



Module Specification

Prisons

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Prisons

Module code: UZSY74-15-2

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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module aims to introduce students to the prison system in England and Wales, examining its characteristics, the challenges it faces, and its contribution to criminal and social justice in today's society. The module also introduces students to factors influencing the development of penal policy in general

and in England and Wales in particular, drawing on comparative prison literature and research.

Outline syllabus: An indicative list of the themes covered in the module is as follows:

Mentally Disordered Prisoners and Therapeutic Prisons

Life and Indeterminate Prison Sentences

Female Prisoners

Minorities and Prisons

Race and Ethnicity in Prisons

Prison Officers and their work

Prison Education

Prisoners and Human Rights

Penal Policy in Late Modernity: risk, political economy, and culture

Comparative European Penal Perspectives: The case of the Netherlands

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Module Learning and Teaching Strategy:

The module is taught through weekly 1 hour lectures and seminars, accompanied by weekly 1 hour online workshops. In seminars, both in groups and independently, students will apply their knowledge on each lecture topic based on a set of key questions and problem solving exercises. The online workshops will be reflective of real-time developments in penal policy and prison affairs and will be facilitated by member(s) of the teaching team. In the online workshops, students will utilise knowledge on penal policy and prisons to comment in an intelligible and professional manner on current prison affairs.

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

MO1 Understand and appraise key current developments in the English penal policy and key factors influencing the scale and functions of imprisonment

MO2 Understand and evaluate current debates relating to the imprisonment of identifiable social groups and to the rationale of specific types of custodial sentences

MO3 Utilise and apply key penological concepts and themes relating to the role of the prison as a form of punishment, and as a criminal justice and social institution for academic and non-academic audiences

MO4 Develop and present arguments, informed by penological literature and research, relating to key issues associated with the use and experience of imprisonment

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/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy outlined below is informed by QAA Criminology Benchmarks (2014), the criminology programme's learning outcomes and relevant level descriptors. As part of UWE's 2020 strategy priorities, the module offers students the opportunity to develop skills that will enable them to become 'ready and able graduates' as well as, an 'outstanding learning experience' by utilising specialist research led knowledge.

The formative assessment will afford students the opportunity to develop knowledge and practise research, communication and interpersonal skills. Building on the formative assessment, the summative assessment will enable students to harness their research and writing skills. The assessment strategy has been designed via

consultation with the criminology team to ensure parity between modules and allows for a greater diversity in terms of assessment within the criminology programme as a whole.

Formative Assessment:

In groups, students are required to take part in role-play exercises where they will defend and argue against specific aspects of current prison policy and penal affairs. This role-play exercise will involve defenders and opponents of the topic in question, and observers who will feedback to the two sides on the strengths and weaknesses of their respective arguments. This will enable students to develop a more nuanced understanding of Prison and allow them to engage in debates on criminal justice matters.

This addresses Learning Outcomes 1-4.

Summative Assessment:

Students are required to submit a 2000 word evaluative Prisons Report on a current aspect of prison policy and penal affairs. This addresses Learning Outcomes 1-4. Students will design the report around their own specific interests of prison policy and penal affairs and will be individualised to them.

Formative Assessment:

Group based role-play exercises in seminars.

Summative Assessment:

A 2000 word evaluative Prisons Report on a current aspect of prison policy and penal affairs

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: A 2000 word evaluative prisons report

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: A 2000 word evaluative prisons report

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

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