



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD008466	Version: 5 Date Amended: 09/Jul/2024
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1. Module Title
Criminal Law

2a. Module Leader
Kathryn Jones

2b. School
Faculty of Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship at ARU Peterborough

2c. Faculty
ARU Peterborough

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

You'll gain the knowledge and understanding of the core principles and rules of criminal law, concentrating on the principles of criminal liability relating to a range of criminal offences and specific defences. You'll examine and analyse case studies to understand the relevant legislation and case law in relation to the offence and identify the lines of defence. By analysing these case scenarios, you'll identify key facts governing criminal liability and relate these to the applicable law, as well as evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each side's case.

The knowledge gained will help not only those interested in a career in the criminal justice system but also those interested in careers in non-governmental organisations (e.g. charitable organisations). You'll become familiar with the key organisations, and their personnel and responsibilities, such as the Crown Prosecution Service, the Serious Fraud Office and other organisations in the non-governmental sector.

6b. Outline Content

- Functions and nature of the criminal law
- Objectives of punishment (outline)
- General Principles of Criminal Law: Actus reus, mens rea, voluntariness, causation, strict liability
- Homicides
- Non-fatal offences against the person
- Sexual offences (selected aspects)
- Offences against property: criminal damage, theft and fraud offences, burglary, robbery.
- Inchoate offences
- Liability for others: accessories; - vicarious and corporate liability (in outline)
- Defences, special defences, incapacitating conditions

- The implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, as appropriate

As this module fulfils part of the seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge, in alignment with the Bar Standards Board's requirement compensation is not permitted for this module.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of criminal law, including an appreciation of the impact of the European Convention on Human rights upon domestic criminal law.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a sound basic knowledge and understanding of the law relating to selected, major offences against the person and property.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	With guidance, locate, interpret and evaluate legislation and academic writing relating to criminal law
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply criminal law to common, straightforward factual problems and suggest appropriate, reasoned solutions
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively in writing, adhering to the conventions of academic writing
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	With guidance, evaluate selected aspects of the operation and portrayal of Criminal Law in contemporary society

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	N/A	N/A
Other teacher managed learning	51	1-6	2 x 1 hour tutor led workshop OR 2 x 1 hour lectures x 12 weeks minimum (weeks 1-12) AND 2 x 1 hour student led workshop OR x 2 x 1 hour tutorial x 10 weeks minimum (weeks 2-11) PLUS 2 x twenty-minute screencasts x 10 weeks minimum (weeks 1-10, ACL modules only and excluding ARUL and SAM)
Student managed learning	249	1-6	To include such things as online discussion boards, VLE exercises, private study (guided and autonomous), tutorial preparation, assessment preparation and completion. This is adjusted if additional Teacher Managed Learning is used to ensure total 300 hours.
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-6	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
<p>Component 010_1 Assessed Piece to support skills for main assessment (max 500 words) Component 010_2 Problem questions (up to 3000 words) relating to the application of criminal law to scenarios Compensation is not permitted for this module</p>					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Assessed Piece (max 500 words)	Canvas	20 (%)	All
010/2	Problem questions (up to 3000 words)	Canvas	80 (%)	

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]