



UNSW Course Outline

CRIM2020 Criminal Law and Justice 1 - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : CRIM2020

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Law, Society and Criminology

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Subject Area: *Criminology*

CRIM2020 introduces you to fundamental aspects of criminal justice and process. Woven

through the course is a critical examination of the interaction between the criminal justice system and the criminal law: specifically, that application of the law is shaped by and dependent on decisions made by criminal justice actors including police, prosecutors and judicial officers. Specific areas of focus include: why some activities are criminalised and others not; the use and misuse of discretion; the impact of the reliance on summary justice; the significance of pre-trial processes such as arrest and bail; and the over-representation of Indigenous people and other vulnerable groups.

Course Learning Outcomes

| Course Learning Outcomes |
|---|
| CLO1 : Use statutory interpretation principles to identify the constituent elements of criminal offences and apply to hypothetical fact scenarios |
| CLO2 : Navigate and explain the basic doctrines, principles and rules relating to pre-trial procedure in criminal litigation |
| CLO3 : Articulate legal concepts clearly, persuasively and appropriately |
| CLO4 : Effectively incorporate a range of legal and interdisciplinary research sources in written communication with appropriate referencing |
| CLO5 : Debate key legal concepts in a scholarly, reflective and respectful manner |
| CLO6 : Engage in reflective practice regarding the criminal law's role in serving society and promoting justice |

| Course Learning Outcomes | Assessment Item |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| CLO1 : Use statutory interpretation principles to identify the constituent elements of criminal offences and apply to hypothetical fact scenarios | • Final exam |
| CLO2 : Navigate and explain the basic doctrines, principles and rules relating to pre-trial procedure in criminal litigation | • Research paper |
| CLO3 : Articulate legal concepts clearly, persuasively and appropriately | • Research paper • Final exam |
| CLO4 : Effectively incorporate a range of legal and interdisciplinary research sources in written communication with appropriate referencing | • Research paper |
| CLO5 : Debate key legal concepts in a scholarly, reflective and respectful manner | • Class participation |
| CLO6 : Engage in reflective practice regarding the criminal law's role in serving society and promoting justice | • Class participation • Final exam |

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

See moodle.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

| Assessment Item | Weight | Relevant Dates |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|
| Research paper | 30% | |
| Class participation | 20% | |
| Final exam | 50% | |

Assessment Details

Research paper

Assessment Overview

Students submit a 1000 word research report. Marking criteria are specified and communicated to students in advance. Students will receive a numerical grade and written feedback within three weeks of submission.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Navigate and explain the basic doctrines, principles and rules relating to pre-trial procedure in criminal litigation
- CLO3 : Articulate legal concepts clearly, persuasively and appropriately
- CLO4 : Effectively incorporate a range of legal and interdisciplinary research sources in written communication with appropriate referencing

Class participation

Assessment Overview

Participation in seminar discussion is assessed against specified standards communicated to students in advance. Students have the opportunity to meet with course convenor to discuss participation throughout Term.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO5 : Debate key legal concepts in a scholarly, reflective and respectful manner
- CLO6 : Engage in reflective practice regarding the criminal law's role in serving society and

Final exam

Assessment Overview

Time-limited take-home exam during formal exam period containing a mix of problem-based and essay-style questions. Students can request to meet with course convenor to discuss exam performance after the release of results in keeping with UNSW guidelines. This is the final assessment for this course for the purpose of the attendance requirement.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Use statutory interpretation principles to identify the constituent elements of criminal offences and apply to hypothetical fact scenarios
- CLO3 : Articulate legal concepts clearly, persuasively and appropriately
- CLO6 : Engage in reflective practice regarding the criminal law's role in serving society and promoting justice

General Assessment Information

See moodle.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Please see information about attendance requirements in **Law & Justice Assessment Procedure and Student Information** located in the Other Useful Information tab in the Academic Information field.

Please be advised there will be no classes on public holidays. If your class falls on a public holiday, alternative arrangements will be made by the course convenor to make up the missed class.

General Schedule Information

See moodle.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

David Brown et al, *Criminal Laws* (Federation Press, 7th edition, 2020)

Recommended Resources

See moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

See moodle.

Staff Details

| Position | Name | Email | Location | Phone | Availability | Equitable Learning Services Contact | Primary Contact |
|----------|-----------------------|-------|----------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Convenor | Emma Buxton -Namisnyk | | | | | Yes | Yes |

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law &](#)

[Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam Information](#).

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior

to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up, then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.