

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	Faculty responsible for the programme Health and Social Sciences
Final award(s), title(s) and credit MA Criminology and Criminal Justice: 180 credits (90 ECTS)	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits PG Diploma Criminology and Criminal Justice: 120 credits (60 ECTS) PG Certificate Criminology and Criminal Justice: 60 credits (30 ECTS)	
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known) N/A	HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load. 100484 Criminology (major) 100483 Criminal Justice (minor)
External reference points The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of Degree-Awarding Bodies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) (2008) A Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area (QF-EHEA) (2005) QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education (2018) QAA Characteristics Statement: Master's Degree (2020) QAA Subject Benchmark Statement Criminology (2022) CSAP Report UK14/C/09 Criminology in the professions: Turning Academic Benchmarks into Employability skill (2010) British Society of Criminology (2015) Statement of Ethics http://www.britsoccrim.org/ethics/	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links N/A	
Places of delivery Lansdowne Campus	
Mode(s) of delivery Full time Part time	Language of delivery English
Typical duration PGT September start (12 month full time and 24 month part time)	
Date of first intake September 2023	Expected start dates September
Maximum student numbers N/A	Placements N/A
Partner(s) N/A	Partnership model N/A
Date of this Programme Specification September 2023	
Version number v1.0-0923	
Approval, review or modification reference numbers E222313	
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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title: MA Criminology and Criminal Justice								
Stage 1/Level 7								
Students are required to complete 5 core units and choose 2 optional units. Some combination of optional units may not be available depending on the semester of delivery and timetable configurations. Optional units may not run if there are insufficient student numbers enrolled.								
Unit Name	Core/ Option	No. of Credits	Assessment Element Weightings			Expected Contact hours per unit	Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/ minor load)
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Contemporary Criminological Theory	Core	20		100%		20	v1.0	100484
Research Methods for Criminology and Criminal Justice	Core	20		100%		20	v1.0	100962
Penalism and Punishment	Core	20		100%		20	v1.0	100483
Policy Making in the Criminal Justice System	Core	20		100%		20	v1.0	100483
Masters Dissertation Project <i>[Research Methods for C&CJ is a pre-requisite this unit]</i>	Core	60		100%		30	v1.0	100484
Hate Crime and Extremism	Option	20		50%	50%	20	v1.0	100484
Victimisation and Sexual Violence	Option	20		100%		20	v1.0	100484
Complexities of Contemporary Policing	Option	20		100%		20	v1.0	100486
Professional Practice and Leadership Skills	Option	20		30%	70%	20	v1.0	100088
Exit qualification:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PG Certificate Criminology and Criminal Justice – (60 credits at Level 7). - PG Diploma Criminology and Criminal Justice – (120 credits at Level 7). - MA Criminology and Criminal Justice – (180 credits at Level 7). 								

AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme;
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme aims to give graduates an enhanced, critical understanding and evaluative skills in theoretical and practice-based issues and concepts related to Criminology and Criminal Justice. Upon successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of Criminology and its theoretical foundations;
2. Consider practical and policy-related implications of criminal justice processes in the UK and internationally;
3. Demonstrate a range of research skills and methods that enable them to conduct research independently;
4. Apply their knowledge and understanding of Criminology and the criminal justice system effectively in a variety of contexts.

Additionally, graduate students are expected to have developed personal and professional qualities to contribute to organisations and society, to demonstrate highly-developed interpersonal skills and to be able to manage their own development and lifelong learning.

The programme is designed to deepen students' appreciation and understanding of the discipline of criminology and its relationship with criminal justice mechanisms. Foundations of criminological theory and social science research methods will ensure students are well placed to develop an independent research project. Students will also have core learning in penology and criminal justice policy making, ensuring they are well skilled for future employment in this field. In addition, they have the options to specialise their studies in units designed on the topics of hate crimes, sexual violence, policing, and professional practice and leadership skills. The programme is well focused on developing practice-related units to enhance employability and job prospects.

As well as established learning and teaching in Criminology the additional Criminal Justice-specific provision will be particularly attractive to those working within related Criminal Justice fields, including but not limited to: policing, probation, youth justice, social work, prisons and those working within the Crown Prosecution Service.

The programme structure and content were designed to align with national and international standards in higher education, including the QAA Characteristics Statement for Masters degrees, the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, and the QAA Subject Benchmarking Statement for Criminology. The course meets with the expectations for standards and quality as establishment by these regulatory documents, ensuring it complies with the national thresholds and quality expectations for academic delivery.

