

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES  
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (HONOURS) IN POLICE AND  
SECURITY STUDIES

PS 101: CRIMINAL LAW

Duration: 3 hours (100 marks)

\* APR 2025

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Answer 4 (four) questions.
2. This paper contains 5 questions.
3. Paper contains 1 compulsory Question (Question 1)
4. Choose any other 3 Questions.
5. Each question carries 25 marks.
6. Cell phones are not allowed into the examination room.
7. Begin each fresh answer on a new page.
8. Credit shall be given for referring to case law, statutes or any other authorities wherever possible.

### Question 1 (compulsory)

- a) What are the main purposes of the criminal law? (12)
- b) Critically discuss what is wrong with the following criminal offence:  
*"Anyone who engages in any activity which the government deems to be undesirable shall be guilty of a criminal offence and shall be punished with such punishment as the court deems to be appropriate."* (13) [25 Marks]

### Question 2

With reference to case law scholarly arguments and legislative texts critically discuss the view that in Zimbabwe involuntary intoxication can be a full defence whereas voluntary intoxication is at most a partial defence. [25 Marks]

### Question 3

Is it correct to say that the application of the thin skull rule means that a person will be always be found guilty of culpable homicide if he assaults another and that person dies, even if the assault is of a very trivial nature. Justify your answer with case law and appropriate legislative texts? [25 Marks]

### Question 4

"It can safely be said that the principle of legality is one of the cornerstones of every criminal justice system" Discuss this statement in detail with the aid of relevant statutes and case law. [25 Marks]

### Question 5

- Explain why it is totally unacceptable:
- a) for criminal law to be vague and imprecise;
  - b) for a criminal law to be made to apply retrospectively;
  - c) for a criminal punishment to be imposed with retrospective effect;
  - d) for criminal to be used as an instrument of repression in a democratic society? (5)
- (7)

**\*\*ENDS\*\***

[25 Marks]