



Module Specification

Criminal Psychology

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Criminal Psychology

Module code: UZSNNC-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Sociology and Criminology

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: Forensic Psychology 2023-24

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module aims to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to criminal psychology and the role that psychology plays in the criminal justice system (CJS). This will be done by examining offender motivations and the range background characteristics that can influence offending behaviours, as well as

societal responses to offenders in terms of punishment and treatment. Students will be able to apply this knowledge to real life situations by developing an offender profile of a known serial killer.

Outline syllabus: Whilst the specific lecture programme may vary year to year to reflect current issues, legislative changes and research developments, the main topics that will be covered by the module would likely include:

The social construction of violent and/or dangerous offenders

Psychological theories of crime (biological, developmental, psychodynamic and social)

Psychology and the CJS (including offender profiling, eyewitness testimony, police decisionmaking and interviewing, and psychology in the courtroom)

An examination of different types of offenders and forms of offending (including stalkers, serial killers, sexual offending and domestic violence and abuse)

An overview of issues of treatment, risk management, reoffending and rehabilitation

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Contact Hours:

The module is based on a combination of lectures and seminars equating to a minimum of 72 hours over 24 weeks

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate a sound awareness of the multi-disciplinary nature of criminal psychology

MO2 Identify and evaluate a range of psychological theories of crime

MO3 Recognise and critically discuss key debates regarding the role of psychology in the criminal justice system

MO4 Develop and present a critical analysis profiling the psychology of offenders and identifies appropriate forms of treatment for them

MO5 Demonstrate oral and written communications skills through the successful completion of component A

MO6 Demonstrate written communications skills through the successful completion of Component B

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsnnc-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsnnc-30-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: This module includes both formative and summative forms of assessment. Students are provided with feedback on their first assessment (a case study) which can then be reflected upon and used to inform their second assessment (a viva). In both assessments, students must draw upon a wide range of issues covered throughout the module.

One 3,000 word case study profiling a selected serial killer (70%) (Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

One 15 minute viva based upon their case study (30%) (Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

The assessment strategy for this module was selected in order to contribute to the development of key Level 2 skills and module learning outcomes, and to contribute to the diversity of assessment methods on the programme as a whole. The module

adheres to the UWE Academic Regulations and Assessment Cycle Policy, and assessment and feedback will form a critical aspect of the students learning process in line with UWE's Assessment Cycle Policy and will follow UWE's inclusivity guidance.

The module will address plagiarism by directing students to UWE study skills online resources which address plagiarism. A link to the Library website will be provided in both the module handbook and on the module's BB site, which will be available to all students on the module. Students will also be directed to use SafeAssign (UWE's online plagiarism software) before submitting their work, so that any potential issues can be identified and addressed before work is submitted. Finally, the module teaching team will also be able to use safe Assign to check any plagiarism concerns they have with any student work.

Assessment tasks:**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Presentation and viva based on case study (15 minutes)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Case Study (First Sit)

Description: Case study (3000 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO6

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation and viva based on case study (15 minutes)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Case Study (Resit)

Description: Case study (3000 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Psychology with Criminology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology and Law [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Law [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Law with Criminology [Frenchay] LLB (Hons) 2022-23

Sociology with Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology and Sociology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Sociology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Sociology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Sociology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Sociology with Criminology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Sociology with Criminology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology and Sociology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology and Sociology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Law {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology and Law {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Law {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Law with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2021-22

Law with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] LLB (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology and Law {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Sociology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Sociology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Criminology with Sociology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Criminology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology with Criminology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Criminology and Sociology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19