

COURSE DETAIL

CRIMINOLOGY: THE NATURE AND ORIGINS OF CRIME

Country

Netherlands

Host Institution

Utrecht University - University College Utrecht

Program(s)

University College Utrecht

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Psychology

UCEAP Course Number

129

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

CRIMINOLOGY: THE NATURE AND ORIGINS OF CRIME

UCEAP Transcript Title

CRIMINOLOGY

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

Criminology is the study of crime and society's subsequent reaction to it. This course begins by examining the definition of crime and deviance and how these definitions vary across countries, cultures, social classes, and time. Discussion focuses on major facts and fallacies about crime such as the stability of deviance and the issue of versatility versus specialization in particular types of crime. These introductory lectures are followed by discussions of the different sources used to measure crime. A further discussion focuses on how measurements are used (to provide descriptions, establish relationships between variables or as a predictive tool). Lectures continue with studying the relationship between media and crime, fear of crime and victimization. Building upon themes addressed in the introductory courses in Sociology and Psychology, sociological theories are used to explain criminal behavior among groups or sub-groups within society. The Chicago School, Classical and Positivist theories, Social Structure, and Social Process theories, the nature vs. nurture debate, and social development and traits, are applied to the study of crime and criminal behavior. Other sociological and psychological theories such as rational choice and routine activities illustrate under which conditions and how persons decide to commit crimes. The semester ends with a study of the Criminal Justice system's response to crime and criminals.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

UCSSCSOC29

Host Institution Course Title

CRIMINOLOGY: THE NATURE AND ORIGINS OF CRIME

Host Institution Campus

University College Utrecht

Host Institution Faculty

Social Science

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Sociology

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