



Module Specification

Nature and Use of Research (Criminology)

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Nature and Use of Research (Criminology)

Module code: UZSY65-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Sociology and Criminology

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This is a Level 5 research methods module for criminology students, which aims to provide students with an understanding of the principles and skills needed to gather and analyse criminological research data.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: A key objective of this module is to provide students with hands on experience in the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data.

Outline syllabus: Topics may include some of the following indicative areas:

The research processes, i.e. reviewing literature and ethical considerations

Designing research tools, i.e. interview guides and questionnaires

Media and digital methodologies

Secondary data analysis

Managing and analysing qualitative data

Managing and analysis quantitative data

Methods for data presentation, description, and visualization.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Weekly workshops will allow students to apply their knowledge from lectures and develop their research skills.

Integral to this module is the use of subject based as well as generic technologies. For instance, students will be introduced to public domain data sources such as the Crime Survey for England and Wales and the statistical software package SPSS which is commonly used in criminological research.

The following Generic Graduate Skills will be Practised. (Their specific strand e.g. presentation, is in brackets)

Communication (In employing a research method, such as interviews and surveys)

Innovative and Enterprising (In mapping and utilising appropriate research methods to research questions and problems)

Forward Looking (Identification and employment of research methodology and methods in respect of final year project/placement)

Emotional Intelligence (Reflexivity in conducting small scale research and analysing research data)

Globally Engaged (Identification and employment of research methodology and methods in relation to a research problem of wide significance).

The following Generic Graduate Skills will be Evidenced.

Professionalism (In employing any scientific research method)

Critical Thinking (In employing a research method relevant to the research problem/question and engaging in the data analysis)

Digital Fluency (Data analysis using relevant software and applications)

Innovative and Enterprising (In mapping and utilising appropriate research methods to research questions and problems)

Emotional Intelligence (Reflexivity in conducting small scale research and analysing research data).

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

MO1 Show an understanding of the research development process

MO2 Gather, organise and present quantitative and qualitative data appropriately

MO3 Evaluate the process of collecting research data

MO4 Demonstrate an ability to analyse data using appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative techniques

MO5 Use appropriate software in the collection and analyses of data

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsy65-15-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzsy65-15-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module has a single summative point of assessment in the form of a portfolio. The nature of the portfolio is derived from the learning outcomes of the module in that it encourages students to practice and present methodological skills alongside developing their analytical skills.

This supports the broader programme learning outcomes at this level and helps students to build skills pertinent to study at Level 6.

There will be opportunities through workshops and tutorials for students to receive formative feedback which they can use to inform their summative work. To enable students to evidence learning outcomes and help them engage with contemporaneous issues, their portfolio will include evidence of the completion of at least the following two tasks:

1. A demonstration of a methodological technique relevant to criminology e.g. semi structured interviews, questionnaires, and a reflection of the process of gathering

data

2. A demonstration of an analytical approach, e.g. Univariate and Bivariate analysis and/or thematic analysis

The combined word count for the portfolio will be a maximum of 2000 words, depending on the specific tasks set. This flexibility opens up options for the course to deal with topical issues and different methodologies in the assessment. For example, demonstration of quantitative analysis would not necessarily require as much word count as a qualitative analysis. As such guidance on the tasks and associated expectations with regards to marking criteria and word count will be clearly stated in the module handbook ahead of the start of the module.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio of methodological and analytical tasks

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio of methodological and analytical tasks

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

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

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

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

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

Criminology with 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

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 [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

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

Criminology with Sociology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (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 [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

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

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

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

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

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

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

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 and Sociology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22