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 Course Details
https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/Curriculum

Host Institution Campus
University College Utrecht

Host Institution Faculty
Social Science

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Sociology

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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