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Mid Term Examinations - October 2026

Date: 05/10/2026 **Time:** 11:45 AM - 01:15 PM

Course Code: LAW3023 **Course Name:** Criminology

Semester: Seventh Semester **Max. Marks:** 50 **Weightage:** 50%

CO - Levels	CO1	CO2
Marks	46	44

PART A: Answer Following Questions. 10 M

Q.N.	Questions	M	CO	BT
1	Crime is a wrongful act or omission considered an offence against the State or society and is punishable by the State. The objective of criminal law is generally punishment and deterrence. Tort, on the other hand, is a civil wrong that primarily infringes a private legal right and generally gives rise to a remedy such as damages or injunction. For example, theft is a crime, whereas negligence causing injury may constitute a tort.	2	CO1	BT1
2	Sociology – It helps criminology understand how factors such as family, peer groups, social class, poverty and social institutions influence criminal behaviour. Psychology – It helps explain the mental processes, personality, motivation and behavioural characteristics associated with offending.	2	CO1	BT1
3	Criminology is empirical because it relies on observation, statistical data, case studies, surveys and research to study crime and criminal behaviour rather than relying only on theoretical assumptions. It is dynamic because crime and its causes continuously change with social, economic, technological, cultural and legal developments. For example, cybercrime has emerged and evolved with advances in digital technology.	2	CO1	BT1
4	The Demonological School attributed criminal or deviant behaviour to supernatural forces, evil spirits, possession or demonic influence. It viewed offenders as being influenced or controlled by supernatural powers. The approach was eventually rejected with the development of scientific and rational explanations of crime, particularly during the Enlightenment, which encouraged the study of human behaviour through observation, reason and evidence.	2	CO2	BT1
5	According to Cesare Beccaria, effective punishment should be: Certain – punishment should follow the commission of crime with certainty. Swift – punishment should be imposed without unnecessary delay. Proportionate – punishment should be proportionate to the seriousness of the offence.	2	CO2	BT1

PART B : Answer Any 1 Following Questions. 10 M

Q.N.	Questions	M	CO	BT
6	Criminology is the systematic study of crime, criminals, victims and the causes and consequences of criminal behaviour. In contemporary India, it plays an important role in shaping criminal justice policy by providing empirical evidence and multidisciplinary insights for legislation, policing, sentencing, victim protection and rehabilitation.	10	CO1	BT2

ANSWER KEY

7	Indian criminal law classifies offences in different ways based on their nature, seriousness, mode of commission, and procedural requirements. Such classification helps courts, police and other criminal justice agencies determine the appropriate procedure, investigation and punishment.	10	CO1	BT2

PART C: Answer Any 1 Following Questions. 10 M				
Q.N.	**Questions**	**M**	**CO**	**BT**
8	Jeremy Bentham, a leading thinker of the Classical School of Criminology, based his theory of punishment on utilitarianism, according to which an action is justified when it produces the greatest happiness for the greatest number.	10	CO2	BT2
9	The Neo-Classical School of Criminology developed as a modification of the strict principles of the Classical School. While the Classical School, associated with Cesare Beccaria and Jeremy Bentham, emphasised free will, rational choice, equality before law and proportionate punishment, the Neo-Classical School recognised that individuals do not always possess the same degree of mental capacity, maturity or freedom of choice.	10	CO2	BT2

PART D: Answer Any 1 Following Questions. 10 M				
Q.N.	**Questions**	**M**	**CO**	**BT**
10	Criminal liability generally requires the presence of both actus reus (the prohibited act) and mens rea (the required guilty mental state). However, criminal law recognises that children may lack the maturity and capacity necessary to form criminal intention. Under Indian criminal law, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS) recognises age-based limitations on criminal responsibility. A child below seven years cannot commit an offence, while a child above seven and below twelve years is not criminally liable where the child has not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequences of the conduc	10	CO1	BT3
11	To determine whether the trading company has committed a crime in the legal sense, it is necessary to examine the essential elements of criminal liability, particularly actus reus and mens rea, along with any statutory rules imposing liability without proof of intention. Actus reus refers to the prohibited act or omission. Here, the company sold counterfeit components to consumers. If the relevant criminal statute prohibits the sale, distribution or possession of counterfeit goods, the physical element of the offence may be established.	10	CO1	BT3

PART E: Answer Any 1 Following Questions. 10 M				
Q.N.	**Questions**	**M**	**CO**	**BT**
12	The Biological and Constitutional School of Criminology explains criminal behaviour by examining the physical, biological and constitutional characteristics of individuals. The most prominent early thinker was Cesare Lombroso, whose theory of the “born criminal” argued that some offenders possessed inherited or atavistic physical characteristics associated with criminality. Later biological and constitutional approaches became broader and examined factors such as heredity, physiology and bodily constitution.	10	CO2	BT5
13	The statement is substantially correct. The Cartographic School of Criminology emerged in the 19th century and shifted attention from the individual offender towards the geographical distribution of crime. Thinkers such as Adolphe Quetelet and André-Michel Guerry used statistical and geographical data to examine patterns of crime across different regions.	10	CO2	BT5

ANSWER KEY