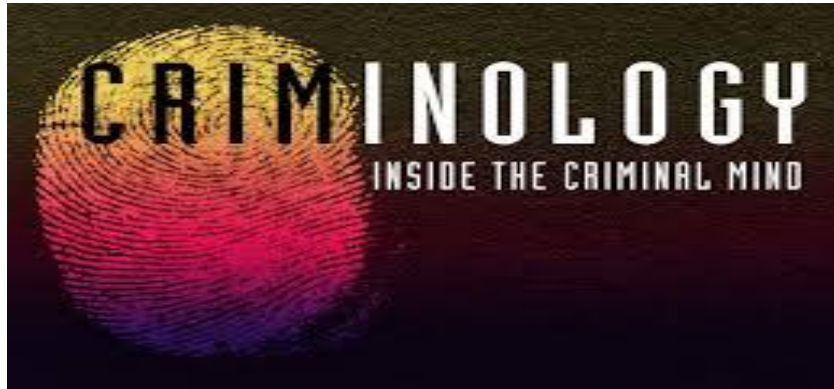


University center Abdelhafid Boussouf- Mila

Faculty of law & political sciences

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Lecture four: Criminology



Addressed To Master one criminal Law Students-Semester 1

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What is Criminology?

Criminology is a branch of social science that examines crime as a social phenomenon. It studies the causes of crime, the nature of criminal law, the processes of law enforcement, the judicial system, and the penal system. Criminologists aim to understand why crimes occur and how society can prevent and respond to criminal activity effectively.

Criminology is distinct from criminal law and criminal justice in that it focuses on the social, psychological, and economic factors contributing to criminal behavior, rather than just the legal system's rules and procedures.

2. Key Areas of Criminology

Criminology is a broad field with several sub-disciplines, each focusing on different aspects of crime and criminal behavior.

A. Theories of Crime (نظريات الجريمة)

Biological Theories (النظريات البيولوجية):

These theories suggest that criminal behavior is influenced by biological factors, such as genetics, brain structure, or chemical imbalances. Some early criminologists, like Cesare Lombroso, believed that criminals had distinct physical traits.

Psychological Theories (النظريات النفسية):

These theories focus on individual behavior, suggesting that criminal activity is a result of psychological factors, such as personality disorders, mental illness, or trauma.

Sociological Theories (النظريات الاجتماعية):

These theories focus on how social structures, relationships, and environments contribute to criminal behavior. Notable sociological theories include strain theory (which posits that societal pressure leads individuals to commit crimes) and social learning theory (which suggests that people learn criminal behavior from others).

Strain Theory (نظرية الضغط الاجتماعي):

Proposed by Robert Merton, strain theory argues that society sets cultural goals and social norms, but not everyone has equal access to the means to achieve those goals, leading to frustration and potential criminal behavior.

Labeling Theory (نظرية الوسم):

This theory focuses on how society's reaction to criminal behavior can influence the identity of the individual, labeling them as a criminal and possibly leading to further criminal actions.

B. Types of Crime (أنواع الجريمة)

Violent Crime (الجريمة العنيفة):

This includes crimes such as murder, assault, and robbery, where the perpetrator uses force or the threat of force against a victim.

Property Crime (جريمة الممتلكات):

Crimes involving theft, burglary, larceny, or vandalism. The perpetrator typically seeks financial gain rather than harming the victim.

White-Collar Crime (الجريمة البيضاء):

Non-violent crimes typically committed by individuals in professional or business settings. Examples include fraud, embezzlement, and insider trading.

Cybercrime (الجريمة الإلكترونية):

Crimes that involve the use of computers or the internet to commit illegal activities such as hacking, identity theft, or cyberbullying.

Drug-Related Crimes (الجرائم المتعلقة بالمخدرات):

Crimes involving the illegal production, distribution, and possession of drugs.

C. Crime Prevention and Control (الوقاية من الجريمة ومكافحتها)

Deterrence (الردع):

The idea that harsh penalties will prevent people from committing crimes. This includes the death penalty, long prison sentences, and the threat of severe punishment.

Rehabilitation (إعادة التأهيل):

Programs aimed at helping offenders reintegrate into society. These may include therapy, education, job training, and other interventions to prevent reoffending.

Restorative Justice (العدالة التصالحية):

A method that focuses on repairing the harm done by the crime. It involves the offender, the victim, and the community working together to address the damage and help the offender take responsibility for their actions.

Social Programs (البرامج الاجتماعية):

Government and community efforts to reduce crime by addressing the root causes, such as poverty, lack of education, and unemployment.

3. The Role of Criminologists

Criminologists are involved in various aspects of crime and justice, such as:

Research (البحث العلمي):

Criminologists conduct studies to understand the causes of crime, evaluate criminal justice policies, and suggest solutions to reduce criminal activity.

Policy Analysis (تحليل السياسات):

Criminologists assess existing laws, programs, and systems, advising lawmakers on how to improve the criminal justice system.

Consultation (الاستشارات):

Criminologists may consult for law enforcement agencies, legal teams, or government bodies to improve crime prevention strategies or create more effective policies.

Teaching (التدريس):

Many criminologists work in academia, teaching courses on criminology, criminal justice, and law.

4. Criminology and Society

Criminology helps us better understand the factors that contribute to criminal behavior, including individual, societal, and structural factors. By understanding these factors, societies can work toward reducing crime and improving justice systems, leading to safer communities.

Moreover, criminology also highlights the importance of balancing law enforcement with effective rehabilitation and crime prevention strategies to create a more just and fair society for all.

Terminology

Criminology - علم الإجرام

Crime - جريمة

Criminal Behavior - السلوك الإجرامي

Offender - الجاني

Victimology - علم الضحايا

Law Enforcement - إنفاذ القانون

Punishment - العقوبة

Rehabilitation - إعادة التأهيل

Deterrence - الردع

Criminal Justice System - نظام العدالة الجنائية

Social Control - السيطرة الاجتماعية

Penal System - النظام العقابي

Felony - جريمة كبيرة

Misdemeanor - جريمة بسيطة

Recidivism - العود إلى الجريمة

White-Collar Crime - الجريمة البيضاء

Cybercrime - الجريمة الإلكترونية

Street Crime - الجريمة الشارعية

Crime Prevention - الوقاية من الجريمة

Criminal Profiling - تحليل الشخصية الإجرامية