CRW2601 Exam Tips

Don’t ruin your hard work by messing up your exam!

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.”
— Pelé

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE EXAM

- **Section A**: 10 Multiple Choice Questions to be answered on a mark reading sheet (30 marks)
- **Section B**: Answers to questions to be written down in exam answer book (70 marks)
- You have 2 hours to complete the exam
- 50% required to pass

EXAM TIP NO 1:

**Aim high!** Do not simply aim for a pass, but for a distinction or a good mark.

EXAM TIP NO 2:

Students of criminal law are sometimes inclined to underestimate the subject because it deals with human actions that are concrete and often spectacular, such as stealing, killing, raping, kidnapping or destroying. We wish to **warn you against underestimating this subject.** Some of the concepts of criminal law are among the most difficult to grasp in the field of law.

EXAM TIP NO 3:

The exam is based on all study units in the Study Guide, except where indicated otherwise in the study unit itself. Make sure you are familiar with the content of all the units.

EXAM TIP NO 4:

Look at previous exams to see how questions are asked. Also look at your tutorial letter 101 at the Self-assessment assignment where typical questions and answers are provided. See also your tutorial letter 102 where a previous exam paper is supplied together with an explanation of how these questions should be answered. You also need to revise your assignment questions as well as the feedback provided. Questions are usually asked in similar ways, same phrasing, etc.
EXAM TIP NO 5:

Read each question twice. The biggest problem in the assignment was that students did not read their questions carefully, and then got the answer completely wrong!

EXAM TIP NO 6:

Know the definition of each principle. Try to understand the principles of criminal law, such as causation, private defence and intention so that you can apply them to concrete cases. Do not try to memorise page upon page of the study guide without understanding the principles underlying the topics.

**EDUCATION IS NOT THE LEARNING OF FACTS, BUT THE TRAINING OF THE MIND TO THINK.**

~ ALBERT EINSTEIN
EXAM TIP NO 7:
State some particulars regarding the principle (such as giving illustrations of its application, the authority on which the principle is based, or possible exceptions thereto).

EXAM TIP NO 8:
If there is any important case related to a principle, memorise the case name. Remember that you do not need to memorise the entire case reference – just give the name.

EXAM TIP NO 9:
In answering problem-type questions, a) identify the applicable legal principle, b) apply the legal principle to the facts of the matter, and c) draw a conclusion. If applicable, refer to case law that supports your reasoning.

EXAM TIP NO 10:
If a question requires a Yes/No answer, remember to insert the answer!

EXAM TIP NO 11:
When you have to discuss a case, do it in the following manner:
(a) Briefly give the facts of the case (2-3 sentences).
(b) State the legal question (1 sentence).
(c) Give the judgment and briefly discuss the reasons for the judgment (2-3 sentences).

It is almost time to write your exam!

GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR EXAM AND DO THE BEST