UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Criminal Law

2526-3-E3901N052

Learning objectives

The course aims to offer a basic knowledge of criminal law that can be useful for the activity of the social worker. Expertise in criminal law are important for social workers considering, on one side, the criminal protection that vulnerable people may receive and, on the other side, the need to cooperate with legal practitioners and law enforcers. The attention to law in action, in addition to the law in the books, will give awareness of the problems that arise from the criminal law intervention in the different areas of suffering and social exclusion in which the social operator has to work.
By the end of the course, the student should have acquired:
• Knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of criminal law, with particular regard to the issue of crime and criminal responsibility.
• Ability to apply the notions learned to the analysis of concrete cases and in the resolution of interpretative issues in the context of criminal laws.
• Making judgements in interpreting the rules and identifying the most appropriate solutions.
• Communication skills in the presentation and discussion of legal issues, both in written and oral form.
• Autonomous learning skills, also through the consultation of regulatory, doctrinal and jurisprudential sources.

Contents

The fundamental notions of criminal law will be analyzed, with particular regard to the profiles of criminal liability and sanctioning treatment, as well as some types of crime.

Attention will also be paid to the possible profiles of criminal liability of social workers.

Detailed program

At the beginning attention will be addressed to the characteristics of the law in criminal matters in view of the constitutional principles in this area. Afterwards we will focus on the constitutive elements of a crime (the actus reus, the mens rea and defenses), as well as on the different ways of committing a crime (i.e. attempt and conspiracy). Considerations will be finally dedicated to the criminal sanctions system (including the phase of sentencing), in order to become aware of the prison system in our Country, with all its problems and inadequacies.

With regard to the single offenses, we will analyse assault against individual above all, with an emphasis on crimes against vulnerable people and gender-oriented. In addition we will take a look at the crimes which can be committed by a social worker while carrying out his tasks.

Prerequisites

To have acquired a basic knowledge of Constitutional Law.

Teaching methods

The course, lasting 42 hours, will be in presence and for approximately the 50% with traditional lessons, using power point presentations and giving special attention to the jurisprudence (i.e. the law in action). For the remaining part, will be used an interactive approach, involving students'activities (individual or by groups) on topic of their interest.

Assessment methods

Oral exam. It will focus on the knowledge of the key principles of criminal law, also through the examination of the specific issues addressed in class (e.g. end-of-life issues, foreigners facing criminal law, juvenile crime, etc.). During the course, participants will be given the opportunity to deepen individual topics, individually or (preferably) in groups, through a classroom presentation. The activity carried out may lead to the assignment of an evaluation which, if shared by the student, may replace the final

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Marco Pelissero, *Diritto penale. Appunti di parte generale*, II ed., Giappichelli, Torino, 2023.

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS