

Syllabus

for course at first level

Criminology I
Kriminologi I

**30.0 Higher Education
Credits**
30.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	AKG100
Valid from:	Autumn 2008
Date of approval:	2007-06-13
Changed:	2008-07-28
Department	Department of Criminology
Subject	General Criminology
Specialisation:	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Decision

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Mathematics B and Social Studies A, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1100	Introduction to Criminology	15
1200	Method I	7.5
1300	Crime Policy	7.5

Course content

The course is comprised of three course modules: General Introduction to Criminology, Method I and Crime Policy. Why are crimes committed? Why are certain types of crime committed within or between different population groups? What roles do gender, age, ethnicity and sexual identity play for the perpetrators and victims of crime? What does the term "demonization" mean and what is its significance? Why do some people not commit any crime at all? (How) can crime be prevented? Why do we punish those who break the law? Who do we mean when we talk about "us"? And who do we mean by "them"? During the first term of study in the interdisciplinary subject of criminology, we look at descriptions of the structure and extent of crime, the way this varies in time and space, and how these descriptions may be understood. We devote a lot of time to some of the most central questions of crime policy, such as examining the processes that lead to the criminalisation or decriminalisation of various acts and behaviours, i.e. constructions of crime. The actors involved in these contexts include police, prosecutors, judges and the agencies in which they work, but also others such as the media, politicians and different types of organisation. We also study how these actors promote the issues that are important to them, on the basis of what knowledge, what arguments they use, and how ethical research can be conducted into these issues. Can research studies be relied upon? Possible answers to these questions are examined and problematised.

Learning outcomes

Having taken the course Criminology I, students are expected to be able to define and delimit the subject's central areas of study and to be able to account for the relevant aspects of the philosophy of science that are associated with the concepts, theories and methods of criminology. Students are required to be able to discuss these elements in relation to Swedish conditions and different social groups. Furthermore, students are

expected to show mastery of the central individual-level and structural-level criminological theories from a biological, psychological and sociological perspective. Students are also required to be able to account for and problematise the application of the various methods used in criminological research. Discussing the most suitable choice of research methods also includes being able to reflect on the choice of methods in relation to a given study, not least from an ethical perspective. Students are also expected to be able to critically analyse different subject areas such as crime policy, victimology and drug crime, and to be able to reflect on the significance of gender and ethnicity for crime and the way it is described.

Education

Teaching takes the form of lectures, group-examinations, seminars and case-seminars.

Forms of examination

a) The course is examined in the following ways: Written exam, group-examinations, case-seminar, and home-examination.

b) Course grades are awarded in accordance with a criterion-based seven point grading scale:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Inadequate

F = Completely inadequate

c) The grading criteria will be distributed to students at the start of the course.

d) In order to receive a final grade for the whole course, students must be awarded at least grade E for all course modules.

e) Students who are awarded grades Fx and F in relation to the examination of part of the course have the right to re-examination on at least four occasions for as long as the course continues to be taught in order to achieve at least grade E. Students who have been awarded grade E or above cannot undergo re-examination in order to achieve a higher grade. Students who have been awarded the grades Fx and F twice in connection with an examination by the same examiner have the right to request that another examiner be appointed to determine their grade for the examination. Such a request is to be addressed to the director of studies.

Interim

In cases where the course is no longer taught, or where the essentials of the course content have been altered, the student has the right for a period of three terms to be examined once per term in accordance with this course plan.

Misc

The course has previously been given under the course-code AK1110.

Required reading

• **Allmän översiktskurs** BRÅ 2005:17: Brottslighet bland personer födda i Sverige och i utlandet, 2005.

Internet: www.bra.se Estrada, F. & Flyghed, J. (red.): Den svenska ungdomsbrottsligheten. Lund:

Studentlitteratur, 2007. Sarnecki, J.: Introduktion till kriminologi. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2003. Sohlberg, P.

& Sohlberg, B.-M.: Kunskapens former: Vetenskapsteori och forskningsmetod. Stockholm: Liber, 2002.

Wennberg, S.: Introduktion till straffrätten. Stockholm: Norstedts juridik, 2005. Williams, F. P. III. &

McShane, M. D.: Criminology Theory: Selected Classic Readings. Anderson Publishing/LexisNexis, 1998.

Artikelsamling: Christie, N.: "Det idealiska offret", i Åkerström, M. & Sahlin, I. (red.), Det motspänstiga

offret. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2001. Gerber, J. & Jensen, E.: "Controlling Transnational Corporations: The

Role of Governmental Entities and Grassroots Organisation in Combating White-Collar Crime", i

International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology, 44 (6), 2000. Hagan, J.: "The New

Sociology of Crime and Inequality in America", Studies on Crime and Crime Prevention, vol. 3, 1994. von

Hofer, H.: Crime and Punishment in Sweden. Historical Criminal Justice Statistics 1750-2000. A Summary in

English. Stockholm: Stockholms universitet, Kriminologiska institutionen, 2003. Lander, I., Olsson, B.,

Rönnerling, A. & Skrinjar, M.: "Beskrivning av de tunga narkotikamissbrukarnas socioekonomiska situation",

