BSc in

Criminology

Curriculum of the

Bachelor's Degree in Sociology

a.y. 2027-2028

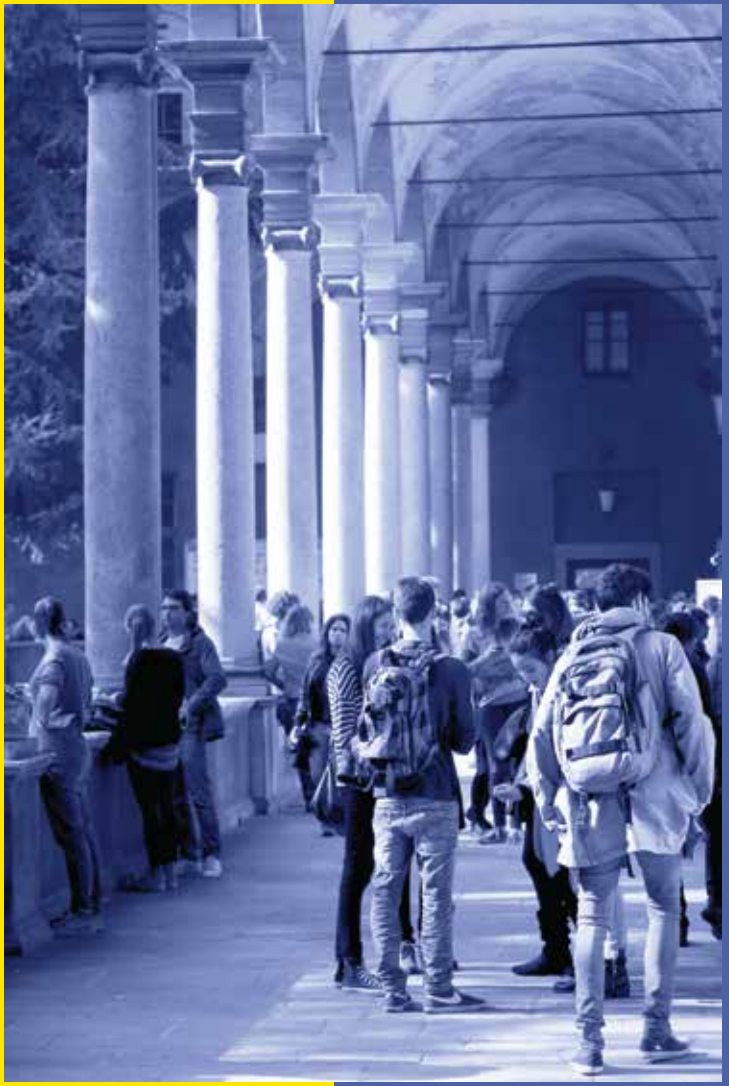
TRANSCRIME
Joint Research Centre on Innovation and Crime

UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA del Sacro Cuore

Overview

Criminology is the curriculum of the BSc in Sociology offered by the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan, entirely taught in English. Launched in the 2025/26 academic year, this curriculum is the first of its kind in Italy and Europe, and offers an innovative and multidisciplinary approach to criminology.

By integrating **sociology, psychology, law and political science**, it provides students with a comprehensive understanding of crime and criminal behaviour, with an emphasis on crime prevention, security and data analysis.



As part of the Cattolica International Programme, **Criminology** is taught entirely in English and is designed to provide an international classroom environment.

Facts

Class composition

47 out of **70 students** are **international**

Language of instruction

English

Duration
3 years

Starting in
September 2027

Degree awarded

BSc in Sociology

School

Political and Social Sciences

Campus

Milan

Pathways in Academia

Criminology is supported by Transcrime.

TRANSCRIME
Joint Research Centre on Innovation and Crime

Transcrime is the **Joint Research Centre on Innovation and Crime** of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan, the Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna and the Università degli Studi di Perugia. It is Europe's largest research hub on organised and financial crime, with a team of over 40 members.

Through cutting-edge research and its spin-off, Crime&tech, Transcrime also develops innovative tools and solutions for crime prevention. Beyond Criminology, **it supports the CrimeSec Master's programme** and **the International Ph.D. in Criminology** at the Università Cattolica.

CRIMESEC

CrimeSec is the **Crime & Security Analysis** curriculum of the **Master's Degree in Public Policy**. It further develops the multidisciplinary approach to criminology to provide an advanced understanding of crime and key security issues.

It also offers internship opportunities and exchanges with institutions and companies for effective job placement. Graduates work in the fields of crime prevention, anti-money laundering, anti-corruption and counter-terrorism.

