



Gyanmanjari
Innovative University

Course Syllabus

Gyanmanjari Institute of LAW

Semester-5 (LL.B)

Subject: Law of Crimes Paper-II, Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita - LAWLL15523

Type of course: Major (Core)

Prerequisite:

Before studying BNSS, students should have a basic understanding of the Indian legal system, constitutional principles, and the fundamentals of criminal law. Knowledge of offences, punishments, criminal liability, and the structure of criminal courts is essential. Familiarity with the provisions of the Constitution relating to fundamental rights and administration of justice is also desirable. A basic understanding of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023 will help students comprehend the procedural aspects of criminal justice under BNSS.

Rationale:

The Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) provides a comprehensive legal framework to maintain law, order, and citizen security in India, balancing the powers of the state with the rights of individuals. It codifies criminal procedures, including arrest, investigation, trial, sentencing, maintenance of families, and public order, while incorporating modern provisions such as electronic evidence and plea bargaining. BNSS ensures timely and transparent justice, protects vulnerable populations through victim and witness safeguards, and fosters social harmony by addressing public nuisance and property disputes. Beyond enforcement, it serves as a practical tool for legal education and training, enabling law enforcement, judiciary, and citizens to understand, apply, and uphold justice effectively.

Teaching and Examination Scheme:

Teaching Scheme			Credits	Examination Marks			Total Marks
CI	T	P	C	Theory Marks		CA	150
				SEE	MSE	ALA	
05	01	00	06	100	30	20	

Legends: CI-Classroom Instructions; T- Tutorial; P- Practical; C- Credit; SEE - Semester End Evaluation; MSE- Mid Semester Examination; CA-Continuous Assessment; ALA- Active Learning Activities.



Course Content:

Sr. NO	Course Content	Hrs.	% Weightage
1	Introduction to BNSS, Criminal Justice Administration, Maintenance of Public Order and Maintenance of Wives, Children and Parents • Nature and Concept of Law. • Relation between Law and Morality and justice. • Object, Reasons and Salient Features of BNSS. • Comparative study of BNSS and CrPC. • Newly added provisions under BNSS. • Bailable and Non-bailable offences. • Cognizable and Non-cognizable offences. • Compoundable and Non-Compoundable Offences. • Inquiry, Investigation and Trial. • Summons Case and Warrant Case. • Constitution and Powers of Criminal Courts. • Powers of superior police officers. • Public Prosecutor and Assistant Public Prosecutor. • Maintenance of Public Order & Tranquility, Public Nuisance and procedures for its removal, Power of Magistrate to take action against public nuisance. • Maintenance of Wives, Children and Parents. • Procedure for maintenance proceedings and Order for maintenance of wives, children and parents. • Alteration in allowance and Enforcement of maintenance order.	15	20
2	Arrest and Information to Police and Investigation Procedure • Arrest, Summons and Warrants. • Proclamation and attachment provisions. • Information to Police (FIR). • Criminal complaint. • Powers of police to investigate. • Procedure for investigation. • Visit of forensic experts and collection of forensic evidence. • Filing of police report and charge-sheet. • Search & Seizure. • Property Proceedings. • Disposal of property.	15	20
	Jurisdiction, Inquiry, Charge and Trial Procedures		



3	• Jurisdiction of Criminal Courts in inquiries and trials. • Conditions requisite for initiation of proceedings. • Complaint to Magistrates. • Charge: Addition, Alteration, Joinder of Charges and Separate Charges. • Plea bargaining: concept, procedure and importance. • Trial before Court of Session. • Warrant trial cases by Magistrates. • Summons trial cases by Magistrates. • Summary trials. • Distinction between discharge, acquittal and conviction. • Evidence and attendance of persons in inquiries and trials. • Evidence of public servants, experts and police officers. • Inquiry, trial and judgment in absentia of proclaimed offender.	15	20
4	Victim Compensation, Judgement, Bail and Sentencing Provisions • Provisions relating to judgment. • Victim Compensation Scheme. • Witness Protection Scheme. • Submission of death sentence for confirmation. • Bail in Bailable Offence and Non- Bailable Offence. • Anticipatory bail: concept, powers and jurisdiction. • Cancellation of bail. • Bonds, bail bonds and sureties. • Discharge of sureties. • Sentences and Execution. • Execution of sentences. • Suspension, remission and commutation of sentences. • Mercy petitions in death sentence cases. • Provisions relating to the death sentence. • Imprisonment and levy of fine.	15	20
5	Appeals, Revision, High Court Powers and Miscellaneous Provisions • Appeals: Concept, Nature and a Statutory Right. • Appeals against conviction. • Appeals for enhancement of sentence. • Appeals against acquittal: Public Prosecutor and private person. • Appeals for victim compensation. • Non-appealable cases. • Special right to appeal. • Powers of appellate courts. • Procedure for filing appeal.	15	20



	• Revision: Meaning, scope and purpose of revision and when it is permissible. • Revisional courts and their powers. • Reference: purpose and significance. • Distinction between appeal, revision and reference. • High Court Powers. • Trial before High Courts. • Rule-making powers of High Courts. • Inherent powers under criminal jurisdiction. • Quashing of FIRs, criminal complaints and proceedings. • Judicial guidelines of the Supreme Court on quashing powers. • Compounding of offences. • Tender of pardon to accomplice. • Legal aid to the accused. • Irregular proceedings. • Limitation for taking cognizance. • Trials and proceedings through electronic mode. • Repeal and savings provisions.		
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Continuous Assessment:

