

ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Criminal psychology					
Module Code	UZSNNC-30-2		Level	2	Version	2.1
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	WBL module?	Yes / No*	
Owning Faculty	HAS		Field	Health and Applied Social Sciences		
Department	Health and Applied Social Sciences		Module Type	Standard		
Contributes towards	BSc (Hons) Criminology (& all Criminology combinations with Sociology, Law and Psychology)					
Pre-requisites	N/A		Co- requisites	N/A		
Excluded Combinations	USSKCH-15-3 Forensic Psychology		Module Entry requirements	N/A		
First CAP Approval Date	2008		Valid from	September 2008		
Revision CAP Approval Date	July 2016		Valid from	September 2016		

Review Date	
-------------	--

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an understanding of the multi-disciplinary nature of criminal psychology (Components A and B); 2. an understanding of the current perceptions psychologically unbalanced offenders (Components A and B); 3. critical analysis of the spectrum of psychological theories of crime (Components A and B); 4. critical analysis of the role of psychology in the criminal justice system (Components A and B); 5. critical analysis of the psychology of offenders (Components A and B); 6. critical analysis of the treatment of offenders (Components A and B);
Syllabus Outline	<p>This module will examine psychological theories of, and responses to crime in contemporary society, and although content may vary from year to year, the module is expected to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the psychology of crime (incl. The birth and dynamics of Criminal psychology; Research methods within criminal psychology; The role of the criminal psychologist (guest lecture); Law and psychology).

	<p>2. Psychological theories of crime (incl. Biological; Social & Developmental; Personality; Drugs).</p> <p>3. Investigative psychology: Psychology in the Criminal Justice system (incl. Offender profiling; Interviews; Eyewitness testimony; Jury decision making; Psychology in prison; Miscarriages of justice).</p> <p>4. Offences, offenders and responses (incl. Violent offenders; Domestic violence; Mentally disordered offender (psychopath); Serial killers; Stalkers; Sex offenders; Female offenders; Treatment, control and community protection)</p>
Contact Hours	<p>1. Lectures to provide an introduction to each subject area and outline the key theoretical debates.</p> <p>2. Seminars providing structured discussion of contemporary issues relating to psychological theories of, and reactions to crime.</p> <p>The lecture programme will be supported by use of Audio-visual resources.</p> <p>Seminar support enhanced by use of electronic media such as Blackboard discussion groups, UWE Blackboard, email.</p>
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>Scheduled Learning</p> <p>Criminal Psychology is an extremely broad topic and this module aims to give students knowledge across the main themes. The module can be selected by students from a diverse range of programmes and must contain enough of interest and relevance for each.</p> <p>The theoretical underpinning of the module is delivered through integrated lecture and tutorial sessions (72 hours) with additional bespoke resources made available electronically (i.e., using blackboard to host discussion boards). Employability focussed lectures are delivered by academic specialists from industry.</p> <p>Independent Learning</p> <p>It is expected that students will spend a significant proportion of the study time for this module engaging with relevant scientific literature, as directed by academic staff. Preparation for the coursework assessments will require significant research into relevant case studies and the ability to critically evaluate realistic forensic casework data. It is expected that independent study will take students to the notional 228 hours of study associated with this module.</p>
Key Information Sets Information	<p>Key Information Sets (KIS) are produced at programme level for all programmes that this module contributes to, which is a requirement set by HESA/HEFCE. KIS are comparable sets of standardised information about undergraduate courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for.</p>

Key Information Set - Module data				
Number of credits for this module			30	
Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours
300	72	228	0	300

The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -

Written Exam: Unseen written exam, open book written exam, In-class test

Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project

Practical Exam: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam

Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:

Total assessment of the module:		
Written exam assessment percentage		0%
Coursework assessment percentage		60%
Practical exam assessment percentage		40%
		100%

Reading Strategy

Students will be required to read at least one book chapter or journal article to prepare for each lecture/seminar subject area. The students will given the details of the books and recommended journal articles and are expected to go to the library to obtain them themselves. The majority of the core readings will be placed on short loan in the library. As there is a strong element of student-led learning (through the case study), students will be expected to identify relevant sources for those topics they elect to study in more detail. They will therefore be encouraged to use the library catalogue, bibliographic and full text databases and internet resources.

Indicative Reading List

The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. However, as indicated above, CURRENT advice on readings will be available via other more frequently updated mechanisms.

Core texts

Blackburn, R. (1993). The Psychology of Criminal Conduct: Theory, Research & Practice. Chichester: Wiley.

Towl, G. J., & Crighton, D. A. (2010) Forensic Psychology. Chichester: BPS Blackwell

McCartan, K. F. (Ed). Criminal Psychology: A reader. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.

Supplementary texts

Howitt, D. (2009). Forensic and criminal psychology, 3RD Ed. Prentice Hall: Pearson.

Wortley, R. (2011). Psychological Criminology: An integrative approach. Routledge.

	<p>Tony, S., Bryant, R. P., & Horvath, M. A. H. (2009). <i>Understanding Criminal Investigation</i>. Chichester: Wiley - Blackwell.</p> <p>Journals International journal of forensic psychology Psychology, crime and the law Legal and criminological psychology British journal of psychology British journal of criminology Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology Journal of Forensic psychiatry and psychology</p>
--	---

Part 3: Assessment	
Assessment Strategy	<p>The student, across the life of this module, will conduct an in-depth case study on a known offender and the present their findings back to the module team through a written as well as verbal report. This assessment allows the student to relate the learning from the module to a real world example, therefore meaning that they can apply research, theory and knowledge from academia. The assessment will also allow the student to present the same information in different forms, therefore tying in to the differing demands that will be placed on the in university as well as in the workplace.</p> <p>Coursework - case study 3,000 words (60%) The students will have to do a case study, based upon one of four options, using the material covered in the module. They will need to produce a case study covering;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A social, cultural and historical contextualisation of the offender and their offences (i.e., what society was like at the time they committed their offences, the impact that their offending had on society at the time, and the last impact of their offending, if any) - An outline of the offenders offences (this should mainly discuss the types of victims, Modis Operandi, number of victims and duration of offending and notable occurrences during the offenders offending period; it should not be a list of all the victims and what happened to them). - A profile of the offender: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the offenders history and background; • a psychological profile of the offender {including whether they fit into a typology}; • an explanation of the of their offending behaviour and a discussion of their offences {offences, victims and motives}; - How, why and when the offender was caught (police methods, etc) - The offenders possibilities for treatment (including what treatment, if any, they would be suited to them) <p>Presentation and Viva based on case study (15 minutes) (40%) They will have to give a short presentation based on their case study [5 minutes] and then have a 10 minute viva [comprising of 5 questions] with a course tutor.</p>

Identify final assessment component and element	
---	--

% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	40	60
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Presentation and Viva based on case study (15 minutes)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Case study (3000 words)	100%	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)	
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Presentation and Viva based on case study (15 minutes)	100
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1.Case study (3000 words)	100
If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.	