



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Research methods in Criminology - 61202

Last update 04-10-2024

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. Or Anabi

Coordinator Email: ora@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Please coordinate appointments

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Or Anabi

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 (at least 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

- 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

Additional Reading Material:

Maxfield, M. G., & Babbie, E. R. (2015/2017). *Research methods for criminal justice and criminology* (7th ed.). Cengage Learning.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 100 %

Additional information:

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