



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Research methods in Criminology - 61202

Last update 19-09-2017

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: criminology

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Tal Jonathan-Zamir

Coordinator Email: tal.jonathan@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Please coordinate appointments

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Tal Jonathan-Zamir

Course/Module description:

This course will provide students with basic understanding of the essence of research in criminology: What is research in the social sciences and specifically in criminology, what are its goal, how it is carried out and what we can conclude from it. This course will also provide the basis for designing and carrying out studies in the future.

Course/Module aims:

This course aims to provide students with the ability to thoroughly understand and critically assess studies in criminology. It also seeks to provide students with basic abilities to plan and execute independent research projects.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

*Thoroughly understand studies in criminology carried out by others.
Critically assess studies in criminology carried out by others.
Design and execute simple studies in criminology.*

Attendance requirements(%):

Full attendance is required (80%). Attendance will be checked regularly.

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures

Course/Module Content:

- 1. The essence of scientific inquiry.*
 - What is a scientific theory?*
 - From a theoretical concept to an operational definition.*
- 2. The stages on a scientific inquiry.*
 - Research question*
 - Research hypothesis*
 - Correlation versus causation*
 - Sampling*
- 3. Measurement*
 - Levels of measurement*
 - Reliability*
 - Validity*
- 4. Qualitative research in a nutshell*

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- The phenomenological approach versus positivism
 - Quantitative versus qualitative research
5. The primary research methods in criminology
- The survey
 - The experiment
 - Secondary data analysis
6. Ethics in research
- Potential ethical problems
 - Common practices for conducting an ethical study

Required Reading:

Beyth-Marom, R. (2014). *Research methods in the social sciences: Guiding principles and research styles*. Raanana: The Open University of Israel

Using the articles for the assignments.

Additional Reading Material:

Maxfield, M. G., & Babbie, E. R. (2015/2017). *Research methods for criminal justice and criminology*. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning

Ariel, B. (2012). Deterrence and moral persuasion effects on corporate tax compliance: findings from a randomized controlled trial. *Criminology*, 50(1), 27-69.

Boxer, P., Rowell Huesmann, L., Dubow, E. F., Landau, S. F., Gvirsman, S. D., Shikaki, K., & Ginges, J. (2013). Exposure to violence across the social ecosystem and the development of aggression: A test of ecological theory in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Child development*, 84(1), 163-177.

Factor, R., Mahalel, D., Rafaeli, A., & Williams, D. R. (2013). A social resistance perspective for delinquent behaviour among non-dominant minority groups. *British Journal of Criminology*, 53(5), 784-804.

Hasisi, B., Shoham, E., Weisburd, D., Haviv, N., & Zelig, A. (2016). The "care package," prison domestic violence programs and recidivism: a quasi-experimental study. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 12(4), 563-586.

Hasisi, B., & Weisburd, D. (2011). Going beyond ascribed identities: The importance of procedural justice in airport security screening in Israel. *Law & Society Review*, 45(4), 867-892.

Jonathan-Zamir, T., & Harpaz, A. (2014). Police understanding of the foundations of their legitimacy in the eyes of the public: The case of commanding officers in the

Israel National Police. British Journal of Criminology, 54(3), 469-489.

Jonathan-Zamir, T., & Weisburd, D. (2013). The effects of security threats on antecedents of police legitimacy: Findings from a quasi-experiment in Israel. Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, 50(1), 3-32.

Landau, S. F., & Bendalak, Y. (2010). The role of individual, situational and interactional factors in violence: The case of personnel victimization in hospital emergency wards. International Review of Victimology, 17(1), 97-130.

Perry, S., Apel, R., Newman, G. R., & Clarke, R. V. (2016). The Situational Prevention of Terrorism: An Evaluation of the Israeli West Bank Barrier. Journal of Quantitative Criminology, 1-25.

Weisburd, D., & Amram, S. (2014). The law of concentrations of crime at place: the case of Tel Aviv-Jaffa. Police Practice and Research, 15(2), 101-114.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 30 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

Please be attentive to announcements and instructions on the course's website during the semester.