

Research Clinic (B001862)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 4.0 **Study time 120 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (Year) Dutch, English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Vandeviver, Christophe	RE23	lecturer-in-charge
Lievens, Eva	RE21	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

Bachelor of Science in Criminological Sciences	crdts	offering
	4	A

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

Scientific research, scientific method, science communication, grant application, acquiring academic funding, career development, doctoral research, FWO, BOF

Position of the course

This is an integration course unit that builds on the other course units of the criminological sciences curriculum. It helps build the competencies that enable students to independently (co-)conduct state-of-the-art empirical scientific research within the discipline. It supports students to conduct their own (doctoral) research in the field by allowing them to practice their research skills and build their research CV.

This course unit fits into the competences B.2.1., B.2.2., B.2.3., B.3.1., B.3.2., B.3.3., B.4.1., B.4.2., B.4.3., B.5.3., B.5.4., B.6.1., B.6.2., B.6.3. en M.2.1., M.2.2., M.3.1., M.3.2., M.3.3., M.3.4., M.3.5., M.4.1., M.4.2., M.4.3., M.6.1., M.6.2., M.6.3., M.6.4., M.6.5., M.6.6. of the Criminological Sciences program.

The knowledge, insights and skills gained here prepare students to take the Academic grant writing course B001792 and can be applied in a wide range of subsequent professional activities and fields.

Contents

In this course unit, students, based on their own interests, get acquainted with the practice of scientific research and make a (limited) personal contribution to ongoing research. They independently acquire and strengthen their research competencies by participating as student-researchers in ongoing research in one of the research groups of the Faculty of Law and Criminology at Ghent University.

This familiarizes them with all facets of scientific research in the field. This includes, among other things, designing, conducting, and reporting all steps of scientific research both in writing and orally, as well as learning to critically handle feedback and getting to know the various scientific funding channels. In this way, they independently build an individual research portfolio, but with guidance from the instructors, and strengthen their research CV and profile with a view to applying for funding for their own (doctoral) research in the field.

The output generated by students typically includes the following activities, but students are also free to propose their own activities:

- a (concept for) a research proposal,
- (co-)author of a publishable article in a scientific or practice-oriented journal,
- (co-)author or presenter of an article at a scientific or practice-oriented

- conference, communicating scientific results to a non-expert audience,
- going through an application with a scientific ethics committee,
- successfully completing one or more course units within or outside Ghent University that are relevant to a research career,
- successfully completing additional methodological training,
- achieving a good score for methodological course units.

Before enrolling in this course unit, students are advised to contact a member of the independent academic scientific staff of the Faculty of Law and Criminology at Ghent University to discuss the possibility of participating in ongoing scientific research in their research group. If necessary, they can seek advice from the instructors.

Initial competences

This is an integration course unit that supports and builds upon the acquired competencies of the other course units in the student's curriculum. It assumes that the student has successfully completed all course units of the first and second year, or has acquired the competencies covered therein by other means.

Final competences

- 1 The student will be able to apply knowledge of the thinking and frames of reference of various scientific disciplines in criminological and/or law research.
- 2 Correctly formulate and write a criminological/law problem statement and the resulting research questions, select and apply appropriate research methods and analysis techniques, and justify the scientific research design chosen and report on his research.
- 3 Formulate a scientifically reasoned position on a criminologically/legally relevant topic.
- 4 Innovative scientifically reasoned policy-oriented, policy-preparing, policy-supporting and policy-evaluating thinking.
- 5 Independently reflect systematically and critically on own thinking and make adjustments as needed.
- 6 Demonstrate an active attitude toward timeliness, continuous knowledge development and "lifelong learning.
- 7 To interpret a situation, criminological/legal issue or problem from multiple (cultural) in-case perspectives and different (international) models.
- 8 Communicate in writing scientifically based views and/or results of (own) scientific research, adapted to the target audience.
- 9 Verbal communication of scientifically substantiated views and/or results of (own) scientific research, adapted to the target audience
- 10 Participation in scientific debate within the criminological/law field.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Practical, Independent work, Work placement, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Students participate as student-researchers in ongoing research in one of the research groups of the Faculty of Law and Criminology at Ghent University. This familiarizes them with all facets of scientific research in the field. This includes, among other things, designing, conducting, and reporting all steps of scientific research both in writing and orally, as well as learning to critically handle feedback and getting to know the various scientific funding channels.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides Research clinic

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Type: Reader

Name: Reader Research clinic

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

References

- <https://www.ugent.be/re/nl>
- <https://www.ugent.be/re/nl/onderzoek>
- <https://www.ugent.be/re/nl/onderzoek/samenwerkingsverbanden/samenwerkingsverbanden.htm>
- <https://research.ugent.be/web/home/nl>

Course content-related study coaching

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Presentation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- **Paper:** paper in which students reflect on their participation in current research, its outcome and how it contributes to strengthening their research CV and profile. This also includes a research portfolio containing student-generated output.
- **Presentation:** pitch of (concept for) a research proposal.

Calculation of the examination mark

Continuous assessment (100%)

- Continuous assessment
 - Project: 75% final score, individual score.
 - Oral evaluation: 25% final score, individual score.

Students are required to participate in all evaluation moments. Specifically, this means participation in all components of the continuous assessment. Furthermore, students must pass both evaluation moments separately (i.e., at least 7,5/15 for the project and at least 2,5/5 for the oral evaluation).

If the student does not meet the above participation and passing requirements, the student in question will be declared 'not passed' for this course component. If the student does not pass one or more evaluation moments and still achieves 10 or more (out of 20), the grade will be reduced to the highest non-passing grade (9/20). If the student does not participate in one or more evaluation moments and the final score for this course component would still be 8 or more (out of 20), the final score will be reduced to the highest non-deliberable grade (7/20).

Failure to meet deadlines for submitting (part) assignments of the continuous assessment results in the inability to assess the assignment and leads to a non-passing grade for the respective assignment (i.e., 0). Students who miss a deadline due to a justified absence can submit the specific part assignment at another time, provided this does not affect the functioning or assessment of other students.

Failure to comply with the guidelines and format requirements as described on the online learning environment will result in a reduced score.

Only the final scores are rounded, in accordance with the rounding rules specified in the OER. Partial scores for (components of) evaluation moments are not rounded in the final score calculation. In exceptional cases, this may mean that a final score of >9.49/20 still means that the student has not passed the course component.

Partial results are carried over to the second exam period within the same academic year, provided the student has passed the respective evaluation

moment. The instructor retains the right to the final decision in transferring this score to the second exam period.

Facilities for Working Students

Work-study students (with statute) can schedule their non-period presentation individually with the instructors.