



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Department of Criminology and Police Work

2KR30E Kriminologi III, inkl. självständigt arbete, 30 credits
Criminology III, incl. Independent project

Main field of study

Criminology

Subject Group

Other Subjects within Social Science

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G2E

Date of Ratification

Approved 2021-11-17

Revised 2022-06-10 by Faculty of Social Sciences.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2022

Prerequisites

60 credits obtained in Criminology.

Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- apply different theories and perspectives concerning the sociology of punishment,
- apply different methods of analysis relevant to research in criminology,
- apply relevant information of criminology in an independent project.

Module specific objectives

Module 1. Criminological theory and the sociology of punishment, 7.5 credits

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- analyse the implication of crime as a phenomenon in the organisation of society,
- problematize and analyse criminal policy,
- problematize the importance of criminal policy to the science of criminology,
- critically analyse the importance of economy, politics, social class, gender and

ethnicity in relation to the problem definitions that become important in relation to criminal policy.

Module 2. Criminological method III, 7.5 credits

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- argue for the advantages and disadvantages of different analysis methods in relation to the research issues as well as in relation to the choice of empirical material,
- analyse, compile and present qualitative and quantitative empiricism in order to answer research issues relevant to the field of criminology,
- reflect on research ethical issues and the ethical responsibility that falls upon the researcher based on the current guidelines in force.

Module 3. Independent project, 15 credits

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- search, collect, evaluate and interpret critically information relevant to the field of criminology in a problem definition, and be able to critically discuss phenomena and research issues,
- independently identify, define and solve issues by writing a text developed based on a purpose and research issues relevant to the field of criminology,
- orally and in writing account for and discuss information, research issues and solutions in dialogue with various groups by defending their own study as well as by serving as the student reviewer for another independent project.

Content

The course consists of three modules:

Module 1 - Criminological theory and the sociology of punishment, 7.5 credits

Criminology is linked to the theory of punishment of criminals. The historical development of the subject has for instance been a source of knowledge concerning different kinds of practices of punishment historically developed. The course is a specialisation in the theory of criminology by introducing various attempts to understand the subject of punishment and its role in society. The emphasis is placed on the function of punishment, as well as how and why it has developed and its role in the society of today. Another issue linked to this subject is also the question regarding the approach to knowledge and the knowledge requirements imposed on research in criminology.

Module 2 - Criminological method III, 7.5 credits

The course is a specialisation in the methodological traditions of criminology, by focusing on questions concerning how we may analyse different empirical material in a qualitative as well as a quantitative manner. During the course, issues are discussed concerning how we may construct empirically supported statements, the support we have for our interpretations, and what it means to conduct a transparent analysis. Research ethical aspects on how we conduct the work and with what kind of material will also be addressed. The course is a specialisation in the field concerning how we work using previous research in order to place, analyse and support empirical results. The course also includes an advanced part on the theory of science in which we engage in the question of the ontological status of the social reality, and epistemological opportunities of the social sciences.

Module 3 - Independent project, 15 credits

The module involves writing and defending an independent project. Students practice their ability to independently plan, carry out and present a scientific study. The presentation takes place in the form of a written independent project that is discussed in a seminar in such a way that the student learns how to defend their study and how to critically examine other students' similar studies.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures and supervision.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

Module 1. Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of a take-home exam.

Module 2. Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of one take-home exam (6 credits) and three public discussion and examination seminars (0.5 credits each).

Module 3. Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of writing an independent project, defending the project in a seminar, and by serving as the student reviewer for another student's independent project.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the entire course, all the examination elements require the grade of Pass. For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the entire course, module 3 requires the grade of Pass with Distinction.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-Cycle and Second-Cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

Should the university determine that a student is entitled to special educational support due to impairment, the examiner may provide the student with an adapted test or the student may carry out the examination in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation is carried out either during or at the end of the course. Results and analysis of the evaluation are presented to the students who have completed the course as well as to new students at the following course date. The course evaluation is conducted anonymously.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1 Criminological theory and the sociology of punishment

Börjesson, Mats & Rehn, Alf. (2009). *Makt*. (1st edition.) Stockholm: Liber. ISBN: 9789147087464. (128 p.)

Garland, David. (1991). *Punishment and modern society: a study in social theory*. Oxford: Clarendon. ISBN: 0198762666. (312 p.)

Lacey, Nicola. (2008). *The prisoners' dilemma: political economy and punishment in contemporary democracies*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9780521899475. (234 p.)

Valverde, Mariana. (2017). *Michel Foucault*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. ISBN 9781138657083. (189 p.)

Module 2 Criminological methods III

Djurfeldt, Göran & Barmark, Mimmi (eds.) (2009). *Statistisk verktygslåda 2: multivariat analys*. 1st ed. Stockholm: Studentlitteratur. ISBN 9789144051604. (335 p.)

Miller, Judy & Palacios, Wilson, R. (eds.) (2017[2015]). *Qualitative research in criminology: advances in criminological theory*. London: Routledge. ISBN 9781412856775. (362 p.)

Rennstam, Jens & Wästerfors, David. (2015). *Från stoff till studie: om analysarbete i kvalitativ forskning*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. ISBN 9789144094601. (197 p.)

Publications and other text material also included, comprising a maximum of 300 pages.