

Faculty	Management and Social Sciences	
Department	Sociology	
Course Title	FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY	
Year of Study	II	
Course Code	209	
Credit Hours	2	
Contact Hours	30	
Mode of Delivery	Classroom Lectures	
Mode of Assessment		Weight%
Continuous Assessment		30%
Final Examination		70%
Total		100%
Course Lecture/Instructor	MR. AJIBADE A. ABAYOMI	
Course Description	This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the intersection between psychology and the legal system. The course will cover a range of topics, from the basics of forensic psychology to the application of psychological principles in criminal investigations, legal proceedings, and understanding offender behaviors.	
Course Objectives	At the end of this course students should be able to talk about psychology and the legal system. The course will cover a range of topics, from the basics of forensic psychology to the application of psychological principles in criminal investigations, legal proceedings, and understanding offender behaviors.	
Learning Outcomes	At the end of this course students should be able to talk about psychology and the legal system. The course will cover a range of topics, from the basics of forensic psychology to the application of psychological principles in criminal investigations, legal proceedings, and understanding offender behaviors.	
Teaching and Learning	The class will meet for two hours each week. Class time will be used for a combination of lectures and practical sessions	
Detailed Course Content	psychology and the legal system. The course will cover a range of topics, from the basics of forensic psychology to the application of psychological principles in criminal investigations, legal proceedings, and understanding offender behaviors.	
Course Content Sequencing		
Weeks	Detailed Course Outline	Allocated Time
Week 1	Introduction to Forensic Psychology Definition and scope of forensic psychology. Importance of psychological expertise in legal cases.	2 hours

	Historical overview of forensic psychology.	
Week 2	Art of Identification and Incidence Techniques for identifying suspects and victims. The role of eyewitness testimony in legal cases. Challenges and reliability of identification evidence.	2 hours
Week 3	Integrations and Confessions Psychological processes involved in obtaining confessions. False confessions and their implications. Interrogation techniques and ethics.	2 hours
Week 4	Psychological Interviewing Techniques Effective interviewing methods for witnesses and suspects. Building rapport and trust in forensic interviews. Cognitive and social factors influencing interview outcomes.	2 hours
Week 5	Crime and Delinquency Theories of crime causation and delinquency. Psychosocial factors contributing to criminal behavior. Criminological perspectives and their relevance.	2 hours
Week 6	Psychopathic Behaviors and Society Understanding psychopathy and its traits. Psychopathy assessment tools and their application. Psychopathy's link to criminal behavior and societal impact.	2 hours
Week 7	Juvenile Offenders and the Law Developmental factors in juvenile delinquency Juvenile justice system and rehabilitation approaches. Psychological interventions for young offenders.	2 hours
Week 8	Mental Status of the Offender Assessing mental disorders in legal contexts. Insanity defense and its implications. Relationship between mental illness and criminal behavior.	2 hours
Week 9	Social Psychological Implications of Legal Judgments Biases in legal decision-making Influence of stereotypes and heuristics on judgments. Enhancing fairness and objectivity in legal proceedings.	2 hours
Week 10	Crime Culture and Prevention Societal factors contributing to a culture of crime.	2 hours

	<p>Crime prevention strategies informed by psychological research.</p> <p>Community engagement and reducing criminal behavior.</p>	
Week 11	<p>Mental Health Legislation</p> <p>Examination of laws related to mental health and crime.</p> <p>Involuntary commitment and competency to stand trial.</p> <p>Ethical considerations in the intersection of mental health and the law.</p>	2 hours
Week 12	Revision	2 hours
Week 13	Revision	2 hours
Week 14	Examination	

Recommended books for further reading

- **"Forensic Psychology" by Solomon M. Fulero and Lawrence S. Wrightsman**
- **"Introduction to Forensic Psychology: Issues and Controversies in Crime and Justice" by Bruce A. Arrigo and Stacey L. Shipley**
- **"Handbook of Forensic Psychology" edited by Irving B. Weiner and Allen K. Hess**
- **"Forensic Psychology: Crime, Justice, Law, Interventions" by Graham M. Davies and Anthony R. Beech**
- **"Criminal Profiling: An Introduction to Behavioral Evidence Analysis" by Brent E. Turvey**
- **"Forensic Psychology: A Very Short Introduction" by David Canter**
- **"Forensic Psychology and Neuropsychology for Criminal and Civil Cases" by Robert L. Denney**
- **"Eyewitness Testimony: Civil and Criminal" by Elizabeth F. Loftus**
- **"Forensic and Legal Psychology: Psychological Science Applied to Law" by Mark Costanzo and Daniel Krauss**
- **"The Psychopath: Emotion and the Brain" by James Blair and Derek Mitchell**