

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences
with effect from Semester A 2018/2019**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: _____ Advanced Theories in Criminology _____

Course Code: _____ SS5301 _____

Course Duration: _____ One Semester _____

Credit Units: _____ 3 _____

Level: _____ P5 _____

Medium of Instruction: _____ English _____

Medium of Assessment: _____ English _____

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) _____ Nil _____

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) _____ Nil _____

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) _____ Nil _____

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) _____ Nil _____

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course explores major issues in contemporary criminological theories in order to answer several vexing questions such as “What is crime?”, “Why do people break the law?”, “Why do some people obey the law?”, and “How can we respond to violent and non-violent offending?”. Criminologists in the 21st century are provided with a rich legacy of research and theoretical development drawing from various academic disciplines, including sociology, psychology, law and political science. The course aims to help students develop a firm foundation for future work in criminology and understand the role that theories play in predicting and explaining various types of delinquent and criminal behaviour. To develop a deeper understanding of the discipline of criminology, we will examine selected concepts and issues that have emerged (or remain) as important ideas or debates in criminology.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	To analyse a wide variety of criminological theories	30%	√		
2.	To appraise the relevance of criminological theories to different crimes	40%	√	√	
3.	To understand and discuss empirical research on various theoretical traditions in criminology	30%		√	√
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3				
1. Lectures	The lectures include didactic presentation with aid of instructor's PowerPoint presentation and classroom discussions.	√		√				
2. Group exercises and discussion	Students are encouraged to play an active role in participating in group exercises and discussions during lectures. Co-operative peer learning enhances academic achievement by having students work together to clarify concepts, discuss ideas, and solve problems.	√	√					
3. Group Presentation	Students will be divided into groups for presentation. In their presentations, students need to demonstrate their ability to appraise the relevance of a criminological theory to a specific offending in the Hong Kong context.	√	√	√				

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3					
Continuous Assessment: 60 %								
Group Presentation	√	√					20%	
Individual Paper	√	√	√				40%	
Examination: 40 % (duration: 2 hours, if applicable)								
							100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Group Presentation (20%)	<p>1.1 Ability to integrate literature and knowledge to support the argument</p> <p>1.2 Ability to present a well-organized group presentation, with effective time management</p> <p>1.3 Ability to facilitate involvement of classmates during presentation</p>	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. Individual Paper (40%)	<p>2.1 Ability to make good use of literature and knowledge to support the argument</p> <p>2.2 Ability to analyse the topic area in a critical manner</p> <p>2.3 Ability to examine the topic by accessing and analysing relevant resources and literature such as previous research finding</p> <p>2.4 Ability to write an essay that is well presented and well structured, with appropriate citation and referencing</p>	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
3. Examination (40%)	<p>3.1 Ability to understand the basic concepts</p> <p>3.2 Ability to apply the theories/frameworks to critically analyze various delinquent and criminal behaviour</p>	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Key topics of the course are:

- Perspectives on Crime
- Portrayal of Crime and Criminals
- Biological Theories of Crime
- Classical and Neo-classical Criminology
- Psychological Criminology
- Psychiatric Explanation of Crime
- Sociological Explanations of Crime
- Feminist and Critical Criminology
- Green Criminology
- Developmental Theories of Crime
- Victimology
- Using Theory in Criminological Research
- Conducting Empirical Research in Crime and Justice

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Downes, D., and Rock, P. (2011) <i>Understanding Deviance</i> (6 th ed.). Oxford: Clarendon Press.
2.	Maguire, M., Morgan, R., and Reiner, R. (Eds.) (2012) <i>Oxford Handbook of Criminology</i> (5 th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
3.	Siegel, L. J. (2010) <i>Criminology: Theories, Patterns and Typologies</i> (10 th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.
4.	Walsh, A. (2014) <i>Criminological Theory: Assessing Philosophical Assumptions</i> . Waltham, MA: Anderson Publishing.

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Becker, H. (1973) <i>Outsiders: Studies in the Sociology of Deviance</i> . New York: Free Press.
2.	Braithwaite, J. (1989) <i>Crime, Shame and Reintegration</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
3.	Cohen, S. (1972) <i>Folk Devils and Moral Panics: The Creation of Mods and Rockers</i> . London: MacGibbon and Kee.
4.	Cornish, D.B. and Clarke, R.V., (Eds.) (1986) <i>The Reasoning Criminal: Rational Choice Perspectives on Offending</i> . New York: Springer-Verlag.

5.	Hale, C., Hayward, K., Wahidin, A., and Wincup, E. (Eds.) (2013) <i>Criminology</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press.
6.	Taylor, I., Walton, P., and Young, J. (1973) <i>The New Criminology: For a Social Theory of Deviance</i> . London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
7.	Walters, R., Westerhuis, D.S. and Wyatt, T. (Eds.) (2013) <i>Emerging Issues in Green Criminology: Exploring Power, Justice and Harm</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave.
8.	Williams, K.S. (2012) <i>Textbook on Criminology</i> (7 th ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.