

Course Name: General Principles of Criminal Law				Course Code: SL LAW 02 03 301 C 4105			
Session 2025-26 onwards	Programme: LL.M. (2 Year) Course	Semester: III	L	T	P	Credit	Contact Hrs. per Week: 5
			4	1	0	5	Total Hrs.: 75
Total Evaluation Marks: 100 CIE: 30 Marks TEE: 70 Marks		Examination Duration: 3 Hrs.					
Course Objectives	The primary objectives of this course are: To familiarize the students with the key concepts regarding crime and criminal law. To expose the students to the range of mental states that constitute mens rea essential for committing the crime. To teach specific offenses under the Indian Penal Code. To keep students abreast of the latest developments and changes in the field of criminal law.						
Course Outcomes	After the completion of this course, the student would be able to: 1. Get conceptual clarity of General Principles of Criminal Law related to IPC, 1860. 2. Develop the problem-solving skills. 3. Develop the analytical ability. 4. Develop the critical thinking ability.						
COURSE SYLLABUS							
NOTE: 1. The question paper shall consist of Five Questions in all. The first question shall contain short answer-type questions from all the units, carrying 3.5 marks each and the student shall be required to attempt any four questions out of eight. 2. Question No. 2, 3, 4 and 5, shall be long-answer-type questions from all the units and students shall be required to attempt any two out of the given three choices under each question from the individual unit. Each long answer type question shall carry 14 Marks. The Examiner will be free to set the questions either in problem forms or based on case law.							
Unit No.	Contents						Contact Hrs.
I	Constituents of Crime, <i>Actus non facit reum nisi mens sit rea</i> ➤ External element: <i>Actus reus</i> ➤ Internal element: <i>Mens rea</i> (with special reference to its various shades) ➤ Classes of Criminal Courts and Power, Relevancy of fact and evidence, Objectives and applicability of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023,						20
II	Offenses against the Human body ➤ Culpable Homicide and Murder ➤ Kidnapping and Abduction ➤ Sexual offenses Offenses against property ➤ Theft, Robbery, extortion ➤ Dacoity, misappropriation, ➤ Criminal breach of trust						20
III	Safeguards to Criminal Behavior: General Defenses Excusable and Justifiable ➤ Mistake ➤ Necessity ➤ Compulsion ➤ Insanity						20

	➤ Private Defense Inchoate Criminal Offences- ➤ Abetment ➤ Criminal Conspiracy ➤ Attempt	
IV	Presumptions and burden of proof, prosecution of public Servants under S 218 BNSS Vigilance, Anti-corruption, details of organizations/agencies such as Central Vigilance Commission, Central Bureau of Investigations, etc. associated with anti-corruption	15

SUGGESTED READINGS

1. K D Gaur Textbook on The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Ninth Edition
2. R.V. Kelkar's Lectures on Criminal Procedure: Based on Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Including Probation and Juvenile Justice) (Eastern Book Company, 7th Edition, 2025)
3. C K Takwani, BSA – Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (Law of Evidence) by C K Takwani – Latest 8th 2025 Edition
4. RatanLal & DhirajLal, The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Lexis Nexis 37th ed. 2025)
5. Avtar Singh, *Principles of the Law of Evidence* (Central Law Agency, New Delhi, 2012)
6. K. N. C. Pillai & Shabistan Aquil, *Essays on the Indian Penal Code* (The Indian Law Institute, Revised, 2005).
7. Albert S. Osborn, *The Problem of Proof* (2nd Edition, Law and Justice Publishing Co., New Delhi, 2022).
8. Murphy on *Evidence* (15th Edition, 2015).
9. P S A Pillai, K I Vibhute, Criminal Law: In Accordance with The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 ,16th Edition, 2025

Note: Students are advised to study the latest edition of the recommended books and case laws.