

## Selected Issue: Offender reintegration (B001774)

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 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	lecture	25.0 h
			microteaching	7.5 h
			online lecture	0.0 h
			self-reliant study activities	8.75 h
			excursion	3.75 h

### Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Wittouck, Ciska RE23 lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences (main subject Criminological Sciences)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Master of Science in Criminological Sciences</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme in Law</a>	5	A

### Teaching languages

English

### Keywords

(re)integration, persons who have committed criminal offences, multilevel perspectives, multidisciplinary perspectives

### Position of the course

This course provides an in-depth study of the (re)integration into society of people who have committed criminal offences. The aim of the course is to gain understanding of scientific and multidisciplinary knowledge in and insight into various aspects that play an important role in the (re)integration of people who have committed criminal offences. These aspects are situated at an individual, contextual and societal level, and relate to various science and practice domains in addition to criminology, such as social and clinical psychology, (special) educational sciences, psychiatry, sociology, and social work. The course builds on the following courses: criminal justice criminology, forensic welfare studies, penology and forensic psychiatry. This course aims to stimulate the active participation of the students.

### Contents

The course is divided into three major themes:

- Societal aspects:** Within this theme, societal aspects of (re-)integration into society of people who have committed offences are discussed, such as the role of poverty, stigma, social exclusion, attitudes of the general population, the criminal justice system (e.g. therapeutic jurisprudence), and the media.
- Contextual aspects:** This theme covers aspects of (re-)integration into society of people who have committed offences that are situated within the personal and professional context of people who have committed offences, such as treatment and rehabilitation models and methods (e.g. RNR model, Good Lives Model, psychopathological models, recovery-oriented care, Community Reinforcement Approach, motivational interviewing, risk assessment tools), the role of the social climate in residential and ambulatory facilities (e.g. multidisciplinary cooperation, shared decision-making, punitive vs rehabilitative climate), the role of the professional (e.g. dual role and the working alliance, procedural justice, self-legitimacy, inter- and

supervision practices), and the role of the immediate environment (e.g. family) and victims.

3) **Individual aspects:** This theme covers individual aspects that may affect the (re-) integration into society of people who have committed offences, such as the role of motivation, the influence of trauma, helping experiences with respect to desistance and recovery, needs of vulnerable groups (such as women, ethnic minorities, people with a mental disability, a psychiatric diagnosis or dual diagnosis), and quality of life. During each academic year, a selection of the aspects listed above will be discussed.

#### Initial competences

The student is expected to have a thorough and applicable knowledge of the functioning and goals of the criminal justice system and of the role of forensic welfare within the criminal justice system, and to be acquainted with basic concepts, theoretical insights, research methods and techniques related to social sciences, criminology, penology and forensic psychiatry.

#### Final competences

- 1 Know and describe theoretical insights regarding the re-integration into society of persons who committed criminal offences.
- 2 Autonomously identify and discuss the various individual, contextual and societal aspects and their interaction which may influence the re-integration into society of persons who committed criminal offences.
- 3 Autonomously identify and discuss barriers and leverages regarding the re-integration into society of persons who committed criminal offences.
- 4 Have attention for the diversity among persons who committed criminal offences.
- 5 Autonomously analyze, evaluate and synthesize literature – from various science domains - about the re-integration into society of persons who committed offences.
- 6 Report comprehensively about research findings in written and oral communication.
- 7 Have a respectful and critical-scientific attitude towards persons who committed criminal offences and the irre-integration into society.
- 8 Give attention to the critical and social role and relevance of criminolog(y)(ists).

#### 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

Excursion, lecture, microteaching, self-reliant study activities, online lecture

#### Extra information on the teaching methods

**Lectures:** theoretical insights will be discussed and illustrated by cases, practice and policy examples and guest lectures.

**Excursion:** students will visit a facility or a place that is relevant to the re-integration into society of persons who committed offences. If COVID-19 measures impede a visit, an alternative activity will be provided (f.i. documentary, movie, current affairs, ...).

**Self-reliant study activities:** Students will write a short paper about the excursion (or the alternative) in which they link knowledge gained during the excursion (or the alternative) with theoretical insights discussed during the course lectures and with scientific literature. Dependent on the size of the student group, the paper will be an individual paper or a group paper.

**Micro-teaching:** One lesson will be dedicated to the interactive (online) discussion of the excursion and the paper. Student will present their paper followed by a discussion. Dependent on the size of the student group, the group of students will be divided into smaller subgroups.

#### Learning materials and price

Syllabus composed of scientific papers.  
Slides will be available on Ufora.

#### References

- Davis, C., Bahr, S. J., & Ward, C. (2013). The process of offender reintegration: Perceptions of what helps prisoners reenter society. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*, 13 (4), 446-469.
- Leverentz, A., Chen, E. Y., Christian, J. (2020). *Beyond recidivism: New approaches to research on prisoner reentry and reintegration*. New York: NYU Press.
- Maruna, S., & Immarigeon, R. (2004). *After crime and punishment: Pathways to Offender Reintegration*. London: Willan Publishing.
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2018). *Introductory Handbook on the*

Prevention of Recidivism and the Social Reintegration of Offenders. Vienna: United Nations.

Wright, K. A., & Cesar, G. T. (2013) Toward a More Complete Model of Offender Reintegration: Linking the Individual-, Community-, and System-Level Components of Recidivism, *Victims & Offenders*, 8:4, 373-398.

#### Course content-related study coaching

Students can ask questions during lectures, during the excursion, on a discussionforum on Ufora, and via e-mail. The content of the written papers will be discussed in group during the microteaching lesson. Individual feedback on the paper and the written examen is also possible.

#### Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

#### 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

Participation, assignment

#### Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

#### Extra information on the examination methods

**periodic evaluation (50%):** written exam, closed book, with open questions which primarily assess critical reflection and insight.

**permanent evaluation (50%):** students write a paper (individual or in groep, dependent of the size of the student group, 40%) in which they apply theoretical insights discussed during the course lectures and in scientific literature on observations made during the excursion. In the paper, students pay attention to aspects situated on the individual, contextual and societal level. The excursion and the paper will be interactively discussed during a lesson in which students actively participate. Active participation consists of presenting their paper to fellow students and commenting on the content of presentations of fellow students (10%).

#### Calculation of the examination mark

periodic evaluation (50%)

permanent evaluation (50%; 40% paper, 10% participation (including presentation); in the second examination period the calculation of the participation examination mark (10%) will be based on the presentation of the student and on answering questions of the lecturer)

Students are obliged to take part in all evaluations (written exam, paper, participation (including presentation)) in order to pass for this course. Students who are unfoundedly absent during an evaluation or who fail to participate in all evaluations will receive a maximum score of 7/20 for this course.

#### Facilities for Working Students

In consultation with the lecturer.