Sr. No	Active Learning Activities	Marks
1	Case trial Role Play: Students shall be divided into two groups and assigned roles of Prosecutor, Defense Counsel, Witnesses, Accused and Victims. Each group shall conduct a simulated trial on a hypothetical case provided by the faculty, following procedural norms. Upon conclusion, remaining participants shall deliberate, and the presiding Faculty will be a Judge who shall deliver a reasoned verdict in accordance with BNSS provisions. Students will prepare a draft of the cases and upload it on the GMIU Web Portal.	10
2	Case Analysis & Presentation: Faculty will provide a list of landmark BNSS cases. Students have to select one of the case and analyze and present them in the classroom. Students must also write all the case analysis and upload it on the GMIU web portal.	10
Total		20



List of Suggested Tutorials

Sr. No	Suggested Tutorials	Credit Hrs.
1	Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 vs. Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Comparative Analysis Report): Students shall prepare a comparative analysis report on highlighting at least ten important differences between the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. The report should include the relevant provisions and the purpose of each change. Students should present their charts in class and explain the significance of the reforms.	02
2	Types of Offences (Classification Activity): Students will read short hypothetical criminal situations and identify the nature of the offence, whether it is cognizable or non-cognizable, bailable or non-bailable, etc. and explain the applicable legal procedure.	01
3	Arrest, FIR and Preventive Justice (Case Study): Each student will individually prepare a case study in a report form on any one of the landmark judgments of the Supreme Court of India on any one of the following topics- Arrest procedures, rights of arrested persons, FIR registration, summons, warrants, and preventive measures under BNSS.	01
4	Preparation of Arrest Memo (Drafting): Students shall prepare an arrest memo based on a hypothetical arrest scenario. They should include all mandatory particulars such as date, time, place of arrest, witness signatures, and rights of the arrested person. The activity will help students understand procedural safeguards during arrest.	02
5	Jurisdiction (Debate): Faculty will provide with a topic of debate regarding jurisdiction. Students shall be divided in 2 groups – FOR and AGAINST and prepare arguments for their respective sides.	01
6	Trial Procedure (Flow Diagram): Students shall prepare a flow diagram explaining the stages of summons trials, warrant trials, and sessions trials. The diagram should clearly show the sequence of each stage from filing of the case to judgment. Different colors or symbols may be used to distinguish the three trial procedures.	02
7	Bail Application (Drafting): Students shall draft a regular or anticipatory bail application based on a hypothetical criminal case. The application should include relevant facts, legal grounds, and the relief sought. Proper legal drafting format and clear language should be followed.	02
8	Sentencing Principles (Interactive Session): Students shall prepare a speech explaining the important factors considered by courts while awarding sentences. It should include	01



	concepts such as aggravating circumstances, mitigating circumstances, proportionality, and judicial discretion. It will be followed by a quick question-and-answer session.	
9	Appeal (Video Making): Students shall prepare a video showing the hierarchy of criminal appeals under the BNSS. The video should indicate the courts where appeals can be filed and the situations in which appeals are maintainable. Students should explain the appellate process with suitable examples.	01
10	Powers of the High Court (Short-Film): Students will be shown in class a video documentary by the faculty, explaining the inherent powers of the High Court under the BNSS. It will be followed by short report.	02

Suggested Specification table with Marks (Theory): 100

Distribution of Theory Marks (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						
Level	Remembrance (R)	Understanding (U)	Application (A)	Analyze (N)	Evaluate (E)	Create (C)
Weightage	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	--

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	Understand the objectives, salient features, and procedural framework of BNSS, including classification of offences, investigation, criminal courts, police administration, and prosecution system.
CO2	Apply the provisions relating to arrest, FIR, summons, warrants, investigation, forensic evidence, search and seizure, and preventive justice in criminal proceedings.
CO3	Analyze criminal court jurisdiction, inquiry and trial processes, framing of charges, evidentiary rules, judgments, victim compensation, and witness protection mechanisms.
CO4	Evaluate maintenance proceedings, bail jurisprudence, anticipatory bail, bonds, sentencing principles, execution of sentences, and death penalty procedures.
CO5	Remember appellate and revisional remedies, inherent powers of High Courts, quashing jurisdiction, legal aid, double jeopardy, limitation, and electronic mode of criminal proceedings.



Instructional Method:

The course delivery method will depend upon the requirement of content and the needs of students. The teacher, in addition to conventional teaching methods by black board, may also use any 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. 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 the laboratory.

Reference Books: -

- [1] Karia, A. N., & Davda, C. R. (2023). *Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023*. (Gujarati Ed.). C. Jamnadas & Co.
- [2] Ratanlal, & Dhirajlal. (2025). *Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023*. (24th ed.) LexisNexis.
- [3] Thacker R. (2024). *Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023*. C. Jamnadas & Co.
- [4] Ratanlal, & Dhirajlal. (2020). *The Code of Criminal Procedure*. (23rd ed.) LexisNexis.
- [5] Thomas R., Jagani D. (2025). *R.V. Kelkar's Lectures on Criminal Procedure: Based on Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Including Probation and Juvenile Justice)*. (7th ed.) Universal Law Publishing.