

Subject card

Subject name and code	Anglo-american criminal law and process - lecture, PG_00134214						
Field of study	Anglo-amerykańskie prawo karne i proces - wykład						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Krzysztof Woźniewski				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	15		0.0		60.0	75
Subject objectives	The basic aim of the course is to provide students of Criminology and Criminal Justice with a comparative introduction to the basic concepts and issues of substantive and procedural criminal law of selected systems of common law legal culture - with particular emphasis on the system of England and Wales, treated here as a kind of mother system for all the systems of the discussed group, and auxiliary to the systems of the United States of America, Scotland and Northern Ireland.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[CCJL3_WG02] Has an enhanced knowledge of facts and concepts and the relationship between selected natural phenomena, social phenomena and in the sphere of the products of human thought, especially in the perspective of legal conditions related to the problems of criminal acts, as well as the etiology and phenomenology of crime, and on key social and psychological phenomena relevant in the context of the studied direction.	The ability to use knowledge of legal solutions adopted in Anglo-Saxon systems for a critical analysis and discussion of problems related to the functioning of the criminal justice in the national system and continental Europe. Assessment of the practice of the discussed aspects of the application of substantive and procedural criminal law as well as reform proposals.	[SW4] test/egzamin - ustny lub pisemny [SW5] realizacja zadania problemowego
	[CCJL3_KK01] is aware of his/her level of knowledge and skills and understands the need for lifelong learning.	espect for the rights and freedoms of the individual and the foundations of the rule of law in the system of state power. The ability to properly define priorities for the implementation of a task set by oneself or others. The ability to predict multidirectional social consequences of adopting discussed legal solutions.	[SK4] test/egzamin - ustny lub pisemny [SK5] realizacja zadania problemowego
	[CCJL3_WG05] has a basic knowledge of man, in particular, as a subject constituting social structures and the principles of their functioning, as well as a subject acting in these structures	Basic knowledge of sources, concepts, institutions and the practice of applying substantive and procedural criminal law in selected jurisdictions of the common law legal culture.	[SW4] test/egzamin - ustny lub pisemny [SW5] realizacja zadania problemowego

Subject contents	Part one - substantive criminal law: a. basic characteristics of the sources of substantive criminal law in England and Wales, the USA and other common law countries as precedent systems; b. analysis of the structure of the crime: distinguishing between conduct elements (actus reus) and mental elements (mens rea), taking into account the discussion on the completeness and usefulness of the discussed structural approach; c. the issue of conduct element and causation; d. the issue of mental element: direct and indirect intent, recklessness, negligence; e. the construction of objective liability as characteristic of common law systems - strict liability; f. selected issues of circumstances excluding criminal liability - criminal defenses: insanity, necessity and duress, self-defense; g. selected issues of the specific part of substantive criminal law: homicide law, property offences (theft, robbery, burglary); II. Part two - criminal procedural law: Treści programowe: A. An outline of history of criminal procedure in England. B. Legal sources of criminal procedure - statute law and common law C. Structure of the courts and tribunal system in England. D. Police and like-police agencies of investigation. Crown Prosecution Service as a public prosecutor in England and Wales. E. The role of barristers i solicitors in criminal procedure. F. The rights of defendant and the victim in criminal cases. G. Stop and search procedure. Bail and remands. H. Introduction to English law of evidence. I. The course of the trial: police investigation, summary trial, indictment, Crown Court trial, the verdict and sentencing, appeals from the magistrates courts and appeals from the Crown Court J. American criminal trial - basic information (introductory issues: sources of procedural law, authorities and basic procedural rules as protection from unreasonable search and seizure, right to a speedy trial, voir dire, guarantee of due process, right to effective counsel, right to not to self-incriminate; exclusion rules, evidence, preliminary questioning, prosecution, plea bargaining and guilty pleas, preliminary and proper court proceedings, habeas corpus procedure;
Prerequisites and co-requisites	

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
		51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. V. Chiao, Action and Agency in Criminal Law, "Legal Theory", 2009, vol. 15; 2. P. H. Robinson, Should the Criminal Law Abandon the Actus Reus-Mens Rea Distinction?, w: Action and Value in Criminal Law, S. Shute, J. Gardner, J. Horder (red.), Oxford 1993; 3. A. Brudner, Subjective Fault for Crime: a Reinterpretation, Legal Theory, 2008, vol. 14, issue 1; 4. J. Horder, Two Histories and Four Hidden Principles of Mens Rea, Law Quarterly Review, 1997, vol. 113; 5. A. P. Simester (ed.), Appraising Strict Liability, Oxford 2005; 6. J. Horder, Self-Defence, Necessity and Duress: Understanding the Relationship, "Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence", 1998, vol. 11;	
	Supplementary literature	J. Sprack, <i>A practical approach to criminal procedure</i> , Oxford University Press 2012 P. Hungerford-Welch, <i>Criminal procedure and sentencing</i> , Kindle Edition 2019 D.N. Falcone, <i>Prentice Hall's dictionary of American criminal justice, criminology, and criminal law</i> , Upper Saddle River 2010 Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure (v. 2019) i Federal Rules of Evidence (2020; https://www.rulesofevidence.org)	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed			
Work placement	Not applicable		

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