1. **Title of the module**

LAWS5620 (LW562) Criminal Law for Forensic Scientists

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Kent Law School

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS credits)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

This is a compulsory module for students undertaking a BSc (Hons) in Forensic Science or a BSc (Hons) in Forensic Science with a Year in Industry

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Understand, in detail, the core general concepts and principles underpinning the criminal law, and rules of key specific criminal offences including murder/manslaughter and non-fatal offences against the person including core sexual offences.
3. Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the wider debate in respect of the use of the criminal law in the social context, the definitions of harm and the boundaries of criminal law.
4. Engage in practical application of their knowledge, through consideration of criminal law problem questions, and engage in critical debate of the issues raised.
5. Demonstrate critical knowledge of major theoretical debates in the criminal law field in at least one key area.
6. Critically discuss the major areas of the criminal law covered, making appropriate reference to legal and academic source authorities
7. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the economic, political and/or social implications of legal forms and remedies in the area of criminal law.
8. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
9. Present relevant knowledge and understanding in the form of reasoned argument.
10. Identify and critically evaluate legal and policy problems according to their historical, political and legal context.
11. Carry out further research from a variety of sources informing a sustained and detailed argument.
12. Summarize detailed historical and conceptual material, recognizing different positions that are taken in the literature surveyed.
13. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module seeks to provide a sound knowledge and understanding of the concepts and principles underlying the criminal law. This includes a grounding in its historical development and underlying philosophy; to provide a detailed grasp of key concepts and general principles; and to promote a critical discussion about the nature, function and effects of the use of criminal law in given contextual situations.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

The most up to date versions of the following texts:

* Ashworth & Horder; *Principles of Criminal Law*; Oxford University Press.
* Clarkson & Keating; *Criminal Law Text: and Materials*; Sweet & Maxwell.
* Elliott & Quinn; *Criminal Law*; Pearson.
* Herring; *Criminal Law: Text Cases and Materials*; Oxford University Press.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact hours: 19

Private study: 131

Total Study Hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main Assessment Methods

Essay of not more than 2500 words (50%) \*

Take-home problem question of not more than 2,000 words (50%)

\* students must achieve a mark of 40% in the essay to pass the module overall.

* 1. Reassessment methods

Reassessment instrument: 100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | x | x |
| Lectures | x | x |  | x |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars |  |  | x |  | x |  | x | x |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Problem question |  |  | x |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

**a) Accessible resources and curriculum**

1. Preference will be given to electronic resources that meet minimum accessibility standards and support the use of assistive technologies.
2. Module outlines will be made accessible at least four weeks before the module starts.
3. Prioritised reading lists will be made available sufficiently in advance to accommodate the provision of alternative formats and support those with a slow reading speed.
4. Lecture/seminar slides/outlines will be made available in electronic format in advance to allow all students to prepare (particularly students with notetaking difficulties).
5. In accordance with the KLS school-level statement on Lecture Capture, lectures will be recorded to assist notetaking unless one or more of the lectures contains sensitive material. The module convenor will notify students in advance of any lectures that will not be recorded.

**b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (Annex B Appendix A, section b (1) and (2)) have all been considered in order to support all students in their assessments on this module.

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

As one of the Foundations of Legal Knowledge, this module has a direct contribution to the achievement of an accredited degree in Forensic Science. Internationalisation is fully supported throughout the delivery of the curriculum, with regular comparisons made with other jurisdictions. Consideration is also given to the way in which other systems of law develop their criminal offences. Students are actively encouraged to make use of international sources in their essay assessment in order to engage critically with the question posed and compare different approaches to criminal law.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 31 July 2017 | Minor | September 2017 | 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 | No |
| 02/12/19 | Minor | September 2020 | 13 | No |