University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Criminology I (Criminal Biology) - lecture, PG_00198628		
Field of study	Criminology		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025	Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	1	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	1	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	exam
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Neurobiology -> Department of Animal and Human Physiology -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Wojciech Glac	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30

E-learning hours included: 0.0

Learning activity and number of study hours

Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
Number of study hours	30	0.0	20.0	50

Subject objectives

- learning and understanding the neurobiological and social determinants of crime
- learning and understanding the brain mechanisms underlying antisocial and criminal behavior
- learning and understanding the mechanisms underlying the interactions between social and biological factors in their mutual influence on an individual's antisocial and criminal behavior

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[KRYML3_K02] In advanced degree is able to make a critical assessment of his knowledge and received content, responsibly prepares for work, is able to determine priorities and adequately plan work	Is able to critically evaluate facts through the lens of advanced knowledge and skills in criminal biology, define objectives, and plan work on a given problem within the field of criminal biology.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK5] implementation of a problem task
[KRYML3_WG02] To an advanced degree, he knows the terminology and key concepts of law, criminology and related sciences, including law, psychology and sociology, to the extent related to the studied major	Demonstrates advanced knowledge of criminal biology, including the neurobiological basis of antisocial and criminal behavior, as well as the social determinants of criminality.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[KRYML3_UW01] In advanced level is able to use theoretical knowledge of criminology and related disciplines to analyze, interpret and solve problems related to criminology	Is able to apply knowledge of criminal biology to interpret the causes of criminal behavior and to assess an individual's vulnerability to criminal behavior based on their biological traits and social environment.	[SU3] text preparation/written work [SU5] implementation of a problem task

<table>
<tr><td>Subject contents</td><td>• theories about the causes of crime
• the role of genes and environment in the development of crime
• human behavior and its regulation, emotions, motivation, drive reactions, free will, learning and conditioning
• brain mechanisms influencing susceptibility to antisocial and criminal behavior and their inter-individual variability
• brain mechanisms leading to antisocial and criminal behavior carried out in the so-called with passion and premeditation
• the impact of mental disorders and personality disorders on the tendency to commit criminal behavior
• biological differences between women and men and their impact on the tendency to engage in criminal behavior</td></tr>
<tr><td>Prerequisites and co-requisites</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment methods and criteria</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr>
<tr><td>elaborations</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>problem-based task</td><td>51.0%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>discussions</td><td>51.0%</td><td>10.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>quizzes</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr>
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<tr><td>Recommended reading</td><td>
<table>
<tr><td>Basic literature</td><td>any academic textbook on criminology</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td>• Niehoff, 2001. Biologia przemocy. Poznan.
• Noir i Jessel, 1998. Zbrodnia rodzi sie w mozgu: Zagadka biologicznych uwarunkowan przestepczosci. Ksiazka i Wiedza. Longstaff, 2002. Neurobiologia, PWN.
• Sadowski, 2005. Biologiczne mechanizmy zachowania sie ludzi i zwierzat. PWN.</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td></td></tr>
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<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td>• quiz - indicate the theses that correctly describe the theory [name of the theory]
• elaborations - create a mind map illustrating various sociological factors that predispose to crime
• problem-based task (case study) - based on the described story, indicate and justify what biological and social factors predisposed the perpetrator to the crime and indicate what interventions should be taken to prevent the crime
• discussion - topic: whether specific biological predispositions should be treated as factors influencing the sentence</td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td>Not applicable</td></tr>
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