



Module Specification

Problem-solving in Law and Criminology

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Problem-solving in Law and Criminology

Module code: UJUUMK-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Law School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Law Undergraduate (Programmes), 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: The aim of this module is to introduce a range of research methodologies and methods that are used in legal and criminological research; including conducting literature reviews and the ethical implications that research can present. The relationship between legal and criminological research will also be examined, thus leaving the student confident and empowered to undertake the Level 6 Project module and indeed, lifelong research and learning.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module will introduce and explore the research relationship between law and criminology allowing the student to develop skills including, but not limited to, research, synthesis, critical analysis, academic writing skills and practice, communication, and application.

Outline syllabus: This module is designed to prepare students for their degree by introducing research approaches to Law and, Criminology. The module also supports the development of key graduate attributes that will enable you to succeed in your studies and chosen career path. Study units may include, but are not limited to:

Quantitative Methods

Qualitative Methods

Legal methodologies: such as

Doctrinal

Socio-Legal

Comparative

Feminist

Conducting Literature Reviews

Ethical Considerations

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The learning on this module will take place through a variety of modes including directed independent learning, self-directed learning, and group activities. Students will need to adopt a proactive approach to the module and engage with the full offer of learning opportunities to ensure successful achievement of the learning outcomes. Directed independent learning includes engaging with resources such as recorded lectures, Blackboard self-

assessment tests, Mentimeter, videos and reading as well as guided activities for example preparing notes, case studies and worksheets.

Self-directed learning includes activities such as reading, note-taking, research, and exploring resources. There is also an expectation that students will self-assess their own learning needs and make use of the additional support available via the Learning Hub and Library.

Group activities may include discussions, debate, collaborative working, and peer learning. The group activities and directed learning form an essential part in providing students with the knowledge and skills required on this module. The module has been carefully designed to ensure that students are fully supported on their journey through the Law and Criminology degree.

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

MO1 A critical understanding of the range of research methodologies and methods that are used in legal and criminological research.

MO2 An understanding the process for conducting a literature review and the ethical implications of research.

MO3 An ability to reflect objectively and critically on the nature of research practice and to communicate that effectively in a professional context.

MO4 An awareness of the standards of good academic writing and practice, that can be used throughout the student's studies and beyond.

MO5 An ability to reflect on the skills that they have developed in the course of the programme and how this relates to their professional development and practice.

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 via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module assessments will provide students with an opportunity to develop their oral communication skills, develop and apply their research skills and also, develop their academic and professional writing skills. Thus, assessment will comprise of:

Poster and Pitch: Oral discussion where students will select a methodology and communicate how this can be utilised to research a current legal issue.

Written Coursework: A research proposal.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Oral presentation where students will select a methodology and communicate how this can be utilised to research a current legal issue.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: A research proposal.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Oral presentation where students will select a methodology and communicate how this can be utilised to research a current legal issue.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: A research proposal.

Weighting: 50 %

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:

Law and Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Law and Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25