

COURSE DETAIL

PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW

Country

Netherlands

Host Institution

Maastricht University - University College Maastricht

Program(s)

Psychology and Neuroscience, Maastricht, University College Maastricht

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Psychology Legal Studies

UCEAP Course Number

110

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW

UCEAP Transcript Title

PSYCHOLOGY & LAW

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

This course focuses on applications of psychology to the legal system. It provides insights and knowledge about typical themes within legal psychology. Such themes range from how reliable eyewitness testimonies in court are to whether criminals have a brain dysfunction making them permanently dangerous to society, to the role of experts in court. The role of psychologists within these themes is to ask questions that have a direct relevance to the legal arena and to conduct research to address these questions. Through working with cases, students become familiarize with various issues in the field in this course, for example police procedures, legal backgrounds, psychological experiments and the disputes that arise when psychology is applied to the law. Moreover, several small exercises in class are provide the opportunity to get a small taste of which tests and procedures are used by academics and professionals working in the field. Drawing from areas of social, cognitive, developmental, clinical, and neuropsychology this course deal with questions such as: Are all criminals competent to stand trial? How reliable are lie-detector tests? What is the role of expert witnesses in court? What are the dangers of bias in expert testimonies? Prerequisite SSC1005 Introduction to Psychology. Recommended SSC1007 Introduction to Law and Legal Reasoning and/or an interest in Law. This is a device free course.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

SSC2050

Host Institution Course Title

PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/file/course-catalogue-2025-2026pdf>

Host Institution Campus

Maastricht University

Host Institution Faculty

University College Maastricht

Host Institution Degree**Host Institution Department**

Social Sciences

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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