



Module Specification

Contemporary Perspectives in Criminology

Version: 2026-27, v3.0, Approved

Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Contemporary Perspectives in Criminology

Module code: UZSY78-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

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: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module introduces students to key contemporary criminological theories, allowing students to apply and evaluate those current criminological theories with reference to crimes and issues of criminological relevance.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module builds upon student learning at level 4 (UZSNLD-30-1 Introduction to Criminological Theory).

In doing so, the module aims to advance students knowledge and understanding of contemporary criminological theories and to enable students to apply and evaluate current theoretical developments in the discipline of criminology with reference to current crime issues and developments of criminological relevance.

Outline syllabus: This is an indicative list of topics that will be covered, but will change from time to time depending on current social and political events:

Late modernity and crime
Migration/ Border criminology
Masculinity theories
Feminism
Cultural criminology
Public criminology
Social Harms Perspective
Criminology of War
Risk Society
Surveillance

These will be applied to contemporary issues such as:

Crimmigration
Terrorism/Extremism
Graffiti
Criminalisation of Art & Leisure
Environmental Crimes
State violence
Dangerous places and dangerous 'others'

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will be delivered by one hour weekly seminars and workshops, and 5 'fieldwork' sessions of four hour duration.

The 'fieldwork' sessions draw upon experiential learning activities (e.g. film/documentary based discussion; observation of physical environments; discussion of ideas for the module coursework; mini writing retreats; critical reflection on podcasts).

This delivery aims to decolonise learning as process and activity.

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

MO1 Understand and evaluate contemporary criminological theories in verbal and written formats

MO2 Apply and synthesise contemporary criminological concepts and theories to crime and developments of criminological relevance with the support of empirical evidence.

MO3 Demonstrate the ability to work independently and present criminological theory and concepts both in oral and written formats to develop a greater understanding of contemporary criminological theory

MO4 Understand and evaluate the intersection between theory, research and praxis

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 234 hours

Staff-guided learning = 66 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: The assessment strategy for this module is informed by the learning objectives outlined below and is inclusive of formative and summative forms of assessment. This comprises the following:

Assessment Task 1: Conference Poster Presentation and Commentary.

A conference style poster presentation (10 minutes maximum) accompanied by a 500 word (maximum) commentary.

Assessment Task 2: Report (2000 words maximum)

Students are required to evaluate the success of contemporary criminological theories, covered in this module, in explaining a specific crime phenomenon or social transgression. Students will have the opportunity to select the crime phenomenon or social transgression subject to the approval of member(s) of the teaching team.

Formative opportunities:

To support students' study skills, students will be advised and guided on the relevant study skill sessions on referencing and bibliography, translating reading into writing, note-taking, academic writing and presentational skills, which are organised throughout the year by the Library.

Also, through module based online and seminar activities students will be able learn to successfully search for, and incorporate academic literature into their work.

SafeAssign will be available to students via blackboard. This will be used as a tool for students to check and amend their work and for academic staff to also check all submitted work for potential plagiarism.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)

Description: Report - 2000 words (maximum)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: A conference style poster presentation (10 minutes maximum) accompanied by a 500 word (maximum) commentary.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Presentation (Resit)

Description: A conference style poster presentation (10 minutes maximum) accompanied by a 500 word (maximum) commentary.

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Report - 2000 words (maximum)

Weighting: 60 %

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] - WITHDRAWN BA (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 [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

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

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

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

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

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

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

Criminology and Sociology [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 [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 {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

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

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

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

Criminology [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26

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

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

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

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

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