

Internship (B001645)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 12.0 Study time 360 h Contact hrs 75.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (year)	Dutch	Gent	self-reliant study activities	work placement	PDE tutorial	
						10.0 h
						25.0 h
						40.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Verhage, Antoinette RE23 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

[Master of Science in Criminological Sciences](#) crdts 12 offering A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Work placement, practical experience, criminological practice, competence development.

Position of the course

Through experiential learning the work placement contributes to the development of competent criminologists who can communicate clearly and correctly, who can expand, apply and share their knowledge through cooperation and who are aware of their social responsibility.

Specifically students will practice and apply professionally oriented knowledge and professional skills during a work placement in an organization within the criminological domain. Work placements differ from other forms of field experience by their comparatively lengthy duration and the comparative level of autonomy students have in everyday practice.

The following goals are pursued with this course unit:

- Orientation: getting acquainted with professions in the professional criminological domain.
- Integration: the integration of contents from different course units
- Reflection: considering and elaborating on the potential impact of criminological research in the domain in which the work placement is situated and critically reflecting upon one's own functioning.
- Student employability: enhancing employability through experiential learning and the training of professional skills on site
- Autonomous application of research skills

Contents

The criminological professional domain is very broad. Our alumni are engaged in a wide diversity of professions. Therefore work placements are possible in the following domains:

- Police (local/federal)
- Private security (security industry, compliance, ...)
- Justice: public prosecution, prisons, execution of sentences, law courts,...
- Social sector: specialised youth care, forensic psychiatry, drug and substance abuse treatment facilities,...
- Policy: government departments engaged in home and justice affairs (local/federal level), specialized public investigation services, N.G.O.'s, ...

- Research: academic research institutes, organisations for scientific research, ...

Students start **preparing** for the work placement **in the academic year preceding the actual work placement**. Students start the procedure by submitting a file with the internship coordinator of the university. Instructions on how to compile this file are available on the electronic learning environment (Ufora). Students have to participate in several internal and external selection procedures for the available work placement posts. Students are also allowed to introduce a new work placement post themselves. New work placement posts always have to be approved by the internship committee. **In the academic year** in which this course unit is programmed, students must follow a **specific procedure** in order to be able to close on an internship contract. The work placement does not start before every condition is met and all parties agree on signing the contract. Detailed information on this procedure is available on the electronic learning environment (Ufora).

The following teaching methods are applied in this course unit:

1. Work placement

Students perform a 300 hours work placement in an organization belonging to the criminological domain and participate as much as possible in the daily activities. Students execute the agreed upon assignments relatively autonomously and receive feedback on the process and the end result.

2. PBL tutorial

Students participate in smaller seminars supervised by a tutor from the university. During these seminars students work together to formulate and analyze problems and to draw shared conclusions. The tutor stimulates the process by asking questions.

3. Independent work

Students each write a work placement report individually. More detailed information on the required contents of this report are available on the electronic learning environment (Ufora).

Initial competences

In order to get admitted to the internship the student must dispose of a sufficient level of theoretical knowledge and insights. More concretely, basic knowledge of the different criminological 'practices' (criminal justice, police, forensic social work etc.) and already mastering some starting competences are required.

Preferably students have obtained their bachelor degree before starting their work placement. In other circumstances, students can only take up this course unit in the curriculum if they lack no more than 10 credit points from the bachelor programme.

Final competences

- 1 Concretely, to dispose of profound knowledge of the sector in which the internship took place.
- 2 To be able to autonomously apply criminological knowledge, insights, competences and attitudes into the professional field.
- 3 Adopting a critical professional attitude that shows social empathy, openness and a sense of values.
- 4 Being able to critically reflect upon one's own thinking, decision making and acting and adjust one's behaviour accordingly.
- 5 To adopt a problem-solving attitude.
- 6 Being able to introduce and express innovative and creative ideas.
- 7 To participate in projects with actors of the criminological field.
- 8 Give evidence of social servitude and commitment.
- 9 To take part in current debates.
- 10 To fully understand and be able to use specific and appropriate terminology related to the sector in which criminological training took place.
- 11 To be aware of the ethics and duties that guide criminologists during their professional and academic work.
- 12 Based on an academic writing style, the student is expected to report comprehensibly and qualitatively on an internship project.
- 13 Oral presentation of personal views and/or results of own research, adjusted to the audience.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

PDE tutorial, work placement, self-reliant study activities

(Approved)

PBL Tutorial 20%, Independent work 30%, Work Placement 50%

Work placement

Students perform a 300 hours work placement in an organization belonging to the criminological domain and participate in the daily activities to induce experiential learning. Students execute the agreed upon assignments relatively autonomously and receive feedback on the process and the end result.

PBL tutorial

Students participate in smaller seminars supervised by a tutor from the university. During these seminars students work together to formulate and analyze problems and to draw shared conclusions. The tutor stimulates the process by asking questions.

Independent work

Students each write a work placement report individually. More detailed information on the required contents of this report are available on the electronic learning environment (Ufora).

Learning materials and price

The necessary documents will be provided via the digital learning environment (practical training brochure, the necessary administrative forms). Students need to take into account potential extra costs (e.g. travel costs), depending on location and assignment of the internship.

References

To be determined separately and dependent on the presupposed learning goals per student.

Course content-related study coaching

The student is coached both on the trainee post by the **supervising trainer** and from the university by the **Ugent supervisor**.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Portfolio, participation, job performance assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Calculation of the examination mark

Examination during the second examination period is only possible in modified form.

Ultimately there will be granted one final score for the full course. The examination mark is calculated as follows:

- 50% on Work placement
- 20% on PBL tutorial
- 30% on independent work.

When a student obtains a final score less than 10 out of 20 points:

- and has achieved less than 50% on the work placement, then the student fails for the entire course and examination during the second examination period is not possible at all.
- and has achieved more than 50% on the work placement, then the student is allowed to resubmit the independent work during the second examination period (on the condition that the student has submitted the independent work during the first examination period).

An exception to this rule is only possible in the case that legitimate absence is the main cause of the failed score on Work placement. In that case, the student can perform the extra hours of internship provided that the initial work placement has no objections. In the case that the initial work placement does not offer this possibility, the extra hours can be performed at our own research department. To be sure, the amount of missing hours must allow to consider the practical organization of these alternatives.

Students must take part in each teaching and evaluation method to be able to pass for this course. In fact, when this is not the case, a student can only obtain a maximum

final score of 7 points out of 20 for this course.
There is no compensation for this course.

Facilities for Working Students

Students who are employed by a criminologically relevant employer (and job) can request an alternative research assignment to replace the 300 hours of internship, the intervention assignments and the internship report. The topic of this research assignment is determined in consultation with the lecturer. More concretely, this assignment consists of writing an academic paper. For more information please consult the brochure of the Bachelor thesis.

Working students are not exempted from attending the workshops. The certificates of attendance are a compulsory part of the alternative research assignment. That means the assignment is not admissible if one or more certificates of attendance are missing.