



Programme Specification

Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs]

Version: 2021-22, v2.0, 02 Sep 2024

Contents

Programme Specification.....	1
Section 1: Key Programme Details.....	2
Part A: Programme Information	2
Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes	2
Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes	3
Part B: Programme Structure.....	11
Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis	16
Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks	16
Part E: Regulations	17

Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs]

Highest award: BA (Hons) Criminology

Interim award: BA Criminology

Interim award: DipHE Criminology

Interim award: CertHE Criminology

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: Yes

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: HAS Dept of Social Sciences, Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies: Not applicable

Modes of delivery: Part-time

Entry requirements:

For implementation from: 01 September 2024

Programme code: M90R43-SEP-PT-FR-M900

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: Criminology is a vibrant, multifaceted and multidisciplinary subject. The Criminology programme at UWE has been designed to provide an intellectually stimulating and relevant learning experience that will produce graduates who are ready and able to realise their full potential, make a positive contribution to their communities, workplaces and society and play their full part in a global society and knowledge economy. The programme aims to develop in its graduates the skills, knowledge, attitude and confidence to create, critique and make a difference to the world beyond university, and graduates who are prepared for lifelong learning, personal development and success in whatever field they choose to work and participate. The core curriculum of the programme, in particular, is designed with this objective in mind. The programme at UWE is distinctive for supplying students with placement opportunities across the criminal justice field, with research led teaching clearly embedded into the course as well as practitioner/professional based guest lectures.

Features of the programme: The BA (Hons) Criminology programme at UWE has a distinctive applied focus, with a focus on the application of theoretical and evidence-based knowledge on crime, offenders, victims and state responses to crime. This bridge between theoretical and applied knowledge in real world settings helps to foster in students a keen interest and engagement in the subject and primes them to think about the applicability of theory to context and the generalisability of research findings. The applied focus of the programme is demonstrated not only in the curriculum but also in the research outputs of staff and in their involvement in the Faculty's Research Centres. Further, staff research is infused into the curriculum with the result that the programme is also distinctive for research-informed teaching with staff research being embedded throughout the course in core as well as option modules. For example, research active staff module lead and teach on the foundation year modules (L3). And, in Introduction to Criminal Justice [L4] and Nature & Use of Research (L5) we have staff giving lectures based around their past as well as ongoing research and how it links to the criminal justice system. Also, the programme has evidence based, research led and practice orientated teaching from stakeholders and related practitioners across all years.

The Criminology programme has a strong commitment to the use of TEL to enhance teaching and support student learning as well as to increase accessibility for students.

Central to the Criminology programme is the ongoing dedication to providing a positive student experience. This is accomplished through a number of features, both criminology specific and UWE wide, including ongoing cycles of student feedback, formal and informal, which enable staff to work proactively with students to ensure the best possible learning experience.

Educational Aims: The BA (Hons) Criminology programme has the option to be entered via a thematically organised introduction to Social Sciences foundation year. It aims at Level 0 to provide students with a grounding in social science academic and research skills and with a foundation in social, political and psychological concepts, theories and tools relevant to Criminology, reflecting the multidisciplinary of Criminology as discipline. At Level 4, the BA (Hons) Criminology programme aims to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the core discipline of Criminology, whereas at Levels 5 and 6 the programme is designed to help students develop an in-depth and detailed understanding of Criminology.

The Criminology programme aims to highlight how multi-disciplinary (i.e. incorporating sociology, psychology, media studies, social policy, politics and philosophy) and applied (i.e. the impact that criminology has on criminal justice policy, practice and discourse) the subject area is and therefore how it directly links to employment opportunities.

In particular the programme aims to:

Introduce students to the multidisciplinary nature of Criminology as defined as part of a wider Social Science framework (the foundation year)

Provide a foundation in criminological knowledge that is relevant to a career in the criminal justice system.

