

LA104-30 Criminal Law

26/27

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Bahzad Joarder

Credit value

30

Module duration

18 weeks

Assessment

100% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module encourages an understanding of the general principles of criminal law and its operation within society.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The aims of the module are to encourage students to develop an understanding of the general principles of criminal law and its operation within society, coupled with an awareness of the social and political forces which influence the scope of the law and its enforcement.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The first part of the module involves a study of the general principles of liability coupled with a consideration of the law in its social context. Particular topics to be covered include: actus reus (voluntary action, causation, omissions), mens rea (intention, recklessness, strict liability),

defences of capacity (automatism, insanity, mistake and intoxication) and homicide (murder, manslaughter and assisted suicide).

The second part of the course focuses on some more specific offences, including non-fatal offences, sexual offences and property offences (theft). We will also consider other general defences (self-defence, duress and necessity), liability for those who participate in crime, and principles of inchoate liability (such as attempts to commit crime), and review them and other general principles in the context of new forms of control and liability.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Understand the basic concepts and overall structure of English Criminal Law
- Have a detailed knowledge of some criminal offences and defence
- Have a basic knowledge of criminal procedure and an understanding of the significance of procedure in the administration of criminal law
- Have an understanding of philosophical theories criminalization and criminal liability
- Have an understanding of the historical and political contexts in which criminal law is developed and reformed
- Be able to read and analyse criminal cases and statutes
- Be able to apply legal knowledge in solving hypothetical problems of moderate complexity
- Be able to employ and assess historical, philosophical and political arguments about the scope of criminal liability and the development of criminal policy
- Be able to present and assess arguments for or against criminalization or de-criminalisation or particular conduct
- Be able to work collaboratively in class to complete a defined task
- Be able to present arguments orally in class

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Subject specific skills

No subject specific skills defined for this module.

Transferable skills

No transferable skills defined for this module.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	36 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	14 sessions of 1 hour (2%)
Private study	250 hours (42%)
Assessment	300 hours (50%)
Total	600 hours

Private study description

Private study.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group BB

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
3 hour examination (Summer)	100%	300 hours	No

This is an in-person 3hr exam to be completed with an additional 15 minutes reading time.

- LA002: Warwick Criminal Statutes (Criminal Law)
- Answerbook Gold (24 page)

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written individual feedback. Generic feedback provided via Moodle.

[Past exam papers for LA104](#)

Availability

Post-requisite modules

If you pass this module, you can take:

- LA2H1-15 GENDER, VIOLENCE & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Courses

This module is Core for:

- ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
 - Year 1 of M130 Law
 - Year 1 of M130 Law
- Year 1 of ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
- Year 1 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- Year 1 of ULAA-M135 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
- Year 2 of ULAA-MR00 Undergraduate Law with French
- Year 2 of ULAA-MR01 Undergraduate Law with German
- Year 1 of ULAA-M136 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)

This module is Optional for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 1 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 1 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law