General information		
Academic subject	**Criminology**	
Degree course	All Single-cycle degrees in Law; all Bachelor's degrees in law; Master's degree in law	
Academic Year	Elective	
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)		9
Language	Italian (6 ECTS) English (3 ECTS)	
SSD	12/Giur 14-A DIRITTO PENALE	
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	I Semester (from 1 October 2025 to 16 December 2025)	
Attendance	No mandatory attendance	

Professor/ Lecturer	
Name and Surname	MARIA ANTONELLA PASCULLI
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Tutoring (time and day)	by appointment (according by mail) after lessons

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	Upon completion of this course, students will acquire these competencies (skills/abilities): Comparison and analysis of the theoretical explanations of the causes, dynamics, and consequences of criminal delinquency; Examination of the environmental influences on Criminal Behavior, as well as Historical explanations of crime: from Demons to Politics; Labeling theory of Delinquency; Gender studies, Organized crime; Serial Killers; Have an increased understanding of the issues of law enforcement related to serious crimes (criminal law and criminology assessment); Examine the neuroscience system and its handling of cases, as well as other methods of treatment of authors of crimes and victims; Evaluate the issues of criminal minds in the context of criminological theories
Course prerequisites	Knowledge of principles of criminal law (as well as legality, mens rea, imputability)
Contents	9 ECTS MODULE (Theories and practices) This course provides for an introduction to the field of criminology and the types of research criminologists conduct, on exploring the nature to crime, the variety of theoretical explanations for criminal behavior, the measurement of crime, patterns and correlates of crime, and the mechanisms for control of criminal behavior. This course is an upper- level reading intensive and theoretical analysis of crime as a multilevel construct. Primary objectives are to foster critical thinking in relation to the causes and control of crime and to explore the social construction of crime. Basically the above questions will be addressed in the following paragraphs: serial killers, Monsters, Cases law, gender studies; Discussion about Feminist Theories on Criminology; Organized Crime and Mafia Type Associations; Social Media, Hate Speech and Criminology; The

	Protection of Children in Crossborder Migrations 6 ECTS MODULE (Theories and practices) Criminology explores social structure and social processes in relation to crime, criminality, and punishment. The Criminology major provides students with an understanding of crime from both a structural and individual perspective. It will develop skills to critically analyze both lived experiences and social factors associated with crime (Lombroso Theory) throughout deconstruction of neuroscience profiles.The body of knowledge developed in the last decades thanks to neuroscience research reflects an interest beyond biomedical research and clinical applications: it reaches further, in the direction of the juridical sector. The evolution of the new neurosciences, and their applications' expansion, has culminated in the scientific interaction between neuroscience and law, with the inclusion of all figures involved in this process: first of all criminals, but also victims and witnesses. 3 ECTS module This course is an introduction to moral and political philosophy. It explores classical and contemporary theories of justice, and applies these theories to contemporary legal and political controversies. Topics include affirmative action, serial killer, samesex marriage, the role of markets, debates about rights (human rights and utilitarism), arguments for and against equality, and dilemmas of loyalty in public and private life. The course invites students to subject their own views on those controversies to critical examination.
Books and bibliography	*9 ECTS Module S. ALEO, Criminologia e sistema penale, Cedam, Padova, 2 ed. 2011, pp. 55- 199; M.A.PASCULLI, Wake up to Criminology. Lezioni per studenti, AMAZON Edition 2023, Kindle available pp. 357.* *6 ECTS Module S. ALEO, Criminologia e sistema penale, Cedam, Padova, 2 ed. 2011, pp. 55-199; M.A.PASCULLI, Neuroscienze e giustizia penale. Profili sostanziali, Collana internazionale di medicina legale, criminologia e scienze sociali a cura di Francesco Vinci, vol. VI. pp. 1-136, Roma: available by academia.edu* *3 ECTS Module Michael J. Sandel, Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?, pp. 21-74. Excerpts fromJUSTICE: WHAT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO? by Michael J. Sandel. Copyright ©2009 by Michael J. Sandel. Used by permission of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, LLC. The material will be made available during the course.*
Additional materials	*Case law during the course for all students by e-learning platform*

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
225	*60*	*12*	*153*
ECTS			
Teaching strategy	Interactive teaching methodology. The Theory (frontal lessons) will be followed by practical workshop, to be performed throughout discussions and moot trials for all students.		

Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	Core and specialist aspects of criminological theory and criminal processes, including a range of sub disciplines influencing research and social policy development, as well as neurosciences.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	○ The development of academic skills, reading and research, the writing of academic essays and undertaking independent research, including a dissertation ○ A range of criminological research paradigms and methods
Soft skills	• *Making informed judgments and choices* – Gather, retrieve and synthesise information from a range of sources, recognising the validity and reliability of some sources over others – Evaluate evidence from a range of sources and make informed • Judgements • *Communicating knowledge and understanding* □ Generate and explore creative and original ideas and apply multiple and competing perspectives to existing criminology and criminal justice issues and debates □ Use evidence-based reasoning to make informed judgements in developing research methodologies to support projects, • dissertations and other written work. • *Capacities to continue learning* ○ Contribute to online group discussions and debates about a complex subject, involving the management of tasks and problem-solving skills ○ Work towards achieving agreed objectives, seek to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships in meeting ○ Responsibilities

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	Assessment through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations in some relevant cases Students will be formatively assessed in class through class activities, and during lesson hours. Formative assessments are ones that do not count towards the final grade but will provide students with developmental feedback. Final oral exam.
Evaluation criteria	□ Knowledge and understanding Knowledge of studied and assigned topics in criminology; Logic and impressive solutions for court cases; personal involvement in moot court. □ Applying knowledge and understanding: Knowledge of the main criminological research aimed at identifying the social and individual causes, expressed by criminal behavior. □ Making judgements: Knowledge of the methods of investigation of criminological research and ability to adequately read statistical data on crime, e.g. Analysis of Crime Scene investigation. □ Communication skills: on legal language profile, the student

	will be able to communicate clearly his or her conclusions in relation to the - written or oral - proposed issues. □ Learning skills: The student will be able to understand and evaluate the criminal policies, underlying the choices expressed by the legislator through criminal law and the interventions made through crime prevention guidelines.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	The exam will be given on the dates indicated in the class schedule in oral discussion. All exams will cover the textbooks and material presented or assigned. The questions will be taken from the lectures, class discussions and textbook. The exam will be primarily objective. The final mark include participation, researching discussions; written presented papers. Participation in class discussions, in class exercises, and small group discussions is expected and will contribute to best final grade (30/30 cum laude). For the purposes of the evaluation out of thirtieths, the level of preparation achieved will be taken into account in accordance with the aforementioned criteria and, in line with the expected learning outcomes, the different levels of preparation will lead to different judgments: excellent (30/30 with honors out of 30s), excellent (28/29 out of 30s), good (25/27 out of 30s), fair (21/24 out of 30s), sufficient (18/20 out of 30s). The awarding of honors presupposes the unanimous judgment of the examination commission.
Additional information	
	Board of examination: Pasculli M.A. Mormando V., Bottalico F., Persio T.P., Ventura N., Gugliotti C.