

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: CRIME: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Course ID: ATSGC1283

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 099903

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise key theoretical underpinnings of the study of crime and the criminal actor
- K2.** Identify and analyse a range of contemporary criminal justice issues, considering key debates, issues and perspectives of the causes and consequences of crime
- K3.** Examine the array of crime types and critically assess responses to crime by the institutions of the State, other organisations and individuals

Skills:

- S1.** Analyse diverse theories of crime causation, with a particular focus on contemporary scholarly research
- S2.** Express substantiated and reasoned expositions and arguments concerning the cause and effects of crime in both an Australian and an international context
- S3.** Summarise relevant key themes, issues and debates

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply skills in critical thinking to key debates concerning criminal behaviours and societal responses
- A2.** Utilise and integrate relevant conceptual frameworks in analysing the diversity of explanations for different types of offending behaviour
- A3.** Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives

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Course Content:

Key concepts of criminal justice, incorporating a wide diversity of criminal justice issues, debates, concepts and perspectives

Module One: Theories of crime

- Traditional Explanations of Crime: The Classical and Neo-Classical Theories
- Positivism Approach: Biological and Psychological Explanations for Criminal Behaviour
- Social Explanations for Crime: Strain, Differential Association and Labelling Theories
- Social Conflict Perspectives: Marxist and Feminist Theories (Issues of Power and Control)
- Emerging Conflict Theories: New Right Criminology and Left Realism
- Extent and measurement of Crime
- Inequalities of Crime
- Restorative Justice

Module Two: Crime in practice

- Dangerous Places: Street Crime, Violence and the City
- Dangerous Places: Crime in the Home
- Crime and the Media
- Corporate, White-Collar and Cyber Crime
- Political Crime and State Crime
- Transnational Crime
- Crime and the Environment

Revision

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Develop understanding of the causes of crime and the transition of criminological thought over time;
- V2.** Appreciate the diverse range of analytical frameworks in the study of crime
Develop an informed, multi-faceted and nuanced appreciation of the deep complexities in
- V3.** assessing, mitigating and/or addressing contemporary incidences of criminal offending by individuals, organisations and states

Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students develop ability to identify and understand the roles evolution of criminological thought	High
Self Reliance	Students develop skills in independent research and analysis	Medium
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives about contemporary criminological issues and responses	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students develop their understanding of criminological study, and the determinants of crime causation	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

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Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, S1, S2, S1 A1	Students will attend tutorials, contribute to discussions and deliver a short oral presentation. Students will integrate analysis, synthesis and evaluations of criminological debates.	Attendance and class participation in learning activities.	5-10%
K1, S1, S2, A1, A2,	Students will submit a short assignment based on one of the key theoretical perspectives of crime causation, synthesising knowledge attained in first course module and displaying analysis, synthesis and evaluation skills.	Minor assignment	15-20%
K1, K2 S1, S2 A1, A2	The student will prepare and submit a research essay assessing a contemporary criminal justice issue by applying theoretical knowledge. Research and writing skills will be assessed in the submission of an informed, sustained and substantiated argumentative piece applying academic evidence and theoretical knowledge to contemporary criminological issues.	Research Essay	30-40%
K1, K2, K3 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3	Students display comprehension of course materials, relevant concepts, debates and scholarly perspectives, applying and synthesising knowledge and critical analysis	Examination	35-45%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA