



Module Specification

Crime, Media and Culture

Version: 2026-27, v3.0, Approved

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Crime, Media and Culture

Module code: UZSY75-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

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 module will introduce students to theoretical insights on the topic of media and crime .

The module is designed broadly in line with the purview of the journal; Crime Media, Culture (CMC). The module focuses on two key aspects of the journal's remit: that it is a key arena for the publication of work in the area of Cultural Criminology, and the methodological approaches that are aligned to this area of criminological research.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The aim of the module is to equip students with an understanding of the role of the media in shaping how we understand crime and criminality, which we will do in relation to various different media and contemporary issues.

Outline syllabus: The syllabus will typically include:

The historical development of the relationship between the media and crime for example, the proliferation of crime stories in various modes of media content. Key theoretical contributions to the understanding of media and crime, for example, the media effects debate.

Topical issues related to this area of enquiry as directed by CMC and other notable sources, for example media coverage of organised crime.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Lectures and seminars.

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

MO1 Develop an understanding of how media, crime and culture intersect, supported by relevant criminological literature on crime and the media.

MO2 Demonstrate an understanding of a research method relevant to the study of media and crime (as specified by the assessment brief).

MO3 Analyse media content with reference to relevant criminological concepts linked to crime and the media.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Staff-guided learning = 36 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: Assessment Task: Project (2500 words maximum)

Students will conduct a media analysis on a topic of their choice, selected from within the module syllabus or relevant to the syllabus (for example, media representations of sex offenders in the UK) .

The analysis should be structured in a similar manner to a final year dissertation, but on a smaller scale, comprising:

Introduction

Literature overview (discussing the chosen topic with reference to relevant academic theory)

Methodology (briefly outlining the sampling strategy and the method used - discourse analysis)

Analysis (analysis of media content relevant to their chosen topic, demonstrating an appropriate methodological technique)

Conclusion

The nature of the assessment 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 method of assessment also allows students a level of flexibility in tailoring the topics of the work to their own interests which is in line with the development of independent study skills that we would expect students to begin building at this level of study. 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 informal supervision for students to receive formative feedback which they can use to inform their summative work.

Assessment tasks:**Project (First Sit)**

Description: A 2500 word (maximum) media analysis project.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Project (Resit)

Description: A 2500 word (maximum) media analysis project.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

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

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology and Sociology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

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

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

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

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

Criminology and Sociology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2021-22

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

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2021-22

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

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

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

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2021-22

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2021-22

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

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

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Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons)
2021-22