INTERNATIONAL PH.D. IN CRIMINOLOGY

The International Ph.D. in Criminology is designed for Master's graduates who wish to pursue a **research career in criminology** and who aspire to high-profile positions in the private or academic sector. The programme lasts 3 years and is conducted entirely in English.

Visit: www.transcrime.it



Shaping your career

Law Enforcement, Criminal Investigation, and Crime Analyst

Graduates can work in a variety of roles within police forces, as well as in correctional facilities, focusing on investigative aspects and security management.

Crime and Security Policy Officer and Analyst

Graduates can work in public administrations and international organisations (e.g. UN, Interpol) to support and implement global crime prevention policies, criminal justice reforms, and rehabilitation programmes.

Compliance Officer

Graduates can work on anti-money laundering, anti-corruption, and antifraud measures, ensuring that companies comply with legal standards and regulations.

Crime Prevention and Security Manager

Graduates can work in industries such as retail and logistics to develop and implement crime prevention, asset, employee and customer safety and security, risk management strategies.



Study Plan

The curriculum is structured for progressive specialisation, offering an in-depth understanding of foundational and advanced criminological concepts:

YEAR 01

- The first year establishes a solid foundation in the **social sciences**, along with essential academic and **methodological skills**.

YEAR 02

- The second year completes the general preparation in criminological and methodological subjects and reinforces the **multidisciplinary approach** with courses in social psychology and criminal law.

YEAR 03

- The third year provides **advanced methodological skills**, an introduction to programming in R/Python. Students can further tailor their studies by selecting some criminology **specialisation courses**, along with additional elective activities.

- Organised crime
- Terrorism
- Cybercrime and cybersecurity
- Crime & place
- Investigations & forensics
- Economic and financial crime

Study Plan

Total ECTS: 180

1st year

- Contemporary history — 9 ECTS
- Introduction to research and academic skills in the social sciences + LAB — 9 ECTS
- Political science — 9 ECTS
- Principles of economics — 12 ECTS
- Public law and governance — 9 ECTS
- Quantitative methods for social sciences — 9 ECTS
- Sociology — 9 ECTS
- Seminar on theological issues

2nd year

- Comparative & European criminal law and procedure — 9 ECTS
- Criminology — 9 ECTS
- Organisations & cultures — 12 ECTS
- History of crime and crime control — 9 ECTS
- Research methods for crime and criminal justice — 12 ECTS
- Social psychology — 6 ECTS
- One language to be chosen from: — 6 ECTS
  - English language
  - Italian language
- Seminar on theological issues

3rd year

- Comparative criminal justice — 6 ECTS
- Quantitative methods for social sciences II + LAB on programming — 9 ECTS
- One elective course among: — 6 ECTS
  - Organised crime
  - Terrorism
  - Cybercrime and cybersecurity
- One elective course among: — 6 ECTS
  - Crime & place
  - Investigations & forensics
  - Cultural practices outside boundaries
- One elective course among: — 6 ECTS
  - Behavioural economics & nudging policies
  - Economic and financial crime
- Eligible courses — 12 ECTS
- Final examination — 6 ECTS
- Seminar on theological issues

Admission

To enrol on the Criminology curriculum, candidates must meet the admission requirements, procedures and deadlines set out on the official website.

Visit: www.unicatt.it/en/corsi/triennale/criminology-milano.html

The admission procedure varies depending on whether you hold an Italian or international qualification as specified on the official website

Italian qualification

- Places for domestic students are allocated through merit-based admission tests over several rounds
- The admission test is held online, in English, and questions cover reading comprehension and general knowledge
- A B2 level proficiency in English is required

International qualification

- Candidates are considered international students if they hold - or are about to complete - a non-Italian high-school diploma
- Applicants holding an international qualification should follow the procedure set out by the International Admissions Office, as specified here
- Selection will be based on candidate's high school grades, motivation letter, English proficiency, and general academic background

Admission timeline

Italian qualification

1st assessment round

Registration to the admission test:
From 15:00 on 2 November 2026 to 23:59 on 18 February 2027
Test: 2 March 2027

2nd assessment round

Registration to the admission test:
From 15:00 on 12 April 2027 to 23:59 on 10 May 2027
Test: 18 May 2027

3rd assessment round

Registration to the admission test:
From 15:00 on 21 June 2027 to 23:59 on 15 July 2027
Test: 21 July 2027

International qualification

1st assessment round

Opening: 4 November 2026
Deadline: 17 February 2027

2nd assessment round

Opening: 18 February 2027
Deadline: 5 May 2027

Because of high competition and limited spots, we highly recommend applying in the first assessment round.

To check your assessment results and enrol if admitted, please follow the procedure on our website:
www.unicatt.it/en/corsi/triennale/criminology-milano.html

Contacts

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