<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Evaluating Criminal Responsibility and Competencies</th>
<th>Term/Semester/Year:</th>
<th>Spring, 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Catalog Number:</td>
<td>PSYC7235.81</td>
<td>Instructor:</td>
<td>R. A. Prentky</td>
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**Course Description:**
This course will provide a thorough examination of issues and case law related to criminal responsibility, including a detailed historical overview, different approaches and resulting tests, and elements of criminal responsibility (actus reus and mens rea). We will compare Common Law with the Model Penal Code approaches to the elements, and discuss the components of a criminal responsibility “checklist.”

**Prerequisites (If any):**
PSYC6230.81
Introduction to Forensic Psychology

**Goals and Objectives:**
To acquire an understanding of the historical and modern legal conceptualization of insanity
To acquire an understanding of the threshold elements of criminal responsibility
To acquire an understanding of the defenses against criminal responsibility
To acquire an understanding of the procedures for evaluating criminal responsibility
To acquire an understanding of the multiple areas of competence and how they are evaluated

**Course Topics:**
Introduction to Criminal Responsibility; Historical Overview; Elements of Criminal Responsibility; Affirmative Defenses; Diminished Capacity; Roots of the Insanity Defense; Insanity and the U.S. Constitution; The D.C. Experiment; What is “Wrongfulness”?: What to do with Insanity Acquittees?; Prosecuting the Mentally Ill; Affirmative Exceptions to Insanity; Criminal Competencies

**Text:**