I MAX-projektet, slutrapport Narkotikamissbruk och marginalisering, Rapport nr 65. Stockholm:

Centralförbundet för alkohol- och narkotikaupplysning (CAN), 2002. Lenke, L.: "Alkohol och våldsbrott",

Alkohol och narkotika. Nr.6/7, 1989. Lenke, L.: "Narcotics and Crime", i Bishop, N. (Red.), Crime and Crime

Control in Scandinavia. Stockholm: Scandinavian Research Council for Criminology, 1980. Lenke, L. &

Olsson, B.: "Swedish Drug Policy in the Twenty-First Century: A Policy Model Going Astray", The Annals

of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, No 582, 2002. Messerschmidt, J.: "Gender and Criminological Theory" ur *Masculinities and Crime: Critique and Reconceptualization of Theory*, Rowman & Littlefield Publisher, Boston, 1993. du Rées, H.: "Kan straffrätt skydda miljön?". Översättning till svenska av "Can Penal Law Protect the Environment", ur *Journal of Scandinavian Studies in Criminology and Crime Prevention*, 2, 2001. Sarnecki, J.: "Strukturell diskriminering i rättsväsendet på grund av etnisk och religiös tillhörighet. En introduktion och sammanfattning" i SOU 2006:30. Sarnecki, J.: "Brottslighet hos personer födda i Sverige och i utlandet ur ett strukturellt diskrimineringsperspektiv" i SOU 2006:30. Statistiska Centralbyrån. "Sammanfattning". I SCB Offer för vålds- och egendomsbrott 1978-2002. Örebro: SCB, 2004. Walklate, S.: "Introduction: Women and Crime or Gender and Crime", I Walklate, S., *Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice*. Devon: Willan Publishing, 2001. Wendt Höjer, M. & Åse, C.: "Kön och makt", I Wendt Höjer, M. & Åse, C., *Politikens paradoxer. En introduktion till feministisk politisk teori*. Andra upplagan. Lund: Academia Adacta AB, 2001. Wikström, P-O.: "Social klass och brottslighet", BRÅ-apropå, nr 3, 1983.

Brott i välfärden. Festskrift till Henrik Tham 2007: Ericsson, K.: En ny offerdiskurs? Estrada, F. och Nilsson, A.: Den ojämlika utsattheten. Ett bidrag till forskningen om brottslighet och levnadsnivå. Rytterbro, L.-L.: "Modern kriminalpolitik". Två åtgärdsmodeller mot brott tolkade ur ett modeperspektiv. Tiby, E.: En bra fråga. Definitioner och validitet vid studiet av hatbrott. Åkerström, M.: Coola offer. Unga mäns balansering av brottsofferidentiteten. Furthermore, a maximum of 100 pages might be added to this list. •

Metod I Bryman, A.: *Samhällsvetenskapliga metoder*. Liber AB, 2002. Roxell, L. & Tiby, E. (red.): *Frågor, fält och filter. Kriminologisk metodbok*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2006. Sohlberg, P. & Sohlberg, B.-M.: *Kunskapens former: Vetenskapsteori och forskningsmetod*. Stockholm: Liber, 2002. Furthermore, a maximum of 50 pages might be added to this list. • **Kriminalpolitik** Christie, N.: *Lagom mycket kriminalitet*, Stockholm: Natur och Kultur, 2005. Flyghed, J.: "Vi vill ha mer demokrati!" Politiskt motiverad brottslighet bland unga, kapitel 11 i Estrada, F. & Flyghed, J. (red.) *Den svenska ungdomsbrottsligheten*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2007. Flyghed, J. (red.): *Brottsbekämpning – mellan effektivitet och integritet*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2000. von Hofer, H.: "Åtgärder mot ungdomsbrottslighet", kapitel 12 i Estrada, F. & Flyghed, J. (red.) *Den svenska ungdomsbrottsligheten*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2007. Lab, S. P.: *Crime prevention*. Anderson Publishing/LexisNexis, Co, sixth ed, 2007. Wallén, P-E.: *Svensk straffrätts historia*, del 2. Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell, 1973. **Artikelsamling:** Andreassen, T.: "Vad kännetecknar bra institutionsbehandling?", kapitel 5 i Andreasson, T. "Institutionsbehandling av ungdomar. Vad säger forskningen?" Centrum för utvärdering av socialt arbete. Statens institutionsstyrelse. Gothenburg, 2006. Lahti, R.: "Om den nordiska kriminalpolitikens utveckling", *Nordisk Tidsskrift for Kriminalvidenskab*, 2000, årg. 87, nr. 3. Molander, J.: "Straff och moral", kapitel 6 i Kurten, T. och Molander, J (Red.) *Homo moralis*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2005. Tham, H.: "Från behandling till straffvärde: Kriminalpolitik i en förändrad välfärdsstat". I Victor, D. (red.), *Varning för straff: Om vådan av den nyttiga straffrätten*. Stockholm: Fritzes, 1995. Furthermore, a maximum of 50 pages might be added to this list.