



Programme Specification

Professional Policing Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

Version: 2024-25, v4.0, Validated

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Professional Policing Practice {Apprenticeship-UWE} [Frenchay]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Professional Policing Practice

Interim award: BSc Criminal Justice Studies

Interim award: DipHE Criminal Justice Studies

Interim award: CertHE Criminal Justice Studies

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:

College of Policing

Apprenticeship: ST0304 version 1.2

Modes of delivery: Full-time

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

For implementation from: 01 September 2022

Programme code: L49063

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA) programme is a three year fully (statutory) integrated degree apprenticeship accredited by the College of Policing. The programme is intellectually stimulating and provides relevant learning experiences with the aim to produce graduate Police Constables for local forces who are ready and able to realise their full potential and make a positive contribution to their communities, workplaces and society.

Features of the programme:

Educational Aims: The programme has adopted a set of foci derived from the curriculum which are key tenets of the design and assessment of the course. These are; Vulnerability and Risk, Evidenced Based Policing and professional requirements (Craft Skills). These foci run throughout the programme and provide structure to the programme as well as a uniquely 'UWE' approach to the delivery of this apprenticeship programme. Ultimately, a UWE PCDA graduate will be able to apply academic knowledge to real world contexts, and demonstrate the knowledge, skills and behaviours relevant to 21st century policing; amongst these attributes they will be a resilient team worker, strong communicator and ethical decision maker.

The programme has been designed in accordance with the core requirements set out in the PEQF Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship National Programme Specification, Guidelines for Assessment of Operational Competence, and the PCDA national curriculum, the national standardised benchmark for the professional education of the apprentice police constable. This means that apprentices on the PCDA at UWE will, on successful completion, meet the requirements of the approved Level 6 national apprenticeship standard for the role of police constable.

The course seeks embed the following professional education principles that have been identified by the College of Policing as of national importance:

Meeting the professional requirements of 21st Century policing

Ensuring national consistency of professional education

Championing a values-based, ethical approach to policing

Supporting equality of educational opportunity within the policing profession

Developing a high-quality, evidence-based education for the policing profession

Promoting a collaborative approach to education within the police service

Enabling continuing professional development in policing roles.

This will be achieved by a collaborative approach to the delivery of the programme with input and expertise from across the School of Social Sciences, the wider university and colleagues in partnership forces to deliver a vibrant, relevant and multidisciplinary approach to Police education.

The policing programme at UWE therefore adopts a multi-disciplinary approach to police education informed by a range of research and theory (i.e., incorporating criminology, sociology, psychology, philosophy, forensic and computer sciences, law, public and mental health and social policy among others) to help apprentices develop a wider critical knowledge base and enable them to make more informed decisions in practice. To assist apprentices in their operational practice the UWE apprenticeship will utilise an applied approach (i.e., situate knowledge development within debates about the role of the police within the criminal justice system, apply this knowledge to police practice as it relates to the 5 key professional areas of policing identified within the PEQF and in accordance with the operational requirements of the employer force). The programme will therefore provide comprehensive, modern and up-to-date coverage of areas of knowledge, skills and professional approaches that have been identified as critical to the 21st century policing role of the constable.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Understand the legal and professional responsibilities of policing as a profession, and modern policing strategies, moving forwards
- A2. Proactively embed equality, diversity and human rights considerations as a core function of professional practice
- A3. Understand, employ and evaluate evidence-based initiatives in the context of preventative policing and problem-solving
- A4. Apply knowledge of criminology, as relevant to their professional practice, with particular emphasis upon community policing and crime prevention
- A5. Understand and engage in effective digital policing, with specific reference to cyber-enabled crime
- A6. Understand national strategies in relation to countering terrorism and perform the front-line role of the police constable in this specific context
- A7. Understand the criminal justice system as relevant to the role of police constable, ensuring effective performance in relation to key criminal justice procedures and processes
- A8. Research, develop, implement and review practical, evidence-based initiatives to improve policing performance in these areas and, in so doing, contribute themselves to the evolving evidence base for effective policing

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Acquire and apply appropriate research skills in order to put evidence-based policing initiatives into practice
- B2. Develop and maintain professional resilience in dealing with challenging situations
- B3. Actively engage in continual self-reflection, evolving strategies to improve their own professional practice

