



Module Specification

Criminology Project

Version: 2027-28, v5.0, Approved

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Criminology Project

Module code: UZSY5T-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: Criminology Partnership Project 2027-28

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This capstone module provides students with the opportunity to design and complete an independent research or practice-based project aligned with their academic interests and career aspirations. Recognising the diversity of graduate pathways within criminology, the module offers three distinct project strands: (1) empirical dissertation, (2) policy report, and (3) placement-based project.

The module places a strong emphasis on applied, empirical, and practice-oriented outputs, actively encouraging students to move beyond traditional extended literature

reviews toward research, analysis, and professional outputs that reflect real-world criminological practice. Students will be supported through structured supervision, research methods workshops, and skills-based masterclasses.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The educational aims of the module are:

To enable students to undertake an extended independent project demonstrating advanced criminological knowledge

To develop students' ability to design and conduct empirical research or applied analysis

To promote engagement with real-world criminal justice, policy, and professional contexts

To support the development of graduate skills aligned with employability and postgraduate study

Outline syllabus: Indicative content may include:

Research design and project planning

Ethics and governance processes

Qualitative and quantitative methods refreshers

Policy analysis and professional writing

Reflective and practice-based research

Placement preparation and professional conduct

Data analysis and interpretation workshops

Dissertation and report writing masterclasses

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Group lectures and research briefings

Small group supervision sessions

Research methods and skills workshops

Masterclasses from academics and practitioners

Peer learning and project development activities

Drop-in support sessions

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

MO1 Design and execute an independent criminological research or practice-based project, demonstrating appropriate methodological, analytical, or professional approaches.

MO2 Demonstrate critical understanding of relevant literature, policy, and theoretical frameworks, and apply these effectively within their project.

MO3 Produce a sustained, coherent, and specialist piece of work tailored to an academic or professional audience, communicating findings clearly in written and/or oral formats.

MO4 Reflect critically on the research or practice process, including methodological decisions, limitations, and the broader implications of the work

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 285 hours

Staff-guided learning = 15 hours

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: This module has one summative assessment; Report - 9000 words (maximum)

Students must select one of the following three project options:

Empirical Dissertation (9000 words maximum)

A traditional dissertation with a strengthened emphasis on empirical research.

Or -

Policy Report (9000 words maximum)

Task 1: Analytical Evidence Review and Policy Evaluation (6000 words maximum)

This section provides a critical, problem-focused analysis of the chosen issue.

Task 2: Applied Policy Briefing (3000 words maximum)

This section translates the analysis into a professional, practice-oriented output aimed at a specific audience (e.g. government department, NGO, criminal justice agency).

Or -

Placement Report (6000 words maximum) and a Viva Voce (15 minutes maximum)

A work-based project linked to a placement, volunteering role, or professional engagement (subject to approval).

Assessment Tasks:

Task 1: Report (6000 words maximum) examining the organisation, the student's professional role, and relevant criminological issues within that context.

Task 2: 15-minute (maximum) viva voce examination

The viva is broadly equivalent to a 3,000-word (maximum) assessment in terms of weighting and effort, aligning with standard sector expectations for oral assessments.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)

Description: Report - 9000 words (maximum)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Report - 9000 words (maximum)

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:

Criminology with Law {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

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

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

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

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

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2020-21

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2020-21

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Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

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

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2020-21

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Criminology and Law {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Criminology and Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

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

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