



University of the
West of England

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Introduction to Criminological Theory		
Module Code	UZSNLD-30-1	Level	1
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Health and applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology
Department	Health & Social Sciences		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Criminology: BA (Hons) Criminology with Foundations BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology: BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology with Foundations: BA (Hons) Criminology and Law: BA (Hons) Criminology with Law: LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology: BSc (Hons) Criminology with Psychology: BSc (Hons) Criminology with Psychology with Foundations BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology: BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology with Foundations		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>The aim of this module is to introduce students to key theoretical approaches in criminology and to explore their policy applications and consequences. The module will commence with an exploration of the distinctive ways that crime and criminal justice are social constructions associated with the state and social policy. We shall explore the ways in which crime and criminal justice have been socially constructed in modern and pre-modern societies, and of the socio-historical roots of criminology. The module will then briefly address the debate over whether post-war western societies have experienced a crime explosion or data explosion and how criminological theory can illuminate each side of this debate. The main theoretical paradigms of deviancy theory (sociological and social-psychological) will then be investigated and related to selected key social policy issues and contexts of criminal justice. The course concludes by investigating how criminological theory can be applied to making sense of specific issues of social control (e.g. mass incarceration and the socio-cultural roots of penal justice).</p> <p>Topics covered in the lecture programme will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and social control in historical context • Modernity and the origins of criminology • Classical criminology

- Positivist criminology
- Social-psychological perspectives in criminology
- Sociological perspectives in criminology (structural and interactional)
- Modernity, law enforcement and penal justice: theories of social control

Part 3: Assessment

Assessment on this module consists of 50% Examination (Component A) and 50% Coursework (Component B)

All assignments on the module are summative and have been designed in such a way as to allow you not only draw upon your knowledge and understanding of criminology theory but to enable you to develop crucial academic skills as well as to engage fully with the learning outcomes of this module.

- Component A (Examination) is an unseen examination of 2 hours duration
- Component B (Coursework) consists of two assignments of 1,500 words
 - o Skills Exercise (Annotated Bibliography)
 - o Essay

Resit students will be required to complete 1x 3,000 Word essay for component B. The rationale for this difference is that Component B element 2 tests the full range of skills, whereas Component B element 1 focuses on certain of these that could be considered as preparatory (but which are also further developed in Component B element 2) Also, for referral work, students prefer to do a single piece of referral work that is equivalent to two pieces rather than two pieces.

Note: Assessment Criteria are outlined in the module handbook. This is pertinent to all assignments on both components. The Criteria specify the skills and competences that students need to demonstrate in formal assessments to acquire each grade classification.

Examination assessments are utilized on this module because these are suitable for testing certain specific skills – i.e. the ability of students to deploy information flexibly.

Coursework (Skills assignment and formal essay) assessments are utilised on this module because these are a suitable medium for testing a full range of aptitudes required of the learner – referencing and bibliography, preparatory reading and research, working to deadlines, synthesising summarisation and evaluation skills, self-reflection, organising academic work, ICT, etc.

Both examination and coursework components are designed to align with learning outcomes.

- Component A tests Learning Outcomes 1-5
- Component B (Elements 1 and 2) test Learning Outcomes 1-5

Note: The content of Component A and Component B assessments (i.e. the selection of topic-focussed questions in each case) is such that the overall module content is represented. This ensures that learning outcomes 1-5 are met.

Study Skills deficits) are addressed in the Skills Assignment that is preparatory for the essay assignment. Students are advance-prepared for the demands placed by the assignment.

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)		Component A unseen Exam	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)		A: 50%	B: 50%
First Sit			
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element		Element weighting	
1. 1 x 2hr unseen examination		100%	
Component B Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 1 x 1500 word skills assignment		50%	

2. 1 x 1500 word academic essay		50%										
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)												
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)										
1. 1 x 2hr unseen examination		100%										
Component B Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)										
1. 1 x 3000 word academic essay		100										
Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods												
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: 1. Identify and describe key criminological concepts, criminological theories, their differences and similarities (Component A and B element 1 & 2). 2. Appreciate the socio-historical roots of criminological theory in modern conditions (Component A and B element 2) 3. Apply criminological concepts and theories to concrete examples or issues of crime, criminalisation, and responses to crime (Component A and B element 1 & 2). 4. Have an understanding of the social and cultural influences on crime, criminalisation and responses to crime (Component A and B element 2). 5. Retrieve and employ evidence from authoritative sources to discuss key criminological concepts in written form (Component A and B element 1 & 2)											
Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	<u>Key Information Set - Module data</u> Number of credits for this module <div>30</div> <table><tr><td>Hours to be allocated</td><td>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</td><td>Independent study hours</td><td>Placement study hours</td><td>Allocated Hours</td></tr><tr><td>300</td><td>72</td><td>228</td><td>0</td><td>300</td></tr></table> <div></div>		Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	300	72	228	0	300
Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours								
300	72	228	0	300								
Contact Hours	The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a; Written Exam: Unseen or open book written exam Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test Practical Exam: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam (i.e. an exam determining mastery of a technique)											

Total Assessment	Total assessment of the module:			
	Written exam assessment percentage			50%
	Coursework assessment percentage			50%
	Practical exam assessment percentage			0%
				100%
Reading List	<p>For an online reading see:</p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/862143CC-EDA7-D624-D709-83F7967EFF86.html?draft</p> <p>Downes, D., Rock, P. and McLaughlin, E. (2016) <i>Understanding Deviance: A Guide to the Sociology of Crime and Rule Breaking</i>, 7th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Jones, S. (2013), <i>Criminology</i>, 5th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Liebling, A., Maruna, S. and McAra, L..Eds (2017) <i>The Oxford Handbook of Criminology</i>, 6th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>McLaughlin, E., Muncie, J. and Hughes, G. (2013) <i>Criminological Perspectives: Essential Readings</i>, 3rd edition. London: Sage.</p> <p>Newburn, T. (2017) <i>Criminology</i>, 3rd edition. London and New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Newburn, T. (2009) <i>Key Readings in Criminology</i>. London and New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Walklate, S. (2007) <i>Understanding Criminology: Current Theoretical Debates</i>, 3rd edition. Buckingham: Open University Press.</p>			

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