

Name of university, Name of faculty: Trnava University
Faculty of Law

INFORMATION SHEET OF THE SUBJECT

Code: XNTRb601

Name: Substantive Criminal Law I

Cover: Department of Criminal Law and Criminology

Type of educational activity: Lecture, Practise

Scope of educational activity (in hours):

Weekly: 2/2

For term of study: LS 60,60/48

Method of educational activity: Combined

Number of credits: 5

Recommended semester: ST

Study grade:
Bachelor

Recommended semester

Study programme

2.year ST

Law (XDŠBc-PR)
Law (XEŠBc-PR-23)

Underlie subjects:

Conditions for passing the course:

Method of evaluation: Completion by taking an examination

Continuous evaluation:

Final evaluation: Final examination: exam (1st part - seminar paper and 2nd part - test).

The condition for completing the course is participation in lectures and successful completion of the exam, which will consist of two parts:

- the elaboration of a seminar paper on a substantive legal topic selected from the list of topics of seminar papers published on the department's website (1st part of the exam), and

- a written test of knowledge, which will be carried out within the examination period (part 2 of the examination).

The seminar paper (1st part of the exam) must be elaborated on a selected topic in the range of 8 standard pages and submitted by the 8th week of the semester. The seminar paper will represent 40 % of the course evaluation and the maximum number of points a student can obtain for it is 8. In order for the student to proceed to the second part of the evaluation, i.e. for the written test, it will be necessary to obtain at least 5 points from the seminar work.

The written test will represent 60 % of the course grade and will consist of 12 questions, with only one correct answer from the three options in each question (max. number of points 12).

The final evaluation is the sum of the obtained points for the seminar paper and the test. Evaluation scale: A (20-19 points), B (18-17 points), C (16-15 points), D (14-13 points), E (12 points), FX less than 12 points.

Finished: By exam.

Learning outcomes:

The student will be able to state and reproduce the basic theoretical definitions and concepts of substantive criminal law (crime, factual basis, perpetrator, criminal cooperation), identify the interrelationships between them (e.g. mental illness and its criminal law context). The student is able to name and distinguish individual types of crimes, to classify the facts of crimes, to determine in a specific case whether the objective and subjective features of the facts of the crime were met. The student is able to describe, explain and determine the conditions of a criminal offender. The student knows and will be able to compare different types of criminal sanctions. The student is able to determine the type of penalty and calculate the amount of thereof.

After completing this course, the student will be able to correctly interpret the relevant legal provisions of the Criminal Code (general part), apply them to a specific practical case, state the facts, argue possible conflicting opinions, further using the relevant case law of the judicial authorities to justify and deduce the case.

Schedule of subject:

1. The concept, functions and basic principles of criminal law, its relationship to other legal branches and disciplines.
2. Sources of criminal law, the scope of criminal law and interpretation in substantive criminal law.
3. Criminal liability, the concept and features of a crime, the concept and classification of the subject matter of crimes.
4. Objective and subjective features of the substance of the crime and error in criminal law.
5. Criminal liability of legal persons.
6. Developmental stages of the crime.
7. Circumstances precluding the illegality of the act.
8. Criminal cooperation and participation.
9. Concurrence of crimes and recidivism.
10. Concept, system, types and principles of sentencing (application of mathematical methods in law: calculation of reduction and increase of the penalty rate; mitigating and aggravating circumstances and their relation to the basic, qualified and privileged facts of crimes).
11. Protective measures, cessation of criminality and sentencing.
12. Special provisions for the prosecution of juveniles.

Recommended reading:

Basic recommended literature:

MAŠLANYOVÁ, D. – SZABOVÁ, E. et al. Trestné právo hmotné. Všeobecná a osobitná časť. 4th ed. Plzeň : Aleš Čeněk, 2021. 623 p. ISBN 978-80-7380-862-4.

Act No. 300/2005 Coll. Criminal Code, as amended.

Language requirements: Slovak

Notes:

Student's workload: 125 hours

Combined study (lectures, seminars, consultations): 48 hours

Study for seminars, elaboration of tasks, study for final evaluation and study of documents in Moodle (individual study): 77 hours

Teaching takes into account the requirements of applied practice in the field of judiciary, prosecution, and legal professions, supervised by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic.

Course evaluation:

Assessed students in total: 1029

A	B	C	D	E	FX
13%	23%	21%	16%	8%	19%

Lecturers:

doc. JUDr. Eva Szabová, PhD., univ. prof., lecturer, examiner, instructor

JUDr. Karin Vrtíková, PhD., lecturer, examiner, instructor

doc. JUDr. Štefan Zeman, PhD., lecturer, examiner, instructor

prof. JUDr. Jozef Záhora, PhD., lecturer, examiner, instructor

prof. JUDr. Ing. Adrián Jalč, PhD., examiner, instructor

Date of last change: 01.09.2026

Approved by: prof. PhDr. JUDr. Tomáš Gábriš, PhD., LL.M., MA