Develop an understanding of the relationships between criminological theory and its application to a range of experience and behavior – including of offenders, victims, and agents of criminal justice

Teach academically challenging and vocationally relevant criminology modules

Clearly demonstrate how Criminology applies to and interacts with the real world, through a series of teaching innovations (TEL) and practical/practice based initiatives (placements, work based learning and invited speakers)

Impart a broad range of skills, discipline specific, cognitive and general transferable skills, which provide the student with a sound basis for further study

Present multiple perspectives in criminology in a way that fosters critical comparison and evaluation

Offer a foundational pathway at Level 6 as part of the University's widening participation strategy

Provide for students a generally enriching and interesting educational environment and experience; promote critical, creative and analytical thinking; and assist students to realise their potential

Acknowledge and accommodate the wide diversity of student needs and interests through the provision of a flexible programme, which enables students to choose between a variety of modules, and which fosters their individual development

Encourage scholarship and to foster the virtues of objectivity, reflection, judgement, critical study, and independent learning (individual and collaborative)

Provide a general foundation for the world of work by equipping students with the broad range of skills, understanding and knowledge employed in a wide range of vocations

Programme Learning Outcomes:

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

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Major concepts and theoretical perspectives in Criminology in relation to offending, victimisation, the social construction of crime, deviance and victimisation and responses to them
- A2. The impact of various forms of social diversity and social divisions on the social construction of crime and victimisation, as well as responses to crime and deviance
- A3. History, key institutions, cultural norms, and human rights issues of the criminal justice system
- A4. How crime and victimisation are socially constructed (by media, public opinion and state agencies)
- A5. Relationship between theory, evidence, practice and methods in criminological research
- A6. Value of comparative analysis in both historical and contemporary contexts
- A7. Nature and appropriate use of research strategies and methods in relation to social investigation and criminological issues
- A8. Distinctive character of disciplines of criminology (sociology, psychology, media studies and social policy) in relation to other forms of understanding
- A9. Application of criminological theory to real -world situations and problems, both in class (lectures, seminars, workshops and assessments) and outside of class (placement, TEL, work based learning)

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Appreciate the complexity and diversity of criminological theory and understand the strengths and weaknesses of the different theories
- B2. Apply theories and concepts in criminology to the study of historical and recent developments in criminal justice policy, law enforcement, and criminal justice institutions

- B3. Employ quantitative and qualitative research methods in the investigation of criminological issues, and to reflect on their advantages and limitations
- B4. Understand the advantages and limitations of a variety of criminal justice policies as well as practices.
- B5. Evaluate competing theories and concepts in criminology, criminal justice policies and practices
- B6. Explore the historical development and institutional dynamics of modern institutions of law and criminal justice and their likely future trajectories
- B7. Compare and contrast the social construction of crime and victimisation, crime trends, victimisation levels, and responses to crime and deviance in different historical and national contexts
- B8. Make an informed contribution to group discussions of criminological issues
- B9. Review, assess and synthesise empirical evidence and research data related to the social construction of crime and deviance
- B10. Evaluate theoretical perspectives as they apply to criminological issues
- B11. Orally and visually present information in support of an argument or thesis

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

- C1. Identify criminological problems, understand the nature of criminological questions and investigate them
- C2. Demonstrate competence in utilizing criminological theory and concepts to understand crime, victimization, representations of crime, and responses to crime
- C3. Identify human rights issues in responses to crime and delinquency
- C4. Recognize distinctive criminological approaches to particular problems
- C5. Analyze, assess methodologically, and communicate information and empirical research findings in relation to criminological (and related discipline) phenomena
- C6. Identify and evaluate criminological patterns of thought, behavior, and experience
- C7. Examine relevance of criminological work with regard to issues of social, public and civic policy

- C8. Pose, operationalise and critique research questions
- C9. Identify and utilise a range of different research strategies and tools, and conduct empirical studies involving a variety of methods – including observation, questionnaires, interviews, case studies, data analysis (quantitative and qualitative), evaluation, etc
- C10. Show awareness of ethical principles and approval procedures and act in accordance with these

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 formulate researchable problems within a general area of concern, and to evaluate evidence of various kinds, and draw appropriate conclusions
- D7. Research design, methodology, data collection skills – including surveys, experiments, case studies, sampling techniques, qualitative and quantitative methods, interview designs and strategies, evaluative techniques, etc

Assessment strategy: A range of assessment methods are employed to monitor student attainment of the full range of Learning Outcomes. Assessment incorporates the Department's assessment strategy and The QAA Code of Practice on Assessment of Students. The principles, procedures and processes of assessment for each module are described in each module handbook, which is provided to each student (online) at the start of the module. All 30 credit modules will have assessments spread across the academic year whereas the optional 15 credit will typically have semester based delivery as well as assessments.

