



## **Module Specification**

### **The Criminal Justice System**

Version: 2025-26, v1.0, 20 Jun 2024

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** The Criminal Justice System

**Module code:** UZSYPA-30-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2025-26

**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:** The primary aim of this module is the exploration of the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales. This involves discussions of the philosophies that inform it, the institutions that comprise it, the individuals that engage in various ways with it, and the processes that are implicit within it.

**Features:** In this module, students will learn to appreciate the various agencies and processes involved in the criminal justice system in England and Wales and the debates that surround them.

**Educational aims:** The educational aims of this module are to build upon and develop the skills learned within Level four modules of Society, Criminology and Law.

The syllabus comprises an introduction to the mechanics of the criminal justice system and the various influences upon it, with a particular focus on the key institutions and key processes.

It is anticipated that students will reflect and recognise the systemic complexities which are inherent in the criminal justice system and how it reflects societal and political views on criminality learned in year one.

Students will develop the ability to be critical and draw comparisons to other models and jurisdictions and to consider alternative models. In addition to being critical, students will develop an awareness of political and cultural values.

Inclusivity and diversity are inherent to the module and the module aims to present an environment where ideas on these issues are can be exchanged and respected. It is anticipated that the module will present a fair balance between academic and practice.

**Outline syllabus:** Topics may include but are not limited to:

Police

Courts

The Jury

Sentencing

Prisons

Alternatives to Custody

Probation

Youth Justice System

Models of Justice

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module may consist of the following activities:

Lectures

Seminars

1:1 tutorials

Guest Speakers

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

**MO1** Demonstrate an understanding of the role and function of the various institutions that make up the criminal justice system.

**MO2** Recognise and understand key theoretical concepts that inform the study of the criminal justice system.

**MO3** Evaluate the operation of the criminal justice system with reference to key debates concerning gender, age, class and ethnicity.

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 210 hours

Face-to-face learning = 90 hours

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/87CBD839-8159-DFBB-AB39-2DFF9A06FC00.html?lang=en-GB&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/87CBD839-8159-DFBB-AB39-2DFF9A06FC00.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy for this module will comprise of an independent research project. Students will be given the opportunity for formative feedback through the use of seminars, presentations, class discussion etc.

Task – Independent Research Project.

### Assessment tasks:

#### Project (First Sit)

Description: 3000 word research project.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

#### Project (Resit)

Description: 3000 word research 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:

Criminology and Public Services [UCW] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

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