



## **Module Specification**

### **Contemporary Issues**

Version: 2026-27, v1.0, 20 Jun 2024

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## **Part 1: Information**

**Module title:** Contemporary Issues

**Module code:** UZSYPC-30-3

**Level:** Level 6

**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:** In this module students will gain an understanding of the contemporary issues that impact the ever-changing public sector at a national and international level.

**Features:** Within this module students will explore contemporary issues within the fields of criminology, sociology or the public sector.

**Educational aims:** Students will examine the fields of criminology, sociology and the public sector analysing the factors that are driving change. Drawing upon previous study, knowledge, skills, and experiences students will apply and critique contemporary thinking and academic concepts to the modern world.

**Outline syllabus:** This module may cover the following subject areas, but is not limited to:

Causes of crime

Immigration

Knife crime

Globalisation

Poverty

Youth offending

Government policy towards youth and crime

County Lines

Climate Change

Environmentalism

Sexual Harassment

### **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** Systematically examine the contemporary factors that have driven change within a field of either criminology, sociology or the public services.

**MO2** Critically reflect upon the operating environment of your chosen field and make judgements about trends and current circumstances.

**MO3** Analyse the impact of social ethical, political and technological factors upon either crime, society or the public sector.

**MO4** Critically evaluate a contemporary issue facing your chosen field and identify a potential strategic response to it.

**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/03D9FC90-1E17-B9C6-B713-BEC3E773D0E7.html?lang=en-GB&login=1) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/03D9FC90-1E17-B9C6-B713-BEC3E773D0E7.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy for this module will allow students to explore the criminological, sociological and political factors affecting the public sector. The assessment module for this module will consist of two assessments. The first will be a report, the second assessment will take the form of a 10-minute podcast with a 1000 word accompanying synopsis.

Task One – Report

Task Two – Presentation (Podcast and written synopsis)

**Assessment tasks:**

**Report (First Sit)**

Description: 2000 words.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: 10 minute pre recorded podcast and submission of 1000 word synopsis.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

**Report (Resit)**

Description: 2000 words

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: 10 minute pre recorded podcast and submission of 1000 word synopsis.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

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