Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2014-2015

Course size
(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 7.0  Study time 210 h  Contact hrs 60.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019
A (semester 2)  Dutch  lecture  60.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019  crdts  offering
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology 7  A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Substantive criminal law, criminal law, crime, incrimination, qualification, criminal liability, sanction, punishment, Criminal Code, criminal legislation

Position of the course
The course aims to present the student with fundamental knowledge and insight in the historical and intrinsic foundations of the Belgian criminal law as it can be found in book I of the Code of Criminal Law and as it has been further elaborated in book II of the Code of Criminal Law, and in the complementary and special criminal laws.

Contents
Following themes are dealt with:
1. The historical development of criminal law and its philosophy;
2. The sources of criminal law;
3. The basic principles of criminal law;
4. The applications of criminal law in time, space and towards the person;
5. The crime: the constitutive elements, the classification, the reasons of justification and excuse, the mitigating and aggravating circumstances;
6. Criminal liability: the moral element of a crime and the reasons of exclusion of guilt;
7. The punishable attempt and the punishable participation;
8. The punishment: overview, how to mete out a punishment, the execution of a punishment and the rehabilitation and automatic erasing of punishments.

Initial competences
Final objectives of the secondary education.

Final competences
• To have profound active knowledge of and insight into the historic development of Belgian criminal law, its fundamental principles and sources.
• To have knowledge of and insight into criminalisation, qualification, sentencing and sentence execution within the Belgian criminal justice system.
• To know and be able to correctly use the specific legal jargon.
• To be able to identify, interpret and correctly use the legal sources relevant for criminal law.
• To be able to critically reflect on the legal provisions criminalising and punishing certain behaviour.
• To demonstrate a critical-scientific attitude towards (historic) sources and (scientific) literature related to (Belgian) criminal law.
• To be able to independently solve fictitious cases by correctly qualifying the behaviour and to identify the applicable sanction (taking account of possibly applicable legal structures).

(Approved)
• To be aware of the societal role and relevance of criminal law.
• To be able to situate legal questions within the current societal context.

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
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods
Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods
Considering the large amount of students the material is taught in the form of seminars. These seminars aim at familiarising students with the principles and structure of the criminal law. Also, the seminars are aiming at offering students insights into the historical, political, economical and sociological dimension of criminal law. The self-discovering character is activated by the technique of hearing- and responding-seminars. By asking questions and provoking reactions, active participation and critical thinking is spurred.

Learning materials and price
Handbook

Updated textbook (codex), for example
- BaMaCodex, or
- VERMEULEN, G., Strafwetboek, Wetboek van Strafvordering en bijzondere wetten, Antwerp, Maklu, 2014 (33th revised edition), or
- any other textbook.

References
included in course material.

Course content-related study coaching
For a useful incorporation of the subject material and to obtain the final goals we foresee a (facultative) individual guiding by an academic assistant.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
A periodical, written exam with closed book except codex. Partially entailing open questions and partially multiple choice questions. The exam tests the knowledge, insights and scientific thinking abilities en written communication skills of the examinandum. The questions aim at testing if the student has gained insights and knowledge relating to the terminology, the relevant structures, the system, and the principles of criminal law. Also it is tested if the student can apply this theoretical knowledge by determining the legal qualification of criminal behaviour and the corresponding sanction. Finally, the questions aim at testing if the student shows the ability to critically reflect on the role of criminal law in society.

Calculation of the examination mark
100% open questions that look into the theoretical knowledge, insights and skills to apply the knowledge

Facilities for Working Students
An introductory evening session is organised to elaborate on the content, goals and requirements for this course. Students may contact the lecturer in the course of the semester to gain more detailed information on the course matter and the topics that are to be studied for the exam. The academic assistants are also available to provide more

(Approved)
information. In any event, at the end of the course series, a detailed overview of the topics that are to be studied for the exam is provided to all students via Minerva.