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

- C1. Employ an ethical approach to policing, maintaining the highest professional standards in providing a service to the public
- C2. Exercise autonomy and professional discretion, as appropriate to the role
- C3. Acquire, use and enhance professional communication and engagement skills, including effective use of social media in policing
- C4. Apply conflict management skills, as appropriate and required
- C5. Acquire and demonstrate leadership, team working and partnership-working skills in a policing context
- C6. Understand and act upon the fundamental responsibility of the police service to identify and provide professional support to those who are vulnerable and at risk, whatever the context
- C7. Proactively identify, protect and support individuals in need of public protection, and deal professionally with those who perpetrate offences against them
- C8. Engage in lawful, safe and effective front-line policing in the specific professional areas of response policing, community policing, roads policing, information and intelligence, and conducting investigations
- C9. Make decisions, founded upon critical thinking, in complex professional situations and contexts, demonstrating appropriate knowledge and application of powers, legislation and Authorised Professional Practice

Transferable Skills and other attributes

- D1. Written, oral and visual communication skills, including clear presentation of research procedures, academic debates, and their own arguments
- D2. Computer literacy and ITC skills – competence and confidence in using a variety of software
- D3. Ability to use numerical, statistical and other forms of data, particularly in the context of presenting and analysing complex data sets
- D4. Ability to work productively in a group and as part of a team – including ability to engage in academic debate in a professional and collegiate manner
- D5. Capacity to present and analyse data and evidence in an appropriate format for a variety of audiences

- D6. Ability to solve problems by clarifying questions, considering alternative solutions and evaluating outcomes
- D7. Ability to formulate researchable problems within a general area of concern, and to evaluate evidence of various kinds, and draw appropriate conclusions

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes.

Student support: All students and staff at UWE enjoy excellent facilities including well equipped labs, teaching spaces and libraries. In particular Police apprentices will access mock courts, our crime scene simulation house and flat and forensic labs which provide safe but realistic spaces to develop key skills. In addition to teaching spaces, apprentices will have access to an Apprenticeship hub, which will provide them with a bespoke space where tailored advice can be sought on any aspect of their Apprenticeship experience

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

The learner must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules

The learner must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSJQH-40-1	Craft Skills: A Foundation 2024-25	40
UZSJQJ-40-1	Occupational Competencies: Policing Conduct 2024-25	40
UZSJQK-40-1	Understanding Vulnerability and Investigation 2024-25	40

Year 2

Progression requirement:

Prior to progressing to Year 2 of the programme, apprentices will have successfully completed all Year 1 degree modules and achieved Independent Patrol Status (IPS). Learners must have achieved IPS within 52 weeks from the commencement of the programme.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules

The learner must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYQD-30-2	Occupational Competencies: Professional Policing 2025-26	30
UZSKEH-30-2	Becoming an Evidence Based Police Practitioner 2025-26	30
UZSKEF-30-2	Craft Skills: Ethics and Communication 2025-26	30
UZSKEG-30-2	Investigating Vulnerability and Risk 2025-26	30

Year 3

Gateway/Progression requirement:

Prior to progressing to Year 3 of the programme, apprentices will have successfully completed all Year 2 degree modules.

In order to achieve the apprenticeship, apprentices must successfully complete all Year 3 degree modules and have achieved Full Operational Competence which is evidenced by a work-based Operational Competence Portfolio (OCP) and all other requirements listed in the apprenticeship standard.

Prior to Graduation:

To be eligible for the award of BSc (Hons) Professional Policing Practice, apprentices must have completed all modules and achieved full occupational competence.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules

The learner must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZYUN-40-3	Occupational Competencies: Reflective Development 2026-27	40
UZYUP-40-3	Critiquing the Evidence Base 2026-27	40
UZYQB-40-3	Evidence-Based Policing Research Project 2026-27	40

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

This programme is a contemporary and applied qualification for Police Constables that is accredited by the College of Policing. Based around a framework of evidence based policing the apprenticeship will help graduates take a proactive approach to policing in the 21st century.

An essential element of the programme is the attainment of the End Point Assessment (EPA), which will enable apprentices to Demonstrate that they possess the key knowledge, skills and behaviours essential to discharging the responsibilities associated with the Office of Constable.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

QAA UK Quality Code for HE

UWE Strategy 2020

UWE Academic Regulations

UWE Enhancement Framework

Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship National programme Specification

Policing Education Qualifications Framework: Quality Assurance Strategy

Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship Standard

Part E: Regulations