

## Criminal Psychology

Code: 100449  
ECTS Credits: 6

**2025/2026**

Degree	Type	Year
Criminology	FB	1

### Contact

Name: Elena Garrido Gaitán

Email: [elena.garrido@uab.cat](mailto:elena.garrido@uab.cat)

### Teachers

Andrea Riera Campillo

Manuel Casado Gómez

Rocío Pina Ríos

### Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

### Prerequisites

Reading comprehension in English.

The teaching of the subject will be taught taking into account the perspective of the Sustainable Development Goals

Lectures will be in Catalan and seminars 11 and 12 will be held in Catalan and seminar 13 in Spanish.

### Objectives and Contextualisation

The main goals of the subject assume some of the primary objectives of the degree, such as knowing the psychological basis of criminology and introducing the lexicon of the Criminal and Forensic Psychology. Specifically, students will have to understand the psychological processes and personality factors related to the criminological study from a psychological point of view.

Students will learn the the most important psychological processes and personality factors, in order to understand the criminal behaviour.

## Learning Outcomes

1. KM07 (Knowledge) Define the basic psychological concepts used in criminology, as well as the psychological foundation of criminological theories.
2. KM08 (Knowledge) Relate criminological concepts to the psychological concepts that underpin them.
3. SM14 (Skill) Use psychological concepts with solvency in written or oral presentations.
4. SM15 (Skill) Analyze conflict and delinquency situations from psychosocial concepts and theories.

## Content

### BASIC PSYCHOLOGY SECTION

1. Basis of Psychology Applied to the Criminal Context
2. Models and Theories of Psychology applied in the criminological field
3. Applications of Psychology to the Crime Study
4. Relevance of the Psychological basis in the study of crime.
5. Basic psychological principles (Motivation and Emotion, Thought and Language, Development and Learning)

### PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONALITY SECTION

1. Personality and clinical psychology in criminology. Introduction and basic concepts
2. Dispositional, biological, learning and cognitivist perspectives on personality
3. Clinical and psychopathological entities of criminological interest.
4. Assessment of personality, personality disorder and psychopathology
5. Personality and criminality. Prevention and prediction of criminal behavior

NOTE: Students will be able to consult a calendar of sessions and a schedule with delivery dates through the "Moodle" Virtual Campus at the beginning of the course.

## Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	19.5	0.78	KM08, SM15, KM08
Seminar	19.5	0.78	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15, KM07
Type: Supervised			
Assessment	5	0.2	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15, KM07
Type: Autonomous			
Deduction / Discussion Papers	30	1.2	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15, KM07
Group Paper (Final Paper)	25	1	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15, KM07
Group Workshop	30	1.2	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15, KM07
Reading Documents and Writing papers	21	0.84	KM07, KM08, SM15, KM07

In lecture classes, students will receive theoretical and technical information. In the seminar sessions (practice), they will receive tools to assume the theoretical concepts in a more applied way. Finally, under supervision, students will have to write the course essays.

There is a scheduled start time for the sessions, for which it is required punctuality. Therefore, the entry (without any kind of justification) is not accepted after the beginning of the lecture nor leaving before it finishes.

All students are required to have a respectful attitude towards the rest of the students. No offensive or discriminatory behavior (due to birth, race, sex, religion, opinion, or any other personal or social circumstance) will be tolerated during classes.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## Assessment

### Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Deduction / discussion papers	30%	0	0	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15
Exam	40%	0	0	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15
Group Paper (Final Paper)	30%	0	0	KM07, KM08, SM14, SM15

The approach we propose aims to bring different marks on participation in the course in a continuous assessment of students. Therefore we will create discussion tasks in which we will be assessing the students. A continuous assessment, measured through practice, written comments and a final exam it will be held. The continuous assessment is mandatory in this course.

