. In respect to these matters, the roles and competencies of traditional criminal justice actors (police, customs, prosecution, investigating judge, judge of the investigation, judge ...) and the legal position of the suspect, accused, defendant or the victim, and/or of their lawyers may vary significantly in different European criminal justice systems. Nonetheless, certain core principles or fundamental rights will or ought to be observed in any jurisdiction, such as the presumption of innocence (prompting various burden of proof related discussions and requiring properly reasoned convictions), freedom of personal liberty, equality of arms and other fair trial rights, privacy or data protection. With regard to domestic contexts, a diverse and comparative approach will be favoured, however focused on (both common law and continental) European criminal justice systems and the influence upon them of predominantly the ECHR/ECtHR and the EU, as well as of the USA (especially in the post 9/11 era). On an international or cross-border level, discussions will be centered primarily around CoE and EU cooperation realities, both in the sphere of police/customs and judicial information exchange and cooperation in criminal matters. For the latter, both mutual legal assistance and mutual recognition based approaches will pass in review. Transatlantic information exchange and the gathering and use of evidence (both of the EU and the EU member states with the USA) will be studied as a selected issue, given the relevance thereof from a comparative/net-widening legal perspective. A wide variety of investigative or information and evidence gathering measures will pass in review, such as the obtaining of existing objects, documents and data (through freezing, (house) search, seizure; from databases; of classified information; from private third parties (like banks, telecom or IT providers, carriers)), interrogations and witness/victim or expert hearings or confrontations (where conducted through

telephone or videoconferencing; of children; of anonymous witnesses or collaborators with justice), forensic investigation and expert evidence (including if DNA-based), intrusive/coercive/covert investigative techniques, etc.

Goals

- to understand and to be able to apply and comment on evidence (law) related matters in domestic criminal justice systems across Europe and at European level - to have the ability to reflect in a critical-scientific manner - to have the ability to interpret relevant current affairs - to understand and to be able to use scientific and content- related English jargon on the subject matter - to be able to autonomously consult, analyse and process scientific sources in English - to be able to adequately report in English, both orally and in writing, about the subject matter

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Optional preparatory reading of articles of choice in: C. Breur, M. Kommer, J. Nijboer en J. Reyntjes (ed.), New Trends in Criminal Investigation and Evidence, Volume 2, Antwerp-Groningen-Oxford, Intersentia, 2001.

Recommended literature

Will be included in course materials

Teaching methods

LECTURE(S)

PBL

Assessment methods

ASSIGNMENT

PARTICIPATION

WRITTEN EXAM

Key words

Evidence, information, forensics, forensic expertise, gathering,, admissibility, reliability, assessment, probative value, probative, weight, criminal investigation, criminal matters, EU, Council of Europe,, police, judge, court, prosecutor, judicial,

Effective criminal defence

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

11-7-2013 1:30

Period

Period 5 Startdate: 14-Apr-14 Enddate: 13-Jun-14

Code

CRI4022

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

T.N.B.M. Spronken

Description

Focuses on procedural rights in criminal proceedings in Europe. In this course, the right to effective defence in criminal proceedings for defendants across a number of European jurisdictions is discussed. Theory and practice are combined. The main focus of the course is on the extent to which procedural rights that are indispensable for an effective defence, such as the right to information, the right of access to a lawyer and the right to an interpreter are provided in practice.

Goals

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

Teaching methods

PBL

Assessment methods

Key words

Int Maritime Law Arbitration Moot Court

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

29-4-2014 1:28

Period

Year Startdate: 01-Sep-13 Enddate: 31-Aug-14

Code

LAW4056

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

Description

Goals

Instruction language

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

Teaching methods

Assessment methods

Key words

Study abroad MA1

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

1-5-2013 1:24

Period

Year Startdate: 01-Sep-13 Enddate: 31-Aug-14

Code

RMABUIMU001

ECTS credits

0.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

Description

Goals

Instruction language

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

Teaching methods

Assessment methods

Key words

Organisational crime

Academic year 2013-14

Date last modified

29-4-2014 1:28

Period

Period 4 Startdate: 03-Feb-14 Enddate: 04-Apr-14

Code

CRI4020

ECTS credits

6.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

C.A.R. Moerland

Description

Organisational criminology studies violations of rules and ethics (deviant behavior) by legitimate organisations (e.g. corporations, governments, etc.) and their management. Lately, organisational crime seems to attract an increased amount of attention - which can partly be contributed to the 'global financial meltdown'. In the fields of criminal justice and criminology it is a relatively new concept. It concerns the kind of offences that were never labeled outright criminal before, at best only in an indirect way. As with the concept, the academic field of organisational criminology is relatively new, hence the study is still in its adolescent phase making it a real challenge for its practitioners. Many issues are still in dire need of elucidation. Therefore, during tutorial sessions students will deal with a number of sub-aspects about which (academic) discussions are far from reaching a consensus, offering students the opportunity to become actively involved in maturing this fascinating domain.

Goals

This course aims to be a genuine integration subject. By looking at the phenomenon of organizational crime from different viewpoints, we want to stimulate reflection and a scholarly attitude. The overall learning objective is that at the end of this course the acquired critical knowledge will enable students to analyze (current) cases by themselves. The form of examination will be accordingly and will therefore consist of conducting a case study.

Instruction language

EN

Prerequisites

Prior (basic) courses in criminology are not required but strongly recommended.

Recommended literature

- Corporate and Governmental Deviance by M. D. Ermann and R. J. Lundman - Corporate Crime by G. Slapper and S. Tombs

Teaching methods

PBL

LECTURE(S)

Assessment methods

FINAL PAPER

Key words

Corporate crime, financial crime, governmental crime, gross human rights, violations, case study/analysis.,

Master thesis forensica, crimin

Academic year 2013-14

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Period

Year Startdate: 01-Sep-13 Enddate: 31-Aug-14

Code

LAW4070

ECTS credits

12.0

Organisational unit

Faculty of Law

Coordinator

D.L.F. de Vocht

Description

Goals

Instruction language

NL

Prerequisites

Recommended literature

Teaching methods

PBL

Assessment methods

WRITTEN EXAM

Key words