

Course: **CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY BASICS**
WINTER SEMESTER 2025/26, ERASMUS COURSES
Teacher: Miha Hafner

DATE	HRS	TOPIC	BASIC LITERATURE
14 Oct	2	Introduction of the course: The presentation of the course programme, methods, and the lecturer. Introduction into Criminology: What is criminology and which key questions do criminologists deal with? Which are the main strands of criminology and its methodological approaches etc.	W. Morrison (2013): <i>What is crime? Contrasting definitions and perspectives</i> , in: <i>Criminology</i> (ed. Hale et al.), Oxford UP. K. Hayward & W. Morrison (2013): <i>Theoretical criminology: a starting point</i> , in: <i>Criminology</i> (ed. Hale et al.), Oxford UP.
21 Oct	2	Review of the main criminological theories (part I): Classical criminology, biological positivism (genetic, neuroscientific, evolutionary theories), psychological positivism.	
28 Oct	2	Review of the main criminological theories (part II): Sociological theories (ecological, strain theories, control theories), situational perspectives (rational choice theory, routine activity theory), labelling theories, critical criminology.	
4 Nov	2	Selected criminological topics: e.g. global trends in crime; age-crime curve, white-collar crime, women and crime, crime prevention programmes;	
11 Nov	2	Application of criminological theories: group work, students apply theories to real crime-related cases.	Additional recommended literature will be added on Moodle.
18 Nov	2	Basic concepts of substantive criminal law (part I): Explanation of the fundamental concepts of substantive criminal law. Preconditions for establishing criminal responsibility of perpetrators of criminal offences.	
25 Nov	2	Basic concepts of substantive criminal law (part II):	J. Keiler (2016): <i>Actus reus and mens rea: the elements of crime and the framework of criminal liability</i> . In: <i>Comparative Concepts of Criminal Law</i> (ed. Keiler & Roef), Intersentia.
2 Dec	2	Historic development and comparison of types of criminal procedures: development and comparison of the two historical/model criminal procedures: (a) inquisitorial and (b) adversarial. Comparison between contemporary (i) adversarial (common-law) and (ii) mixed (continental) types of criminal procedures.	H. R. Dammer et al. (2006): <i>Chapter 6: Criminal procedure</i> (pp. 135-148). In: <i>Comparative criminal justice systems</i> , Wadsworth.
9 Dec	2	Fundamental principles of contemporary criminal procedures: fundamental principles of criminal procedures, fair-trial rights and standards as developed by the European Court of Human Rights.	
16 Dec	2	Participants of criminal procedures (Part I): Roles, rights and obligations of the main stakeholders in criminal procedures.	
23 Dec	2	Witness examination in criminal procedures: practical exercise	
6 Jan	2	Participants of criminal procedures (Part II)	
6 Jan	1	Preparation for the exam	