### ATTENDANCE

- Attendance is mandatory 100% (Grade regulations). There will be a control system. If a student misses more than the 80% of the lessons (lectures or seminars), he/she will not be assessed.
- If a student does not attend at least 80% of the teaching activities cannot pass the course.
- Excused absences are accepted and the teacher will allow the student to recover the work done in class in the case of excused absence. An excused absence must be documented. Excused absences can only be derived from illness or similar situations.
- If the teaching activity cannot be performed by student strike or teachers, students shall be required to prepare the content on their own and will be assessed.
- Teachers can provide students with specific material to prepare the content that had been discussed in the lecture class. (Agreement of the Professor-Students Committee, June 2012).
- Classes start on time. Entry into class is not allowed once it has started, nor can you leave before the scheduled time, provided there is not a justifiable reason.

### Requirements to pass the course

To pass the course students will have to pass with at least a mark of 5 each of the tasks evaluated:

a) *Essays on readings (30% of final mark)*

This work will be requested during the semester and will focus on answering questions about two papers (Available on Moodle), and/or in the assessment of the seminar contents.

b) *1 group essay (30% of final mark)*

Students will analyze a case / conference proposed at the beginning of the course. According to this, students will develop some aspects throughout the semester.

c) *1 final exam (40% of final mark)*

Focused on the theoretical content taught in the course.

Students will be assessable as long as they have carried out a set of activities whose proportion is equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 of the subject's total grade (although we remember that each evidence must be passed with a minimum of 5). If the value of the activities carried out does not reach this threshold (for example if they only deliver or present 1 paper or exam), the subject teacher may consider the student as not assessable.

Resit

Those who fail in the continuous assessment, will have the chance to pass the course in the final weeks of the course. The maximum grade at the reassessment exam (in case any student had failed the first one) will be 7. There's no chance to assist to the resit in order to increase the final mark.

Fraudulent conduct

If during an exam, any student is detected cheating from another student or from any other material, automatically will fail the course without the option of resit at the end of the semester. In case of plagiarism in a paper, each case will be analyzed, and the student could eventually fail the entire course without the option of resit. According to papers, in the event that a plagiarism behavior is detected, the paper will be failed (0) and the student will be notified. If the behavior persists, the course will be suspended without an option for resit.

In this subject, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is not allowed in any of its phases. Any paper/work that includes fragments generated with AI will be considered a lack of academic honesty and may result in a partial or total penalty in the grade of the activity, or greater sanctions in severe cases.

Unique assessment

The unique assessment must be authorized by the faculty, and will consist of:

- Written exam (40% of the final mark). There will be an exam at the end of the course on the contents of the two blocks of the subject. During the course, the evaluable contents will be detailed.

- Practical exam (30% of the final mark). With questions about the papers that can be found on the campus

- Case analysis Paper and Presentation about the case (30% of the final grade)

To pass the course students will have to pass with at least a mark of 5 each of the tasks evaluated

Universitat a l'abast

Because of their special status in this course, we beg the students of the *Universitat a l'Abast* to contact the head of the subject at the beginning of the course to set targets for evaluation.

**Bibliography**

In the virtual platform, students will find the compulsory reading material for this course. For each topic, we will analyze texts from the following bibliographical sources.

Casal, G. (coord.) (2006). *Psicología Forense: manual de técnicas y aplicaciones*. Biblioteca Nueva.

Garrido, E; Masip, J. & Herrero, M.C. (coords.) (2006). *Psicología Jurídica*. Pearson Educación.

Garrido, V. (2005). *¿Qué es la psicología criminológica?* Biblioteca Nueva

Rodríguez, C. & Ávila, A. (1999) Evaluación, psicopatología y tratamiento en *Psicología Forense*. Fundación Universidad.

Urra, J. (Comp.) (2002). *Tratado de Psicología Forense*. Siglo XXI.

## Software

Moodle System

## Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(SEM30) Seminaris (30 estudiants per grup)	11	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(SEM30) Seminaris (30 estudiants per grup)	12	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(SEM30) Seminaris (30 estudiants per grup)	13	Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed