## Course Specifications

**Valid as from the academic year 2017-2018**

### Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course size</th>
<th>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</th>
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| Credits     | Study time  90 h  
Contact hrs  30.0 h |

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2017-2018

| A (semester 1) | Dutch | guided self-study | 12.5 h |
|               |       | lecture           | 17.5 h |

### Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018

| Janssens, Jelle | RE23 | lecturer-in-charge |
| Hardyns, Wim    | RE23 | co-lecturer         |

Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018

| Bachelor of Science in Criminological Sciences | 3 | A |

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

Victims, victimhood, harm, victimisation, victimological perspectives, measuring victimisation, secondary victimization, social construction, victimisation, empowerment, impact of victimisation, restorative justice, specific types of victimisations and victims, feelings of safety, fear of crime, invisible victims, victimless crime, reporting behavior

### Position of the course

The course is taught in the third bachelor year. The aim of the course is to gain an understanding of the causes, mechanisms, dynamics and complexity of various victimisations and their victims, their social construction as well as societal and (criminal) policy reactions thereto.

### Contents

- **Introduction**: basic concepts of victimology, origin of victimology
- **Victimological perspectives**
- **Typologies of victims and victimisations**
- **Consequences of victimisation and factors affecting the severity of harm**
- **Social construction of the victim**: the notion of ‘ideal victim’, victimhood, victim identity, therapy culture, societal reaction to victims and victimisations
- **Victim and the criminal justice system**: victims’ rights, secondary victimisation, restorative justice initiatives, ‘victimless crime’, victim support
- **Specific types of victimisations**
- **Invisible victims**: hidden victimisations, ‘non-ideal victims’
- **Victimological multi-actor perspectives**: victim (various types), offender, state, NGOs, prosecution service, courts, police, community, criminal law, RJ actors, victim support groups
- **(Future) challenges of victimological research, new perspectives within victimology**
- **Measuring victimisation**
- **Characteristics of victims, emotional aspects, feelings of (un)safety, fear of crime, reporting behavior**

### Initial competences

No specific prior knowledge is required. Basic knowledge of criminology and criminological methods is recommended.

### Final competences

1. Having knowledge on victimological theory, different perspectives and research traditions

(Approved)
2 Knowing victimological terminology and being able to use it correctly
3 Being able to understand, interpret, use and critically evaluate victimologically relevant sources
4 Being able to critically analyse victimological phenomena (and reactions thereto) from different theoretical perspectives
5 Having a critical-scientific mindset to reflect on legislative or policy developments in relation to victims
6 Being aware of the social responsibility of being a criminologist and being able to place various approaches to victims within a social, economic, historical and political context
7 Respect for cultural differences, pluralism, gender and ethical standards
8 Being open to insights from other scientific fields when addressing victimological issues
9 Knowledge about the etiology of victimology and the etiology of fear of crime.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in ‘Starting Competences’

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods
- Lecture (22.5h): combination of lectures by the lecturer and by guest lecturer(s) (i.e. expert(s) on certain topics).
- Guided self-study - (7.5h)
  - The guided self-study is a set of guided sessions and independent learning situations in which students acquire and/or process knowledge for (a part of) a course on an individual basis.
  - Guided self-study differs from distance learning in that the former involves personal contact (whether collective or individual, online or in person) with the lecturer and assistants who guide and/or steer the process.
  - More concretely, students are provided with an e-reader on Minerva. Students are to read and study the documents in the e-reader independently. During the lectures, the lecturer(s) provide guidelines that highlight important articles and elucidate the course content.

Learning materials and price
Course slides and other learning material accessible through the Minerva platform
Students’ own lecture notes

References
Mardorossian, C.M. (2014). Framing the Rape Victim: Gender and Agency

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Course content-related study coaching
- Individual, if requested.

Evaluation methods
- end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
- Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
- Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
- not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
- Written exam comprises open questions which test the knowledge, insights and academic competencies of the student.

Calculation of the examination mark
- Periodic evaluation (100%).