1. **Title of the module**

LAWS6010 (LW601) Criminal Law

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

Division for the Study of Law, Society and Social Justice (Kent Law School)

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

Level 6

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

30 credits (15 ECTS Credits)

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

Autumn term (term 1) and Spring term (term 2)

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

None – and students **may not** take this module if they have previously taken LAWS5080 (LW508)/LAWS6130 (LW613) Criminal Law.

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

All single and joint honours law courses

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate a sound grounding in the concepts, principles and rules of criminal offences
   2. Demonstrate a thorough and critical understanding of the wider debate in respect of the place of criminal law in the social context, the definitions of harm and the boundaries of criminal law.
   3. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the major theoretical debates in the criminal law field.
   4. Critically assess criminal liability in a given factual situation and identify any defences by applying relevant legal principles, case law and statute law to the facts, and critically debate any issues raised.
   5. Engage in an intricate, reasoned and informed discussion of the major areas of criminal law making appropriate reference to legal and academic source authorities.
   6. Critically evaluate the operation of the criminal law in the social context.
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate enhanced skills in summarising cases and developing argument.
   2. Demonstrate comprehensive research and presentation skills through class presentations and through assessment.
   3. Undertake detailed independent legal research and identify and retrieve up to date information, using a range of paper and electronic sources.
   4. Present a cogent legal argument both in class and through assessment.
   5. Recognise potential alternative conclusions for particular situations, and provide supporting reasons for them.
   6. Use relevant legal terminology with care and accuracy.
   7. Present and evaluate information in a numerical or statistical form.
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

In contrast to LAWS5080 (LW508) Criminal Law (at Level 5), this Level 6 module will consider each of the following discrete, but identical, topics to a much greater depth making use of, and improving, skills developed in earlier years of their degree programme:

* Introduction to the concept of crime, the structure of criminal justice and the general principles of liability
* Harm and the boundaries of criminal law
* Considering cases – how to effectively summarise cases and write a case note
* Murder
* Defences to murder
* General defences
* Manslaughter
* Non-fatal offences against the person
* Sexual offences
* Inchoate offences
* Complicity
* Property-related offences

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

* Herring J., *Criminal Law: Text, Cases and Materials*, 8th Edition, (Oxford University Press, 2018)
* Horder J., *Ashworth’s Principles of Criminal Law*, 9th Edition, (Oxford University Press, 2019)
* Ormerod and Laird, Karl, *Smith, Hogan and Ormerod’s: Criminal Law*, 15th Edition, (Oxford University Press, 2018)
* Padfield, Nicola, *Criminal Law*, 10th Edition, (Oxford University Press, 2016)
* Spencer, J (et al.), *Simester and Sullivan's Criminal Law: Theory and Doctrine* (Hart, 2016)
* Thomas M., Criminal Law, 1st Edition, (Hall and Stott, 2018)
* Wells and Quick, *Lacey, Quick and Wells: Reconstructing Criminal Law 4th Edition* (Cambridge University Press, 2010)
* Wilson, W., *Criminal Law* 6th Edition (Pearson, 2017)

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 60

Private study hours: 240

Total study hours: 300

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1 Main assessment methods

There are two alternative assessment patterns for this module and students are able to select which path to follow. The aim of this is to allow students to develop their existing skills and knowledge in the way that best reflects their own learning experience.

**Path A – 40% coursework and 60% dissertation**Coursework - Problem Question (2500 words) - 20%

Coursework - Oral presentation, Paired - 20%. PASS COMPULSORY **This element must be passed alongside the other elements to pass the module overall.**

Dissertation (7000 words) - 60% PASS COMPULSORY

**Path B – 40% coursework and 60% examination**

Coursework - Problem Question (2500 words) -20%

Coursework - Compulsory oral presentation, Paired (20%). PASS COMPULSORY **This element must be passed alongside the other elements to pass the module overall.**

Examination (3 hours) - 60% - PASS COMPULSORY

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like-for-like: where undertaken, students must achieve a mark of 40% in the oral presentation to pass the module overall on reassessment.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 |
| **Learning / teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lectures | X | X | X | X |  | X |  |  |  |  | X | X |  |
| Seminars | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |
| Private Study | X | X | X | X |  | X | X |  |  | X | X | X |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dissertation - 7000 words *Path A* | X | X | X |  | X | X | X | X | X | X |  | X |  |
| Exam – 3 hours *Path B* | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  | X | X | X | X |  |
| Problem Question – 2500 words *Path A and B* | X |  |  | X | X |  | X |  | X | X | X | X |  |
| Compulsory oral presentation – (20%) *Path A and B* | X |  | X |  | X | X |  | X | X | X | X | X | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division 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. Lecture capture will be used to assist notetaking.

**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 qualification as a solicitor or barrister in England and Wales). The content of the module is, therefore, prescribed by the requirements of the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board and serves to provide students with substantive knowledge of English criminal law. However, some aspects of the module will be examined from a comparative perspective and, due to the fair cohort of international students who take this module as part of the Senior Status LLB, a further comparative dimension may be added to lecture and seminar discussions as a result of individual knowledge and experience of law and practice in other jurisdictions.

**DIVISIONAL 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) |
| 10/02/17 | Major | September 2017 | 8,9,10,11,12,13 | No |
| 07/06/17 | Major | September 2017 | 9, 13 | No |
| 04/08/17 | Minor | September 2017 | 10,11 | No |
| 06/12/19 | Major | September 2020 | 1, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17 | No |
| 09/2021 (EAP) | Minor | September 2021 | 13,14 | No |