



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-332	Forensic Psychology	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Social Sciences	Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	Psychology	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr Alexia Zalaf	2 nd /3 rd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
Face-to-face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Introduce students to some of the diverse areas forensic psychology is involved with, and to provide them with a solid foundation in the theory and practice of judicial psychology. Among other things, this course explores the application of psychological theory and research to areas such as investigative psychology, jury selection and decisions, police interrogations and confessions, miscarriages of justice, use of the polygraph as a lie-detector test, eyewitness testimony, repressed and recovered memories, child witnesses, and the role of psychologists as trial consultants and expert witnesses.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Describe the contribution of psychology at all levels of the criminal justice system (i.e., from interviewing witnesses and suspects of crime, to jury decision making, to the incarceration and rehabilitation of offenders, to lie detection etc)

2. Describe current issues, problems, and trends in the field of forensic psychology,
3. Demonstrate an awareness of basic theory, research findings and methods of investigation used in forensic psychology
4. Understand the use and validity of criminal profiling and lie detection techniques,
5. Acquire solid understanding of what can go wrong in legal system (bad eyewitnesses, false confessions, faulty jury reasoning) such that people are falsely convicted of crimes they did not commit,
6. Know the issues involvement in criminal interrogation, confession and entrapment,
7. Understand the different types of competency, what a risk assessment entails and how psychologists can predict risk to the self and others.

Course Content:

1. Definitions and Overview of Forensic Psychology
2. Theories of crime
3. Investigative Interviewing of Suspects and Witnesses
4. False Memories and False Confessions/ Detection of Lies and Deceit
5. Jury Psychology and Decision-Making
6. Personality, mental disorders and crime
7. Juvenile offenders and child witnesses
8. Violent and sexual offenders
9. Offender profiling
10. Terrorism
11. Risk assessment, management and treatment of offenders

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Discussions, In class exercises, Case studies' analysis

Assessment Methods:

Exams, Essay

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Introduction to Forensic and Criminal Psychology	Howitt, Dennis	Pearson	2018	9781292187167 E-book
https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/nicosia/reader.action?docID=5217559&ppg=1				

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Research and Application	Bartol, C.R. & Bartol, A.M.	Sage	2012	9781412991759
Forensic Psychology: A very short introduction	Canter, David	Oxford University Press	2010	E-book
https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,sso&db=nlebk&AN=327479&site=eds-live&custid=s1098328&ebv=EB&ppid=pp_ix				
Forensic Psychology	Crighton, David A. and Towl, Graham J.	Wiley-Blackwell	2015	E-book
https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/nicosia/reader.action?docID=1986937&ppg=1				
Psychology and Law: A Critical Introduction	Kapardis, Andreas	Cambridge University Press	2014	978-1107650848