



**Gyanmanjari**  
Innovative University

Course Syllabus  
Gyanmanjari Science College  
Semester-4 (B.Sc)

**Subject:** Forensic Psychology- BSCFS14305

**Type of course:** Major

**Prerequisite:** Students should have a foundational knowledge of psychology and an interest in the intersection of psychology and the legal system.

**Rationale:** This course explores the intersection of psychology and the legal system, providing students with an understanding of how psychological principles are applied in criminal investigations, courtroom procedures, and offender rehabilitation. It prepares students for careers or further study in psychology, criminology, or legal professions.

#### Teaching and Examination Scheme:

Teaching Scheme			Credits	Examination Marks					Total Marks	
CI	T	P		C	SEE		CCE			
					Theory	Practical	MSE	LWA/V		ALA
3	0	2	4	75	25	30	20	50	200	

*Legends: CI-Class Room Instructions; T -- Tutorial; P - Practical; C – Credit; SEE - Semester End Evaluation; MSE- Mid Semester Examination; LWA - Lab Work Assessment; V – Viva voce; CCE-Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation; ALA- Active Learning Activities.*

#### Course Content:

Unit No	Course Content	Hrs	% Weightage
1	<b>Introduction To Forensic And Criminal Psychology</b> Introduction, Objectives, Definition, Description and Concept of Criminal Psychology, Definition. Description and Concept of Forensic Psychology, Practice of Forensic Psychology, Difference Between Criminal and Forensic Psychology, Functions of Forensic Psychologists, Ethical Implications, Education and Training for Careers in Forensic Psychology.	10	25%



2	<b>Roles And Functions Of A Forensic Psychology</b> Introduction, Objectives, Role of a Forensic Psychologist, Criminal Investigations, Crime Analysis, Offender Profiling or Criminal Investigative Analysis, Interviewing, Detecting Deception and Eye Witness Research, Police Psychology, Expert Witness, Forensic Psychologists and Assessment and Treatment of Offenders, Forensic Psychologists and Academia / Research, Some Specific Functions of a Forensic Psychologist.	15	25%
3	<b>Young And Adult Offenders</b> Introduction, Meaning and Definition of Offenders/Criminal, Young and Adult Offenders, Risk Factors, Adult Offenders, The Crime Law.	10	25%
4	<b>Forensic Psychology In Civil And Criminal Legal Proceedings And Juvenile Crimes</b> Introduction, Objectives, Application of Forensic Psychology to Civil, Legal Proceedings, Competency in the Court of Law, Application of Forensic Psychology to Civil and Criminal Proceedings, Intervention Strategies for Offenders , Professional Issues: Principles, Ethical Codes and Guidelines, Juvenile Delinquency.	10	25%

**Continuous Assessment:**

Sr. No	Active Learning Activities	Marks
1	<b>Case Study Analysis</b> Provide students with a brief description of a criminal case (without revealing the psychological analysis). Ask them to analyze the behavior of the criminal based on psychological concepts such as personality disorders, motives, and cognitive biases. Students can write a one-page analysis of the criminal's psychological profile and then upload this on GMIU web Portal.	10
2	<b>Eyewitness Reliability Experiment</b> Present students with a written account of a crime witnessed by different people. Ask them to identify inconsistencies or possible sources of error in the witness statements, then write a brief analysis of how reliable they think each witness is and then upload it on GMIU web Portal.	10
3	<b>Risk Factor Identification Worksheet</b> Provide a list of potential risk factors (e.g., family environment, peer influence, socioeconomic status). Ask students to categorize these risk factors into two columns—one for young offenders and one for adult offenders. They can then write a brief reflection on how these factors might differ between age groups and upload it on GMIU web Portal.	10





4	<b>Application of Forensic Psychology: Civil vs. Criminal Proceedings Comparison</b> Create two brief case scenarios—one civil (e.g., a custody dispute) and one criminal (e.g., a murder trial). Ask students to write a comparison, discussing how forensic psychologists would be involved in each case and the differences in their roles and assessments and then upload it on GMIU web Portal.	10
5	<b>Attendance</b>	10
Total		50

**List of Practical:**

Sr. No	Descriptions	Unit No	Hrs
1	To prepare a report on relationship between mental disorders and forensic psychology.	1	2
2	To review a crime case involving serial murders. Comment on the psychological traits of the accused.	1	4
3	To cite a crime case involving a juvenile and argue for and against lowering the age for categorizing an individual as juvenile.	2	4
4	To study a criminal case in which hypnosis was used as a means to detect deception.	2	4
5	To prepare a case report on thematic appreciation test.	3	4
6	To prepare a case report on Minnesota multiphasic personality inventory test.	3	4
7	To prepare a case report on thematic appreciation test.	4	4
8	To prepare a case report on word association test.	4	4
		Total	30



**Suggested Specification table with Marks (Theory):75**

Distribution of Theory Marks (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						
Level	Remembrance (R)	Understanding (U)	Application (A)	Analyze (N)	Evaluate (E)	Create (C)
Weightage	30%	30%	25%	10%	5%	00

Note: This specification table shall be treated as a general guideline for students and teachers. The actual distribution of marks in the question paper may vary slightly from above table.

**Course Outcome:**

After learning the course the students should be able to:	
CO1	Equipped with foundational knowledge for careers and further education in the field.
CO2	Analyze the diverse roles and functions of forensic psychologists in criminal investigations, legal proceedings, offender assessment, and academic research.
CO3	Distinguish between young and adult offenders, the risk factors contributing to criminal behavior.
CO4	Summarize the application of forensic psychology in civil and criminal legal proceedings.

**Instructional Method:**

The course delivery method will depend upon the requirement of content and need of students. The teacher in addition to conventional teaching method by black board, may also use any of tools such as demonstration, role play, Quiz, brainstorming, MOOCs etc.

From the content 10% topics are suggested for flipped mode instruction.

Students will use supplementary resources such as online videos, NPTEL/SWAYAM videos, e-courses, Virtual Laboratory

The internal evaluation will be done on the basis of Active Learning Assignment

Practical/Viva examination will be conducted at the end of semester for evaluation of performance of students in laboratory.





**Reference Books:**

- [1] Introduction to Psychology, C.T.Morgan, McGraw Hill Education
- [2] Forensic Psychology, A Very Short Introduction, David Canter, Oxford University Press
- [3] Forensic Psychology, The Basics, Sandie Taylor, Routledge
- [4] The Dark Side Of The Mind, Kerry Daynes, Octopus Publishing Group
- [5] The Handbook of Forensic Psychology, Irving B. Weiner and Randy K. Otto
- [6] Investigative Psychology, David V. Canter

