



University of the West of England

ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Introduction to Criminal Justice				
Module Code	UZSNLE-30-1	Level 1	1	Version	5
Owning Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Sociology and Criminology		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Criminology BA (Hons) Criminology with Sociology BA (Hons) Criminology with Psychology BA (Hons) Criminology with Law				
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	Module Type	Standard
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	n/a	
Valid From	September 2014		Valid to	September 2020	

CAP Approval Date	28/03/2014
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the role and function of the various institutions that make up the criminal justice system (Component A and Component B) 2. Show an awareness of how 'crime' is processed, the role of discretion in decision making and the impact this has on who is criminalised and who escapes the penal system's embrace (Component A and Component B) 3. Evaluate the operation of the criminal justice system with reference to key debates concerning gender, age, class, and ethnicity (Component A and Component B) 4. Demonstrate an appreciation of the insights that criminological theory can offer in understanding the operation of the criminal justice system (Component A and Component B)
Syllabus Outline	The aim of this module is the exploration of the <i>concept</i> of criminal justice, the <i>philosophies</i> that inform it, and the <i>institutions, individuals and processes</i> that dictate within England and Wales.

	<p>The syllabus outline comprises 7 main areas detailed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An introduction to the mechanics of the criminal justice system; the key institutions and key processes 2. The role of policing, social control and regulation focusing on how individuals become involved in the criminal justice system 3. The processing of 'crime'- including an examination of the roles of the Crown Prosecution Service, the judiciary, and juries 4. Examination of prison and other punishments available to sentencers and how the probation service and others manage offenders in the community 5. Consideration of distortions of justice through examined miscarriages in justice and how race, class and gender can impact on the operation of criminal justice 6. Examination of contemporary debates within the criminal justice field 7. Sustained emphasis on academic, employability and study skills to foster students' competencies as adult learners and their readiness for employment. Through completion of this module, students will demonstrate qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Library skills and information gathering b) Academic reading and note taking c) Referencing skills d) Academic writing e) Critical analysis and reflection f) Time management g) Team work and communication h) Presentation skills i) Independent study
Contact Hours	<p>The module is based on a combination of one hour lectures, one hour seminars, two hour workshops and guest speaker sessions over 24 weeks totalling 72 hours. In addition tutorial times will be available for one to one consultation.</p>
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>A variety of approaches will be used with the aim of maximising the active engagement of students. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lectures · Seminars · Showcase events · Master Classes · Workshops · ICT Based Platforms · Problem Solving Approaches · Directed and Independent Learning · Formative Assessment Opportunity <p>Independent learning: Students will be expected to engage in substantial and focused independent work in this module. This will potentially include hours engaged with: essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion. Student cohorts will also be provided with a virtual meeting space that they will be able to fully utilise independently for the purposes of peer-support, collaboration and discussion, in order to foster a sense of learning community.</p> <p>Scheduled learning: The module will be delivered using interactive lectures combined with workshops and seminars. Lectures will be used to introduce main concepts and to guide and inform student centred learning while workshops/seminars will provide students the opportunity to discuss issues in-depth.</p> <p>TEL: MyUWE and Blackboard, the university supported learning portal and virtual learning environment, will be used to support students' learning, conduct activities,</p>

organise and communicate learning materials. Students will be able to engage with the material, other students and members of staff through these systems and make use of the various functionalities built into them (e.g., blogs, journals, audio, video, discussion boards, wikis, etc.) as appropriate and useful for the module learning. A culture of continuous learning will be developed through the implementation of regular on-line discussion groups which discuss identified topics in-depth.

Key Information Sets Information

Key Information Set - Module data				
<i>Number of credits for this module</i>				30
Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours
300	72	228	0	300



The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -

Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:

Total assessment of the module:	
Written exam assessment percentage	50%
Coursework assessment percentage	50%
Practical exam assessment percentage	0%
	100%

Reading Strategy

Reading strategy

Core readings

Any essential reading will be indicated clearly, along with the method for accessing it, e.g. students may be expected to purchase a set text, be given a study pack or be referred to texts that are available electronically, or in the Library. Module guides will also reflect the range of reading to be carried out.

Further readings

Further reading is advisable for this module, and students will be encouraged to explore at least one of the titles held in the library on this topic. A current list of such titles will be given in the module guide and revised annually.

Access and skills

Formal opportunities for students to develop their library and information skills are provided within the induction period. Additional support is available through the Library Services web pages, including interactive tutorials on finding books and journals, evaluating information and referencing. Sign-up workshops are also offered by the Library.

<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<p>Indicative reading list</p> <p>The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. Current advice on additional reading will be available via the module guide or Blackboard pages.</p> <p>Finch, E. and Fafinski, S. (2012) <i>Criminology Skills</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Davies, M., Croall, H & Tyrer, J. (2010) <i>Criminal Justice</i>. Harlow: Pearson.</p> <p>Joyce, P. (2006) <i>Criminal Justice, an introduction to crime and the criminal justice system</i>. London: Willan.</p> <p>Hucklesby, A. and Wahidin, A. (2009) <i>Criminal Justice</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Sanders, A, Young, Burton, M. (2010) <i>Criminal Justice</i>. Oxford: University Press.</p> <p>Muncie, J. & Wilson, D. (2004) <i>Student Handbook of Criminal justice and Criminology</i>. London: Cavendish. (DIGITAL BOOK – Accessible through library Catalogue</p> <p>Cavidino, M. & Dignan, J. (2007) <i>The Penal System: An Introduction</i>. London: Sage.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to read review issues of relevant journals and media stories for material relevant to understanding patterns of crime for example: British Journal of Criminology; International Journal of Police Science and Management; International Review of Victimology.</p>
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<p>Part 3: Assessment</p>	
<p>Assessment Strategy</p>	<p>The Assessment Strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and employability skills, whilst ensuring that the modules Learning Outcomes are attained, as described below. Assessments are designed to underpin students' learning and skills acquisition in the module and to provide for learning beyond the material delivered in the classroom.</p> <p>The Controlled Conditions component of the assessment (Component A) comprises a single 2-hour exam which takes place at the end of the term.</p> <p>The Coursework component of the assessment (component B) is made up of two elements which is comprised of a 1500 word case study and a 1500 word court report which seek to demonstrate knowledge of key debates within criminology concerning contemporary criminal justice issues.</p> <p>Opportunities for formative assessment are embedded in the module teaching and take a variety of forms; students will have access to a range of exam questions and formative feedback regarding Component A. Students will have the opportunity for formative feedback on Component B through discussion of their case studies through seminars.</p> <p>Assessment criteria will be made available to the students in the module guide at the start of the module.</p>

Identify final assessment component and element	Component A	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	50	50
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 2 hour unseen examination	100	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 1500 word academic essay focused on a key issue within criminal justice (choice of questions to be established by module leader)	50	
2. 1 x 1500 word court report	50	

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 2 hour unseen examination	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 1500 word academic essay focused on a key issue within criminal justice (choice of questions to be established by module leader)	50	
2. 1 x 1500 word court report	50	
If a student is permitted an EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.		