

Course: **CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY BASICS**
WINTER SEMESTER 2026/2027, ERASMUS COURSES

Teacher: Miha Hafner

DATE	HRS	TOPIC	BASIC LITERATURE
6 Oct	1	Introduction of the course: The presentation of the course programme, methods, and the lecturer.	
13 Oct	2	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.	W. Morrison (2013): <i>What is crime? Contrasting definitions and perspectives</i> , in: Criminology (ed. Hale et al.), Oxford UP. K. Hayward & W. Morrison (2013): <i>Theoretical criminology: a starting point</i> , in: Criminology (ed. Hale et al.), Oxford UP.
20 Oct	2	Classical criminology: C. Beccaria, J. Bentham	
27 Oct	2	Biological positivism in criminology: genetic, neuroscientific, evolutionary theories	
3 Nov	2	Psychological positivism in criminology: psychoanalysis, trait-based personality theories, psychopathy, Kohlberg's theory of moral development, social learning theory, techniques of neutralization.	
10 Nov	2	Sociological theories: ecological, strain theories, control theories, situational perspectives, labelling theories, critical criminology.	
17 Nov	2	Basic concepts of substantive criminal law (part I): Fundamental concepts of substantive criminal law, conditions for criminal responsibility, constituent elements of a criminal offence, acts of commission and acts of omission.	J. Keiler (2016): <i>Actus reus and mens rea: the elements of crime and the framework of criminal liability</i> . In: Comparative Concepts of Criminal Law (ed. Keiler & Roef), Intersentia.
24 Nov	2	Basic concepts of substantive criminal law (part II): causation, unlawful and lawful acts, intent, negligence, insanity, diminished capacity.	
1 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.	H. R. Dammer et al. (2006): <i>Chapter 6: Criminal procedure</i> (pp. 135-148). In: Comparative criminal justice systems, Wadsworth.
8 Dec	2	Comparison between contemporary (i) adversarial (common-law) and (ii) mixed (continental) types of criminal procedures	
15 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.	
22 Dec	2	Witness examination in criminal procedures: practical exercise	
5 Jan	2	Participants of criminal procedures: roles, rights and obligations of the main stakeholders in criminal procedures.	