

Module specification

Module code	SOC575
Module title	Criminal Law
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
Module Leader	TBC
HECoS Code	100485
Cost Code	GACJ

Programmes in which module to be offered

BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice	Option
LLB (Hons)	Core
BA (Hons) Law and Criminal Justice	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Type of module hours	Amount
Learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement tutor support	0hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	NA
Version number	1

Module aims

The purpose of this module is to enable students to understand the principles and analyse the substantive rules of criminal liability and how rules of evidence apply in areas of criminal law. It also considers the specifics of a range of offences in criminal law, defences and mitigations.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Describe the legal principles governing liability for a range of offences
2	Describe the principles governing criminal defences and mitigations
3	Explain the hierarchy of courts and the appeal process in criminal cases
4	Identify strengths and weaknesses of areas of law in terms of underlying considerations of morality, principle and policy

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Case study (ies) based in-class exam; Students to provide short legal 'briefs' responses to barristers about to be involved in 4 criminal trials (2,500 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-4	Case Study	100

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching strategy is grounded in the University's commitment to an Active Learning Framework (ALF) so that learning will be both accessible and active, and include synchronous and asynchronous elements. Face to face classroom teaching will be supplemented by online lectures wherein students will be expected to complete activities such as watching panopto videos; undertake Other Indicative Reading; complete quizzes and exercises; and post comment for a-synchronous debate. These activities will be the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Added to this, will be access to staff who provide presence, challenge and support for student learning and can relate learning to real world uses.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

General principles of criminal law.

Actus reus. Act requirements. Liability for omissions and situational ability.

Causation.

Mens rea. Intention recklessness and negligence.

Coincidence of actus reus and mens rea.

General defences 1. Insanity. Automatism. Intoxication

General defences 2. Necessity. Duress. Self-defence. Consent.

Murder and voluntary manslaughter.
Involuntary manslaughter.
Non-fatal offences 1. Section 39 Criminal Justice Act 1988.
Non-fatal offences 2. Sections 18, 20, 47 OAPA 1861.
Rape.
Theft. Fraud. Burglary.
Criminal damage.
Secondary participation.
Inchoate offences: Assisting and encouraging crime and criminal attempts

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential Reads

Wilson, W. (2020) *Criminal Law*. (Harlow: Pearson, 2020) 7th edition
Herring, J (2018) *Criminal law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
Horder, J (2016) *Ashworth's Principles of Criminal Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Other Indicative Reading

Dyson, M. ed.(2020). *Blackstone's Statutes on Criminal Law 2020-2021*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
Allen, M.J (2019) *Criminal Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
Storey, T (2017) *Unlocking Criminal Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
Students will be expected to consult a range of law journals and selected e-journals from WestLaw_with a view to developing appropriate legal research skills and to access important supplementary readings in preparation for assessments.

Employability skills – the Glyndŵr Graduate

Engaged
Ethical
Commitment
Curiosity
Resilience
Confidence
Organisation
Communication