



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Office of Postgraduate
Professional Development Programs
Postdoctoral Certificate in Forensic Psychology

Advanced Program in Criminal
Law Modules(62 hours)

Course Code	Module Name
PDFP 910	<p>Criminal Competences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Themes in Criminal Forensic Practice<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Science and Skill in Clinical Forensic Practice• Forensic Prediction and Classifications• Scrutiny and Skepticism When Working with Criminal Attorneys• The Independence of Law and Forensic Practice• Legal Standards and Historical Antecedents• Different Competencies• Procedural Issues<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competency Examination• Adjudication of Competency• Miranda Issues and Beyond• Proceed and Stand Trial• Forensic Assessment Methods• Quality of Competency Evaluations• General Cross Examination Issues• Malingering and Deception in Criminal Evaluations• Nature of Experts and Their Testimony (E.g., Qualifications, Direct Examination, Redirecting Examination)
PDFP 911	<p>Criminal Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevant Legal Standards• Clinical Operationalization of Criminal Culpability Standards• Sanity and Diminished Capacity• Insanity Defense<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of Incompetent Defendants• Clinical Methods Relevant to Assessments of Criminal Responsibility

<p>PDFP 912</p>	<p>Sentencing/Disposition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposition of Cases Involving Incompetent Defendants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defendants Currently Incompetent to Stand Trial • Application of <i>Jackson v. Indiana</i> Standard • Medication Issues • Defendants Permanently Incompetent to Stand Trial • Ethical Dilemma: Should Incompetency Necessarily Be Raised in a Misdemeanor or Lower-Level Felony Case? • Sentencing/Disposition in Non-Capital Cases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications of Federal Sentencing Guidelines • Significance of Mental Disability as a Reductive or Aggravating Factor • Impact of Changes in DSM V in Cases Involving Defendants with PTSD • Sentencing/Disposition in Capital Cases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation • Future Dangerousness • Defendants with Mental Illness • Defendants with Intellectual Disabilities • Medication to Make One Competent to Be Executed • Quality of Counsel Issues • Disposition in Cases Involving “Sexually Violent Predators” • Other Relevant Issues
<p>PDFP 913</p>	<p>Risk Assessment and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Relevant Ethical and Legal Material Regarding the Assessment of Risk • Examination of Relevant Cultural Factors When Assessing Risk, Including Use of Interpreter • Differentiating between Structured Professional Judgment and Actuarial Risk Assessment Measure • Identification of Forensic Relevant Instruments for the Assessment of Violent, Non-Violent, and Sexual Offenders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief Overview of Specific Instruments; Appropriate Populations, Coding, and Interpretation • Distinguishing between Types of Offenders • Review of Relevant Management Treatment Programs Based on the Assessment of Risk
<p>PDFP 914</p>	<p>Mock Trial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A simulation experience as expert witnesses of criminal cases, with the participation of attorneys and available judges • Candidates are strongly encouraged to select their cases early in the training and work closely with a supervisor