



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL  
SCIENCES AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES  
DIPLOMA IN CRIMINOLOGY**

**COURSE CODE: DCR 101**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO CRIME,  
LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY**

**DATE: 13/5/2024**

**TIME: 1100-1300 HRS**

---

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Answer **Question 1** and any other **TWO** Questions.
- Marks will be awarded for clearly provided answers backed with authorities.

## **SECTION A - 30 MARKS (COMPULSORY)**

### **QUESTION ONE**

- A. Define what is a crime and describe the two main elements of a crime. (5 marks)
- B. Differentiate between criminal law and criminology. (5 marks)
- C. State five objectives of the criminal justice system. (5 marks)
- D. List and explain five key contributors of crime in Kenya. (5 marks)
- E. Briefly highlight the groups that are risk of being convicted of drug induced crime. (5 marks)
- F. What is the role of the law in relation to crime and criminology. (5 marks)

## **SECTION B - 40 MARKS**

### **QUESTION TWO**

- A. Discuss the association between law and society in relationship to crime. (10 marks)
- B. In summary, differentiate between:
- Property crime and organised crime. (5 marks)
  - Ecological School and Geographical School of thought under criminology. (5 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE**

- A. Briefly discuss the trends and patterns of crime in Kenya. (10 marks)
- B. State and describe FIVE different theories of crime. In your view, which is the best theory that can be best used to describe crime. (10 marks)

#### **QUESTION FOUR**

A. What are FIVE different schools of thought related to criminology? Explain.

(10 marks)

B. Briefly discuss the general nature, extent and causes of violent crime.

(10 marks)

#### **QUESTION FIVE**

A. Differentiate between different methods of social control that are in society.

(10 marks)

B. Briefly discuss the following concepts under criminology.

(10 marks)

- Actus reus
- Forensic therapy
- Mens rea
- Strain theory
- Social disorganisation

//END//

# **INTRODUCTION TO CRIME, LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY**

## **DCR 101**

### **1. Course Description**

This course provides an introduction to the concepts of research and theory as related to the study of crime, deviance, and the criminal justice system. Specifically, this course is a survey of the causes and effects of criminality (sociological, psychological, biological, etc.) and the means taken to cope with criminal behavior. Emphasis is placed on the social context of crime, including examination of how different types of crimes relate to theory. Finally, the course will look ahead into the future of criminal theory.

### **2. Course Objectives: Learning Out comes:**

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Identify and discuss potential causes of crime – including biological, psychological, and sociological – and deviance in society and society’s responses to criminal and deviant behavior. • Identify and discuss how societal and legal changes have affected crime causation and how these factors have been interconnected throughout history.
- Examine and refine analytical, reasoning, and connective abilities, recognizing how theory and social variables are connected and interdependent.
- Identify and discuss theoretical explanations regarding crime and crime’s role in society, including the connection between theory, programs, and policy.

### **3. Teaching Methodology**

The course material consists of online modules, discussions, and audio-visuals.

## **Course Outline**

### **1.1 Introduction to Crimes**

- Define crime
- Explain the element of crime
- Discuss criminal law
- Discuss criminology

### **1.2 Criminal Law versus Criminology**

- What is Criminal Law

- What is Criminology
- The relationship between criminology and criminal law
- The criminal justice system

### **1.3 Criminology School of Thoughts**

- Pre-Scientific or Demonological School
- Free- will School
- Classical School
- Ecological School
- Geographical School
- Typological School
- The Socialistic School
- The Sociological School

### **1.4 Theories of Crime**

- Biological theories
- Psychological theories
- Sociological theories
- Geographic theories
- Economic theories

### **1.5 Criminal Typologies**

- Violent crime
- Property crime
- Crime of morality/public order
- Organised crime
- Hate crimes and terrorism
- Corporate crime
- Cyber Crime

### **1.6 Trends And Patterns of Crime in Kenya**

- Top Crimes in Kenya
- Main Perpetrators of Crime
- Factors Contributing to Crimes in Kenya
- Modus Operandi of Crimes in Kenya
- Consequences of Crimes in Kenya

### **1.7 Deviance, Crime and Social Control**

- Define deviance and categorise different types of deviant behaviour
- Determine why certain behaviour are defined as deviant while others are not
- Differentiate between different methods of social control

### **1.8 Social Change and Emergence of Law**

- Concept of social change
- Law and social transformation
- Social basic organisation – political institutions, economic institutions, ideology, religion

### **1.9 Psychological Counselling**

- Recidivism in juveniles and adults
- Role of psychological counselling to reduce crimes
- Mental health assessment
- Examining motivations for behaviour
- Forensic therapy

### **1.10 Drug and Substance Abuse**

- Relationship between drug and substance use and crime
- Motivational Change
- Influx of hormones
- Social changes
- Who are at risk?

### **Reading List**

Akers, RL, and Sellers CS (2008) *Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application*. 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. Los Angeles: Roxbury.

Marsh, I (2006) *Theories of Crime*. Abingdon: Routledge.