Effective learning is achieved by employing a range of assessment approaches across the suite of modules that recognize differential approaches to learning. The development of a flexible, inclusive and accessible curriculum ensures a high quality learning experience for all students.

These assessments include:

Essays

Literature reviews

Annotated bibliographies

Web-based assignments

Reflective journals and exercises

Portfolios

Oral, written and visual presentations

Observational Reports

Book reviews

Tasks undertaken under examination conditions (closed or open-book)

Assessments are not intended simply to 'objectify' or measure student understanding, but also to facilitate student knowledge and understanding. Written coursework assignments are designed to ensure that students critically explore and evaluate key issues and ideas ('deep' rather than 'surface' learning), and opportunity is provided for them to negotiate their own written assignments in accordance with their own interests.

The foundation year assessments build skills native to Criminology as part of a wider Social Sciences programme and tests knowledge retention appropriate to the Foundational Level. Students become progressively independent and reflective as they move through ascending levels of the programme.

Teamwork is monitored and evaluated especially by means of group presentations.

Self-management and self-motivation is required through the enforcement of deadlines for all coursework assessments, and in the independence required to manage self-selected essay and project assignments.

Quality Processes:

The methods used to evaluate and improve the quality and standards of learning throughout the academic year include student feedback measures (student representatives, module feedback questionnaires and focus groups), standard university monitoring methods, reviews and consultation with external stakeholders and external examiners, and a series of strategic management meetings throughout the year to synthesize programme data/feedback and formulate/review action plans.

Student support: A key focus of the programme is to ensure a positive student experience. This is fostered by integrated and consistent student support offered across all years of the programme. This menu of support includes:

The programme offers entry via a Social Sciences interdisciplinary foundation year

An Induction Programme for incoming first years to support orientation and study skills

Academic Personal Tutors across the entire programme

Student support mentors, graduate interns and PALs across the entire programme

A core social science curriculum designed to deliver key skills in critical thinking, employability and research methods with placement opportunities for all students

Extensive specialist library as well as access to interrelated libraries with relevant material

On-line learning resources (Blackboard, library resources etc), internet, intranet and email access

Dedicated office hours for all staff

Professionally trained support staff equipped to aid students with issues related to both academic progression and personal development

Early Assessment in Year 0 and 1 modules to encourage retention and progression

A strong emphasis on developing analytical and critical skills

Graduation development planning

Access to developmental opportunities such as placements and study abroad years that are recognized within, and contribute to, the programme

Faculty study skills advisors who offer drop in sessions and individual support

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZQRUX-30-0	Essentials of Academic Practice 2021-22	30
UZQRVA-30-0	People and Social Science 2021-22	30

Year 2

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZQRUY-30-0	Exploring the Social World and the Problems of Crime 2022-23	30
UZQRV9-30-0	From Plato to Nato 2022-23	30

Year 3

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSK9P-15-1	Introduction to Criminal Justice 2023-24	15
UZSNLD-30-1	Introduction to Criminological Theory 2023-24	30
UZSST9-15-1	Understanding Crime 2023-24	15

Year 4

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
--------------------	---------------------	---------------

UZSYEF-15-1	Critical Thinking (sociology and Criminology) 2024-25	15
UZSY7F-15-1	Researching Crime and Society 2024-25	15
UZSSLG-30-1	Social Issues and Social Problems 2024-25	30

Year 5

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 5.

Year 5 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY78-30-2	Contemporary Perspectives in Criminology 2025-26	30
UZSY5S-15-2	Criminology in Action: Engaging in the Real World 2025-26	15
UZSY65-15-2	Nature and Use of Research (Criminology) 2025-26	15

Year 6

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 6.

