Module Specification

Advanced Operational Practice

Version: 2026-27, v1.0, 19 Dec 2024

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Advanced Operational Practice

Module code: UZSYQ3-40-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 40

ECTS credit rating: 20

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: Learners will study the advanced learning required to specialise as a response officer or in community policing. This module primarily focuses on decision making, analysing vulnerability and risk, issues of public protection, managing information and intelligence, effective investigations, and the advanced learning in either response or community policing.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To understand risk factors associated with vulnerability, and strategies to successfully investigate public protection incidents.

To develop effective, ethical investigation skills.

To enable learners to police effectively in challenging environments, employing approaches to promote community engagement.

Outline syllabus: This module will develop learners' key policing skills, building upon their knowledge gained during previous study and professional practice, enabling them to become advanced practitioners. The module aligns to the National Policing Curriculum (see Advanced Operational Practice appendix 1), with learners also completing one of the curriculum's five advanced learning areas.

Developing on learning in other modules, learners will undertake further study into the risk factors associated with vulnerability, tackling victimisation, and the management of repeat offenders. Learners will also explore the effect abuse has on victims, and strategies to achieve best-evidence in public protection investigations. The module will ensure learners challenge their own attitudes and behaviours, exploring the ways this can negatively impact investigations through bias. In doing so, learners will develop a deeper understanding of victimisation and the psychology of offending which will enable them to identify challenges that may need to be overcome during investigations.

The module will explore complex digitally-facilitated crime including fraud and sexual offending, regulatory structures, and key terms associated with such incidents.

Learners will critically evaluate decisions made during investigations, how to use lessons learned, recording decision-making appropriately. Learners will further explore the investigative interviewing of suspects and witnesses, using strategies appropriate to the often-complex needs of the individual and the investigation.

Intelligence and Information systems, relevant legislation, and the complexity of using intelligence in an operational context and during prosecutions will be explored,

ensuring learners are able to act lawfully and ethically in their professional practice, managing the risk to the public appropriately.

Learners will complete one of the five advanced learning curriculum areas to become specialist response or community officers, analysing the way policing has been affected by social and cultural change, developing strategies to police effectively in challenging environments. Learners specialising in community policing will examine the interventions that can promote community engagement, evaluating what works using the evidence-base. Learners will explore how engagement strategies can be implemented within operational constraints, ensuring that community policing remains effective in the developing policing landscape.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A variety of face-to-face and distance learning methodologies will be employed, including lectures, seminars, case-studies, web-based learning and independent study. Learners will be encouraged to use their previous policing experiences to reflect on their approach to practice.

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

> **MO1** Analyse the impact of abuse on victims, and how to ensure best-evidence is obtained from people with complex-needs during an investigation

> **MO2** Critically assess how an evidence-based approach can promote interventions that are effective in tackling crime and disorder, while increasing community confidence

> **MO3** Evaluate the challenges to effective policing in challenging environments

> **MO4** Demonstrate the effective use of relevant models, guidance and procedure to make effective policing decisions

Hours to be allocated: 400

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 225 hours

Face-to-face learning = 175 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/...-62BF-807C2FD585D2.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment One:
Students will give an oral presentation based on a simulated case study. Learners will be given 15 minutes for the presentation, with 15 minutes for questions from assessors.

Rationale:
This assessment will ensure that learners are able to apply their knowledge and understanding of complex incidents. The assessment will encourage learners to be reflective practitioners, constantly striving to improve their practice. This assessment will link to professional practice as officers will be expected to discuss cases and community issues with senior and specialist colleagues.

Assessment Two:
2500 word case study examining either a community policing or response policing scenario. Learners will be required to create a strategy to resolve the issue.

Rationale:
This assignment will assess a learner's ability to evaluate the challenges in response policing, or to develop stronger community engagement, showing an awareness of evidence-based practice. Learners will be required to evidence the skills required in operational practice.

Formative activity will take place throughout the module through engagement with

cohort and group discussion, questioning and knowledge checks. Learners will build presentation skills through class discussion, group work and presentations.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Presentation based on a simulated scenario.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Case Study (First Sit)

Description: 2500-word case study. Students will be required to assess a case study, providing a detailed response to the policing challenges , and their approach to managing the case.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Case Study (Resit)

Description: 2500-word case study. Students will be required to assess a case study, providing a detailed response to the policing challenges , and their approach to managing the case.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Presentation based on a simulated scenario.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Graduate Diploma in Professional Policing Practice [Frenchay] GradDip 2025-26