



Programme Specification

Applied Criminal Justice {Top Up} [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Applied Criminal Justice {Top Up} [Frenchay]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Applied Criminal Justice

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Social Sciences, College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website

For implementation from: 01 September 2024

Programme code: L43700

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The BSc (Hons) Applied Criminal Justice Top-Up aims to provide a flexible entry route to academic study for professionals within the criminal justice

sector through the use of Accredited Experiential Learning. A level 6 programme, it will provide students with both conceptual and applied knowledge that will build upon their prior expertise to contribute effectively to public and private sector criminal justice agencies.

It will particularly highlight how criminological and victimological theories underpin and interact with criminal justice practice , encouraging critical and innovative problem-solving and the skills to employ the principles of academic enquiry to the professional environment.

Features of the programme: The features of the programme are rooted in its accessibility to professionals working in the sector and their distinctive set of skills and knowledge in working within criminal justice.

Educational Aims: The programme aims to:

Empower learners to make informed decisions through the process of critical thinking and reflexive practice.

Challenge prejudice and discriminatory behaviours throughout the criminal justice arena at individual, organisational and societal level.

Promote the critical evaluation of theoretical models of crime, criminality and victimisation and the impact of political standpoints on public understanding, policy and practice.

Explore and develop innovative and emotionally intelligent strategies in communication to enhance interactions and interventions, with particular focus on the most vulnerable groups in society.

Develop an understanding of the role of academic enquiry, data collection, analysis and interpretation towards the successful completion of a piece of independent research.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. Develop and build upon the concept of victimology and current evidence-based best practice in the approaches to working with and risk assessing vulnerable people and groups, who have been the victims of crime
- PO2. Develop and understand how to engage in evidence-based initiatives and interventions in the context of crime prevention, reduction and rehabilitation.
- PO3. Apply and critically reflect upon concepts and models of criminology, psychology and sociology to crime, criminality and victimhood and how these relate to areas of professional practice
- PO4. Explore and develop innovative and emotionally intelligent strategies through a variety of communication techniques, that will promote and enhance interactions and interventions with those involved in the criminal justice sector
- PO5. Challenge prejudicial and/or discriminatory behaviours throughout the criminal justice sector at individual, organisational and societal level, embedding individual difference and human rights within learning and application to practical settings.
- PO6. Research and develop, or critically evaluate, a new or existing evidence-based initiative or idea, that will contribute to improved performance in an area of criminal justice practice

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy includes a variety of assessments that will support learners' growth in their professional and academic development. They aim to reflect the tasks of criminal justice professionals in everyday practice but also to provide them with the skills to improve and progress within their chosen career path. These include traditional written papers such as an exam and essay, but also case studies, presentations, reports and a job interview. Within this repertoire an element of student choice will be offered, where possible and within the boundaries of the learning outcomes.

Student support: Networks

The teaching team have a developed collaborative approach with a variety of external agencies from the national criminal justice sector. The current occupational experience of the teaching team, alongside their academic knowledge allows for an empathetic contextual understanding of current sector needs and priorities. In addition to the direct policing team teaching will draw from other disciplines from across the wider School and College. This range of discipline and occupational experience will enhance the student experience.

Health and Wellbeing

UWE offer a broad range of health and wellbeing support that covers for all students and is inclusive of all mental and physical difference. Students are encouraged to highlight any relevant personal information of individual needs, at their earliest opportunity for the necessary support and reasonable adjustments to be integrated. Guidance on this process is available on the UWE website but can also be sought through in person appointments with disability advisors. This will provide the necessary information and support to ensure an active role in the learning journey.

The support that can be provided to assist any identified or any perceived neurodiversity that may cause a barrier to learning is in-depth, with access to potential funding and tailored support plans.

Part B: Programme Structure**Year 1**

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 90 credits from the Compulsory Modules in Year 1

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYN4-30-3	Applied Criminal Justice and Community Policing 2025-26	30

UZYGB-30-3	Evidence Based Research Project 2025-26	30
UZSYN5-30-3	Violence Against Women and the Victim's Voice 2025-26	30

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 60 credits from the Compulsory Modules in Year 1

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYN4-30-3	Applied Criminal Justice and Community Policing 2025-26	30
UZSYN5-30-3	Violence Against Women and the Victim's Voice 2025-26	30

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 30 credits from the Optional Modules in Year 1. They can EITHER take 30 credits from the options in Group A, OR 30 credits from the options in Group B. Modules from groups A and B cannot be mixed.

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full Time) Group A

Full time students can EITHER take 30 credits from the options in Group A, OR 30 credits from the options in Group B. Modules from groups A and B cannot be mixed.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USPKCH-15-3	Forensic Psychology 2025-26	15
UZSYC4-15-3	Missing People: Lost Identities and Social Harm 2025-26	15
UZSY7A-15-3	Risk and Risk Management 2025-26	15

Year 1 Optional Modules (Full Time) Group B

Full time students can EITHER take 30 credits from the options in Group A, OR 30 credits from the options in Group B. Modules from groups A and B cannot be mixed.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYGA-15-3	Creating Change in the Criminal Justice System 2025-26	15

UZSYG8-15-3	Digital Policing 2025-26	15
UZSYG9-15-3	Ethical Policing: Conduct, Challenges, Consequences 2025-26	15

Year 2

Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 30 credits from the Compulsory Modules in Year 2.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYGB-30-3	Evidence Based Research Project 2026-27	30

Year 2 Optional Modules (Part Time)

Part time students must take 30 credits from the Optional Modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Optional Modules (Part Time) Optional Modules

Part-time students can EITHER take 30-credits from the following 15-credit modules:

USPKCH-15-3

UZSYC4-15-3

UZSY7A-15-3

OR take the 30-credit module:

UZSYXF-30-2

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYXF-30-3	Ethical Reform: Creating Change in Policing and Criminal Justice 2026-27	30
USPKCH-15-3	Foundations of Forensic Psychology 2026-27	15
UZSYC4-15-3	Missing People: Lost Identities and Social Harm 2026-27	15
UZSY7A-15-3	Risk and Risk Management 2026-27	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Upon completion of the programme, students will have an in-depth understanding of the conceptual underpinning of criminal justice and its function in the prevention, reduction and application of models and strategies. Building upon their previous and/or current operational experience and knowledge, they will be able to take a more informed and critical approach to working with the offending cohort and empowered to articulate and try out new ideas on more effective working strategies. Students will have gained the necessary skills of social research and contribute to the literary knowledge base that underpins policy and practice.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme is aligned to the priorities of the UWE Transforming Futures 2030 Strategy. The students will experience teaching and learning that is innovative, practice-led and evidence-based, opening up the opportunity to support their continuing professional development.

The programme is designed to provide those professionals within the criminal justice sector the opportunity to gain accreditation of their prior learning and experience that meets the two year College of Policing Constable Entry Programme curriculum (or similar), and build upon this. It will also provide an opportunity for those to upskill from the new Police Constable Entry Route (aligned to level 5 although non accredited police recruitment route) due to launch in April 2024, to a full undergraduate qualification.

The programme design team have discussed the programme aims with professionals who have undertaken a similar academic pathway and consulted with members of the local and national police service.

Part E: Regulations