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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