Year 6 Compulsory Modules

Students must take the 30 credit Compulsory Module

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSYJ3-30-2	Policing and Crime Prevention 2026-27	30

Year 6 Optional Modules

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSNMX-30-2	Angels or Demons? : Understanding and Managing Youth Offending 2026-27	30

UZSY75-15-2	Crime, Media and Culture 2026-27	15
UZSNNC-30-2	Criminal Psychology 2026-27	30
UZSY79-30-2	Difference': 'race', Ethnicity and Diversity in Contemporary Society 2026-27	30
UZSNR8-30-2	Drugs, Crime & Society 2026-27	30
UZSYGE-15-2	Mental Health, Crime and Criminal Justice 2026-27	15

Year 7

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 7.

Year 7 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSNQK-30-3	Transnational Crime and Comparative Criminology 2027-28	30

Year 7 Optional Modules

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY7D-30-3	Gender, Sex and Social Control 2027-28	30
UZSKFV-15-3	Green Criminology: Environment, Crime and Justice 2027-28	15
UZSY7C-30-3	Hate Crime: Offenders, Victims and the Criminal Justice System (CJS) 2027-28	30
UZSYC4-15-3	Missing People: Lost Identities and Social Harm 2027-28	15
UZSYC5-15-3	Organised Crime 2027-28	15

UZSYNF-30-3	Prisons, Punishment and Human Rights 2027-28	30
UZSSJN-30-3	Protest, Policing and Public Order 2027-28	30
UZSY7A-15-3	Risk and Risk Management 2027-28	15
UZQYN8-15-3	Terrorism: History, Myths and Policy 2027- 28	15
UZSNQG-15-3	Victims and Victimology 2027-28	15

Year 8

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 8.

Year 8 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY5L-30-3	Criminology Partnership Project 2028-29	30
UZSY5T-30-3	Criminology Project 2028-29	30

Year 8 Optional Module

Available via discussion with the Programme Leader

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY5D-15-3	Social Sciences Placement Year 2028-29	15

Year 8 Optional Modules

The student must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZSY7D-30-3	Gender, Sex and Social Control 2028-29	30
UZSKFV-15-3	Green Criminology: Environment, Crime and Justice 2028-29	15

UZSY7C-30-3	Hate Crime: Offenders, Victims and the Criminal Justice System (CJS) 2028-29	30
UZSYC4-15-3	Missing People: Lost Identities and Social Harm 2028-29	15
UZSYC5-15-3	Organised Crime 2028-29	15
UZSYNF-30-3	Prisons, Punishment and Human Rights 2028-29	30
UZSSJN-30-3	Protest, Policing and Public Order 2028-29	30
UZSY7A-15-3	Risk and Risk Management 2028-29	15
UZQYN8-15-3	Terrorism: History, Myths and Policy 2028-29	15
UZSNQG-15-3	Victims and Victimology 2028-29	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Criminology is a contemporary, multi-faceted and applied subject area. Criminology focuses on definitions and understandings of crime as well as criminal justice from a range of perspectives (victims, offenders, the state and institutions). Criminology, especially the criminology taught at UWE, focuses on theoretical learning as well as the application of this knowledge to real world situations. Throughout their degree criminology students will experience a range of learning (online/offline), teaching (lectures, seminars, workshops and TEL) and assessment (essays, exams, case studies, presentations) techniques. Consequentially, a criminology degree opens graduates up to a range of graduate level positions, including, in the criminal justice system and related charitable sectors.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The QAA subject benchmark statements for Criminology have informed the design of the programme from the outset. The benchmarks, and the external examiner, were consulted during the planning process and at each stage of the design and

development of the programme. They have influenced the selection of the educational aims and learning outcomes against which the teaching, learning and assessment processes have been specified.

The UWE Bristol Strategy 2020 policies is embedded in the educational aims and learning outcomes of the programme. The University's commitment to promoting a diverse, integrated and flexible learning experience is reflected in the rich range of teaching, learning and assessment methods and strategies in evidence on the programme.

The research, scholarly and knowledge exchange activities and interests of staff have shaped the wide ranging sociological provision at all levels of the programme. In particular the influence is evidenced by the varied and stimulating choice of option modules at levels 2 and 3.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.