COURSE NAME  : INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL LAW

COURSE CODE    : I Cr. L 3004

COURSE CREDIT: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course provides an introduction to the basic principles which inform the substantive law of Crime. There is some particularity in relation to specific offences such as murder, unlawful killing/manslaughter, larceny, robbery, burglary, drug and sexual offences.

AIM:
This course aims to:
- Develop an understanding of the principles that underpin criminal law.
- Develop an understanding of the key elements of a crime.
- Examine particular offences in order to appreciate the elements required to establish them and to successfully defend them.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students will be able to:
- Appreciate the general nature and functions of criminal law in society.
- Understand the general principles of law that apply to all criminal offences.
- Learn about certain specific offences and what is required to prove and defend against them.
- Learn about the principle of strict liability in crime.
- Learn about accomplices and the principle of vicarious liability in crime.
- Learn the general defences to crimes.
- Learn about inchoate offences (attempts, conspiracies and incitement) and the special challenges related to these.

COURSE CONTENT:
2. Defining crime.
3. General elements: actus reus and mens rea (the question of negligence).
5. Parties to crime (including accomplices and vicarious liability).
7. Special defences (insanity, automatism, intoxication, mistake etc.).
8. Inchoate crimes.
ST ANDREWS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE (SATC)

COURSE TEXTS:


Supplementary articles and legislation will be required reading.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES:
Lectures
Peer review
Debates
Group Work
Discussion

COURSE ASSESSMENT:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peer Review</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Assignments (written)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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- Class attendance.
- Completion of assigned readings on schedule.
- Participation in class discussions, with demonstrated critical understanding.
- Facilitation of oral and written class discussions/presentations.
- Completion of written assignments on schedule.
- Court attendance: magistrates court and assizes, with written reports. [This will constitute one of the written assignments.]

1. Constructive participation in class discussions (10%). Students will be expected to demonstrate active listening skills and to engage in constructive dialogue on all topics.
2. Assigned in-class presentation (20%). Presentation of oral arguments and supporting evidence for assigned topics, together with counter arguments for opposing views.
3. Peer reviewed facilitation of class discussions (5%).
4. Written course assignments (3x10% = 30%). There will be three (3) written course assignments, each 2-3 pages (typed, double-spaced).
5. Final essay (35%). On a topic to be agreed with the course director. A 10-12 page (typed, double spaced) paper with endnotes and bibliography.