



## **Module Specification**

### **Vulnerability and Public Protection**

Version: 2025-26, v1.0, 26 Feb 2025

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Vulnerability and Public Protection

**Module code:** UZSYR9-60-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2025-26

**UWE credit rating:** 60

**ECTS credit rating:** 30

**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:** Building upon the student officers learning in year one, and initial policing practice, it explores the concepts associated with difference in a multi-cultural society and the necessity for equality within the criminal justice system. We will explore the concept of trauma informed practices and how to identify behaviours symptomatic of mental health issues arising from traumatic incidences, including compassion fatigue and PTSD in staff. Student officers will critically evaluate the impact of policing

diverse communities, barriers to effective communication and approaches to multi-agency working in public protection, across all elements of the police constable role.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** In this module students will learn about the importance of multi-agency working when managing vulnerable people and communities. Focussing on the concept of public protection, the module will draw from the underpinning scholarly evidence that supports holistic approaches to protecting the public and the corresponding legislation and practice guidance that forms the framework within which they will operate.

It will help students gain a deeper understanding of the some of the issues and challenges of victimisation and the impact of trauma both individually and communally. It will explore how partnership working can reduce crime harm and the multifaceted nature of vulnerability.

**Outline syllabus:** The syllabus has been mapped to the College of Policing Police Constable Entry Programme curriculum as indicated in the attached document. This multi-disciplinary module will build on the public protection issues, related legislation, theories of crime and victimisation, research evidence, public policy and policing practice introduced in the first year. In doing so, the students will develop a more in-depth knowledge about public protection arrangements and how issues of risk and vulnerability link to national and local police policy, strategy and practice.

It will interrogate some of the operational issues related to symptoms of trauma such as compassion fatigue, depleted resilience and how officers can better support each other. They will also understand and develop different way of responding compassionately to symptoms of trauma from those vulnerable groups, such as behavioural changes or memory trauma. It will address issues of diversity, including how to better interact and understand challenges related to protected characteristics, cross cultural issues, and the evidence base that underpins our understanding of victimhood; why certain individuals, or groups are more vulnerable to different types of crimes and repeat victimisation.

Students will learn how they can support vulnerable individuals through adherence to the core principles of ethics, equality, and human rights in professional policing and the way in which individual and organisation bias, prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping can be challenged when performing the role of police constable.

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

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module will be delivered using both online through Blackboard and face-to-face teaching where appropriate. The module will include some pre-recorded materials, lectures, workshops, group tasks and guided independent study.

The variety of teaching methods will support engagement during block periods of teaching but also accommodate the different styles of student learning. Building upon year one and the practical experience gained through tutorship and Independent Patrol Status, it will further conceptual understanding and its application in the practical setting. Independent and group tasks will strengthen perspective taking and critical thinking that are crucial when working with diverse communities and complex crime problems.

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

**MO1** Discuss the multifaceted nature of vulnerability

**MO2** Understand the underpinning evidence-base for multi-agency approaches to public protection and how they are applied to vulnerable crimes, communities and victims.

**MO3** Explain the impact of trauma on individuals and the wider community, including the police officer and how this can impact on resilience, operational effectiveness and victim experience.

**MO4** Demonstrate knowledge of the key definitions, legislation and associated public protection and the reduction of harm.

**MO5** Understand the potential impact of organisational justice on the police constable.

**Hours to be allocated:** 600

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 156 hours

Placement = 300 hours

Face-to-face learning = 144 hours

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk) via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/9BEFCCE4-8FEE-600A-F8B6-6BEAC34B45B2.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment will test students' understanding and application of the underpinning researched evidence that supports partnership working to public protection.

It will comprise a 3000 word (maximum) written piece that demonstrates knowledge of effective practices when working with vulnerable groups within the context of public protection and in consideration of the impact of trauma. The report will provide an opportunity to develop and gain feedback for written skills, following a structure and the application of theories and concepts to the multi-agency working arena.

During the module teaching, there will be an opportunity for formative feedback through the production of a 250-word annotation of an article pertinent to the summative assessment.

All work will be submitted through Blackboard and SafeAssign Students will get the option for multiple submissions to enable them to check for plagiarism prior to final submission and will inform the marking process.

**Assessment tasks:****Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: 3000 word (maximum) written assignment.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: 3000 word (maximum) written assignment.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Professional Policing Practice [Frenchay] DPS 2024-25