



## **Module Specification**

# Understanding Vulnerability and Investigation

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## **Part 1: Information**

**Module title:** Understanding Vulnerability and Investigation

**Module code:** UZSKEC-30-1

**Level:** Level 4

**For implementation from:** 2020-21

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS Dept of Social Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Frenchay Campus

**Field:** Sociology and Criminology

**Module type:** Project

**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 module will provide an introduction to a range of public protection issues as they relate to legislation, theories of crime and victimisation, research evidence, public policy and policing practice.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The module will focus broadly on issues of vulnerability and risk and frame learning around the THRIVE model (Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation Opportunities, Vulnerability of the victim and the Engagement level required to resolve the issue). The module will include aspects of valuing difference and inclusion, counter terrorism and some aspects of digital policing.

**Outline syllabus:** As part of the focus on public protection apprentices will be introduced to key definitions, legislation and associated guidance. This learning will be framed around high profile cases of abuse which demonstrate the breadth of such incidents. This will help illustrate the impact of abuse on victims and equip apprentices with knowledge which can help them to identify potential public protection incidents when carrying out their duties. Apprentices will learn about the different initial actions they can undertake when responding to a public protection incident and the importance of taking a partnership approach to such incidents.

Apprentices will be introduced to the topic of 'vulnerability' in the context of operational policing and the national drivers for the police service in providing a professional and ethical service to people at risk. Apprentices will gain knowledge of some of the personal aspects of vulnerability and how other external factors can result in harm, or risk of harm to a vulnerable person, to enable appreciation of the importance of appropriate support by the police and within the criminal justice system, e.g. special measures.

Building on this focus on vulnerability, apprentices will learn about the core principles of ethics, equality, diversity and human rights in professional policing and the way in which individual and organisational bias, prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping can be challenged.

Core subjects include missing people, sexual offences, hate crimes, domestic abuse, complex harm (such as honour based violence) as well as mental health and child protection.

Aspects of vulnerability will also be linked to issues of radicalisation and terrorism and apprentices will learn key counter terrorism terminology/concepts and the

relevant key legislation. Apprentices will learn about the different roles, responsibilities and impacts that operational policing can have, especially as it relates to identifying vulnerabilities in a counter-terrorism context and taking appropriate action for safeguarding.

Finally, taking public protection and vulnerability issues further apprentices will learn about digital policing, local force strategy and gain an appreciation of the prevalence of technology and devices in modern society and how it may be used in everyday policing, and facilitate internet-based crime. Apprentices will learn about appropriate initial police responses to a crime scene involving digital devices and how to provide support to victims of internet-facilitated crime, although generic issues are covered in the Craft Skills module.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module will include simulation opportunities and will be delivered via an intensive period of face to face learning, which may include online learning

#### **Module Learning outcomes:**

**MO1** Recognise the key definitions, legislation and associated public protection guidance

**MO2** Demonstrate an understanding of the complex nature of vulnerability, risk and public protection and why these are important issues for policing

**MO3** Explain the relevance of the THRIVE model to operational policing

**MO4** Explain the importance of valuing difference and inclusion and the various considerations that are important when supporting a vulnerable person

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

#### **Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 189 hours

Face-to-face learning = 111 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/uzskec-30-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzskec-30-1.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Summative assessment:

Component A:

Apprentices will write a 3,000 word Report relating to a safeguarding case study on a vulnerability issue.

Apprentices should draw on the key definitions of vulnerability, the legal issues, what investigative research they will need to engage with, what investigative actions they should complete to protect and reduce harm, and what agencies to engage and refer to.

Rationale:

This will enable apprentices to develop their professional persona and reflect on knowledge acquired on the module, directly relating to vulnerability issues. It will help apprentices establish academic writing skills necessary for success on the degree programme.

Formative Assessment:

A selection of video quizzes and knowledge checks will be conducted in seminar sessions.

**Assessment components:**

**Written Assignment - Component A (First Sit)**

Description: 3,000 word report on safeguarding issue

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

**Written Assignment - Component A (Resit)**

Description: 3,000 word report on safeguarding issue

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested:

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Professional Policing Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc  
(Hons) 2020-21