University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	New trends in Criminology, Victimology and Penology - lecture, PG_00132684						
Field of study	Criminology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2026/2027			
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study			
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	1		Language of instruction	Polish			
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits	3.0			
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form	exam			
Conducting unit	Department of Material Criminal Law and Criminology -> Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Agnieszka Dalecka-Werpachowska				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40
	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	40		0.0		35.0	75
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the latest developments in criminology, victimology, and penology from an interdisciplinary perspective. The lectures will cover current theoretical concepts and the latest research findings related to crime prevention, victim protection, and the execution of penalties. Particular emphasis will be placed on issues such as the globalization of crime, cybercrime, forms of victimization, and the growing role of prevention and rehabilitation. The course also aims to develop students critical thinking and analytical skills in addressing contemporary social problems from the perspective of penal sciences.						

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[KRYMMU2_K05] Is able to responsibly perform professional roles while taking into account changing social needs, contribute to the development and maintenance of professional achievements and ethos, as well as observe and develop the principles of professional ethics and promote compliance with these principles.	is prepared to responsibly apply knowledge of contemporary criminological and victimological phenomena in professional practice, taking into account professional ethics, changing social needs, and the situation of victims of crime.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written
[KRYMMU2_W04] Has an in-depth knowledge of various types of crime, their social, legal and economic determinants, theories explaining their development and dynamics, as well as methods of their prevention and control.	Identifies new forms of crime, including cybercrime and transnational crime, and is familiar with contemporary strategies for their prevention and control.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[KRYMMU2_W06] Has in-depth knowledge and is familiar with the terminology used in psychology, sociology, and related disciplines applied in criminology, and understands the fundamental dilemmas of contemporary civilization associated with these fields. The graduate is also familiar with the basic principles of intellectual property and copyright protection, as well as the conditions for the creation and development of various forms of entrepreneurship.	Is able to interpret phenomena in the fields of criminology, victimology, and penology using current terminology and concepts drawn from psychology, sociology, and related disciplines.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[KRYMMU2_W01] Has in-depth knowledge of the nature of legal sciences and penal sciences, their place within the system of sciences, their mutual relationships, and the main directions of their development, as well as their connections with other fields of science and the axiological and social determinants of activities related to counteracting crime.	Is able to explain the role and significance of the latest trends in criminology, victimology, and penology, including their interdisciplinary nature.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion

Subject contents

The course focuses on contemporary developments in criminology, victimology, and penology from an interdisciplinary perspective. It explores new theoretical approaches and current research findings related to crime, victims, sentencing practices, and rehabilitation measures.

The criminology section includes analysis of phenomena such as transnational crime, cybercrime, and organized crime. Classes also reflect on the role of the media, the social construction of threats, and risk management in modern societies.

In the field of victimology, the course addresses primary and secondary victimization, as well as emerging forms of violence and threats, including cyber victimization. It also examines stereotypes about victims and the development of support and protection systems.

Penology is presented as a field undergoing transformationfrom retributive to restorative approaches. Discussions include theories of alternative penal responses, the humanization of punishment, restorative justice, mediation, and social reintegration.

Throughout the course, students analyze selected examples of empirical research, current reports, and publications. They develop competencies in data interpretation, evaluation of institutional responses, and ethical reflection on penal policy.

The aim of the course is to foster critical thinking and in-depth analysis of contemporary issues related to crime and punishment in an evolving social, technological, and global context.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
written exam	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. P. Chomczyński, P. Frąckowiak, D. Woźniakowska (eds.), *Criminology. Theory and Practice*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 2024., 2. E. Drzazga, M. Grzyb (eds.), *New Directions in Criminology*, Scholar Publishing House, 2019. 3. E. Bieńkowska, *Victimology. Lecture Outline*, Warsaw, 2000., 4. M. Filar, J. Utrat-Milecki (eds.), *Cultural Determinants of Criminal Policy*, Oficyna Naukowa, Warsaw, 2014.
	Supplementary literature	**B. Hołyst, *Criminology*, Wolters Kluwer, 2022.** **A. Cybal - Michalska, J. Céré, T. Kalisz, W. Zalewski, *Between Criminology, Penitentiary Science and Law. Jubilee Book in Honour of Professor Piotr Stępniak*, C.H. Beck, 2024.**
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	**What are the main assumptions of contemporary criminological theories?** **How is the position of the victim changing in modern legal systems?** **What is the difference between the retributive and restorative approaches in penology?** **What are the consequences of secondary victimization for crime victims?** **How do new technologies affect the execution of sentences and the supervision of offenders?**	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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