

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Institute of Criminology

Faculty of Law



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Preface

Dear reader,

This booklet is intended to give you a brief introduction to our Institute of Criminology at the University of Tübingen, which was founded in 1477.

What is Criminology? First of all, it is important not to confuse criminology with criminalistics. Unlike the police, we do not solve crimes, but deal with every aspect of delinquency on a scientific basis.

We ask questions like:

- How does delinquency develop in society?
- What kind of person becomes delinquent, and why?
- With what kind of countermeasures should the state react?
- What can be done for crime victims?

In order to answer these and other questions you need not only law experts but also professionals from other fields like sociology, psychology and education just to name a few.

The Institute of Criminology is part of the Faculty of law. It also has a long tradition and goes back to the founding year of 1962 which makes it the oldest institute of its kind in Germany. However, we hope to always keep up with the times.

But enough said! My staff and I hope you will enjoy reading this booklet, and if you have any questions do not hesitate to ask, we are happy to hear from you!

Kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Jörg Kinzig

and all members of staff



Head of the Institute

History of the Institute of Criminology – in brief

1962 - 1986

(under the leadership of Hans Göppinger)



Founding of the Institute of Criminology

The Institute of Criminology (IfK) was founded in 1962 at the Eberhard Karls University in Tübingen, as the first criminological research institute in Germany.

Founder and first head of the institute was Hans Göppinger who was also a full professor for criminology. He was trained in, and represented, the two areas which foremost influenced German criminology up to the seventies: criminal law and psychiatry.

Research focus of the era Göppinger was the “Tübinger-Jungtäter-Vergleichsuntersuchung” (TVJU; Tübingen’s Comparative Study of Young Delinquents). This study aimed to gain empirically validated basic knowledge about the delinquent as an individual for the first time.

The findings led to conclusions regarding the scientific concept of criminology altogether, as well as the practice of criminal justice.



1986 – 2011

(under the leadership of Hans-Jürgen Kerner)

In October 1986 Hans-Jürgen Kerner took over the position as head of institute. He continued the work on the TJVU to further study the participants' ongoing lives along with their (re-)offences to draw conclusions about recidivism in general and its long-term development. In addition the data was successfully related to those of international developmental studies which smoothed the way for a comparative analysis.

The change of the leadership also brought a re-orientation and widened spectrum of research areas at the institute. Work then focused on issues such as crime prevention, juvenile delinquency and the impact of social changes on delinquent behavior.

All in all Kerner's research concentrated on the individual and individual dispositions and values.

since 2011

(under the leadership of Jörg Kinzig)

Jörg Kinzig has headed the Institute of Criminology since 2011. Besides maintaining the institute's traditions he also focuses on criminal sanctions, where he deals with the question of how the state should react reasonably to serious crimes. At the moment, the legal reality of criminal justice is to be explored within a project concerning plea bargains. More research projects regarding the penal system (e.g. "Muslims in Juvenile Detention") or concerning current criminal policy issues (e.g. violence in football) complete the range of topics.

Organization of the Institute of Criminology

Head of Institute

Prof. Dr. Jörg Kinzig
institute management
research and teaching

**Senior Professor
Honorary Professor
Assistant Professor
Research & Student
Assistants**

carrying out scientific research projects
teaching
teaching and research assistance

**Administration
Library
IT**

managing day-to-day business at the institute
and library
financing, planning and arranging congresses
and events

Research

Criminal Proceedings and Sanctions

Prison/Reentry Programs/Aftercare

Violent Crimes

Sexual Delinquency

Developmental and Life Course Criminology

Juvenile Criminology

Sense of Security/Fear of Crime

Teaching

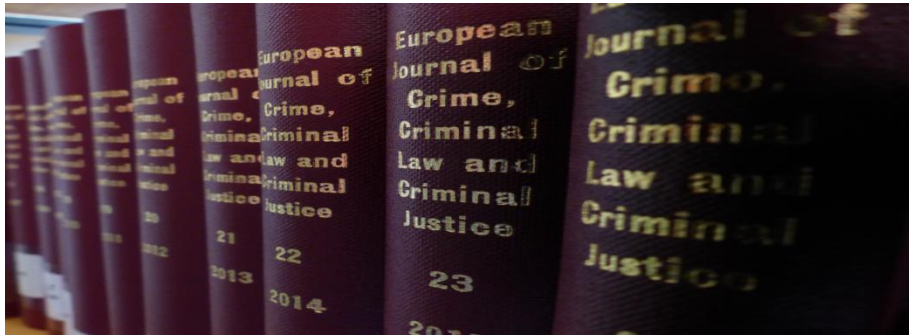
In addition to the research activities the head of the institute and members of staff have teaching assignments, like lectures, seminars and case discussions. The courses are not solely attended by law students, but also by psychology, sociology and education majors. During these courses, knowledge in the areas of criminology, criminal and sanctions law, the penal system and juvenile law is imparted.

When teaching criminology we focus upon specific research methods, crime statistics and theory of crime. At the same time, we concentrate on specific forms of crime, like violent and property crimes or specific groups of offenders, e.g. offences committed by senior citizens or women.

In the field of criminal law, students gain insight into criminal offenses against persons and legal interests of the general public, as well as into theft, property offences and forgery. Another lecture about the penal system discusses its organization and the rights and duties of prison inmates.

Courses on juvenile law deal with the system of the Juvenile Court Act and its distinctive characteristics compared to the general criminal law.

Library



The institute's library is currently equipped with about 48,000 books, subscribes to 80 periodicals and provides access to numerous e-journals.

The library mainly contains literature on criminology and criminal policy concerning the following topics: general criminology, penology, crime statistics, police research, psychiatry, psychology, sociology and measures to fight against crime (i.e. law enforcement, prison system, aftercare).

The collection of articles at the Institute of Criminology includes about 9,000 special prints from national and international journals relevant to criminological research.

Criminological Information Service

Since 2014, the Institute of Criminology has run the Criminological Information Service (FID Kriminologie) in close cooperation with the University Library Tübingen. It is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Purpose of the Criminological Information Service is to ensure the national supply of literature in the field of criminology. This newly implemented service is structured to meet specific needs and requests in the field of criminology as accurately as possible. According to the motto “in the Interests of Research” it is important to provide researchers with easy access to special literature and useful information. The primary search tool for all criminological relevant sources (books, articles, other documents) is the bibliographic database KrimDok. On the basis of extensive evaluations, it currently comprises around 250,000 entries of publications on criminology and related disciplines in German and other languages. If possible, digitalized publications as well as other electronic documents have been made accessible there, too. On the one hand, there are retro-digitized publications available. On the other hand, electronic publications issued by other institutions are gathered in the Repository.

Cooperations

University Library Tübingen

Partner in managing the “FID Kriminologie”,
Publishing “Tübingen Writings and Material for Criminology”
(TÜKRIM)

Working Group on Criminology and Criminal Policy

Organizes talks in the field of criminology addressing the scientific community, criminal justice, police, probationary services and interested members of the general public.

Scientific Association of Tübingen Criminologists

Coalition of alumni and other supporters of the Tübingen Institute of Criminology

Members of staff March, 2019





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