

Second Semester

City and criminality, feeling of insecurity and punitiveness (*Professor Christina Zarafonitou*)

In the framework of this post-graduate course, the several aspects of the urban criminality, the fear of crime and punitiveness are approached through the findings of criminological research. Particular attention is given to the epistemological and methodological issues of “ecology of crime”, “insecurity”, “risk perception”, “vulnerability”, “physical/social disorder”, “informal social reactions” are analysed in the light of the interaction of individual and social factors. Special emphasis is also given to the role played by the mass media, to ‘moral panic’ as well as to the consequences of the lack of public confidence in criminal justice agencies. The approach to the subject is completed through the examination of the consequences of the fear of crime on both an individual and social level, particularly on the punitive attitudes of citizens and on criminal policy. In the context of this lesson, annual visits to prisons (for juveniles and adults), to rehabilitation and prevention centres, etc., are organised.