Internally, the programme complies with BU's Principles of Assessment Design, Fusion Learning approach and the awards and programmes titles' structures. Additionally, the programme is designed to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which are embedded in every unit.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The MA Criminology and Criminal Justice programme is informed by and aligned with the BU 2025 strategic plan, focussed on the values of excellence, inclusivity, creativity and responsibility, and the University's Fusion agenda. The established academic team in the Department of Social Sciences and Social Work who will deliver the programme are actively engaged in national and international applied research, permitting opportunities for co-creation and co-production of knowledge between staff and students. Additionally, teaching excellence is ensured by the sharing of good teaching practice across the programme (via staff handbooks that guide teaching and feedback protocols and supported by the Virtual Learning Environment, Brightspace).

Consistent with the principles of Fusion, students further engage in a range of innovative coursework activities, a pedagogical approach well aligned with the Centre for Fusion Learning Innovation and Excellence (FLIE)'s delivery focus, offering students the opportunity to learn by engaging in a series of tasks that have a theoretical and/or practical focus (e.g., writing practical policy reports). The variety of assessment is designed to equip students with a wide range of skills necessary to succeed in the workplace, enhanced by their commitment and professionalism, resulting in highly employable postgraduates. The choice of full or part time study provides students with the opportunity to tailor their experiences to their own needs and external commitments.

LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e., formative, and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e., lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection, fieldwork). The exception to this is the Masters Dissertation Project which involves a series of supervisory sessions with an established member of the department, and which accounts for 60 credits, to be undertaken in Semester 3 of study.

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. The Masters Dissertation Project is distinct from other assessment types here also. The word count for these assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a postgraduate degree is pedagogically sound.

Learning and teaching methods and strategies are designed to enhance student skills as independent self-motivated learners, incorporating academic, practical, and transferable skills. Delivery and design strategies will ensure learning and teaching will be challenging and innovative while also being supportive, adaptable, and engaging. In all units, students are expected to be responsible for their own learning, with support provided by their teaching team. All units include opportunities for feedback, reflection, and dialogue, including within formative assignments, to support students' academic, intellectual, and personal development. Summative assignments assess students understanding and skills (through assessment for learning) as well as their ability to evaluate evidence (assessment of learning).

STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians, and research students.

The Social Sciences team is in the Department of Social Sciences and Social Work and consists of established, experienced academic experts with national and international reputations. Most staff have Fellowships of the HEA, with many holding Senior or Principal Fellowships, and the remainder working towards these awards or a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). This evidences the value that the academic team place on teaching and learning and aligns with BU's 2025 strategic plan to build world-wide impact via education as well as research. FLIE collaborates with the faculty to design targeted staff development and support academic teams in their delivery of resources and materials. Thus, staff are appropriately qualified with learning and teaching practice, have ongoing opportunities for development and opportunities for reflective practice.

Students will experience inclusive learning and teaching practices, which are designed to empower them to fulfil their potential and take account of individual students' diverse ways of learning, diverse social and cultural backgrounds, and abilities.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAMME (LEVEL 7) INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

<p>A: Subject knowledge and understanding</p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p><i>A1 critical awareness of topics informed by the study of criminology, such as criminal justice processes, theories, and methodologies;</i></p> <p><i>A2 the history of ideas, cultural context and criminological and social theories that inform the practice of criminology;</i></p> <p><i>A3 the limitations of current knowledge, policy, and practices in criminal justice systems;</i></p> <p><i>A4 the intersectionality of power in relation to criminal justice agencies and their responses to crime, harm, victimisation, and deviance.</i></p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (A1 – A4);</i> • <i>seminars (A1 – A4);</i> • <i>directed reading (A1 – A4);</i> • <i>use of the VLE (A2, A3);</i> • <i>independent research (for dissertation) (A1 – A4).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coursework assignments (A1-A4);</i> • <i>Dissertation (A1-A3).</i>
<p>B: Intellectual skills</p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme outcomes:</p>

<p>B1 <i>critically evaluate theory and practice;</i></p> <p>B2 <i>demonstrate conceptual understanding of the application of criminology;</i></p> <p>B3 <i>show originality in the application of knowledge at a high level;</i></p> <p>B4 <i>deal with complex issues systematically and creatively.</i></p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (B1, B4);</i> • <i>seminars (B1 – B4);</i> • <i>directed reading (B1, B4);</i> • <i>Supervision sessions (B1, B4);</i> • <i>use of the VLE (B1-B4);</i> • <i>independent research (for dissertation) (B1 – B4).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>coursework assignments (B1 –B4);</i> • <i>dissertation (B1 – B4).</i>
<p>C: Practical skills</p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p>C1 <i>demonstrate an ability to identify appropriate methodologies for dealing with complex problems;</i></p> <p>C2 <i>design, conduct and complete a substantial research project, informed by current conceptual and theoretical understanding;</i></p> <p>C3 <i>demonstrate practical understanding of how techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge;</i></p> <p>C4 <i>Demonstrate self-direction and originality in problem-solving and autonomy in planning and implementing tasks.</i></p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (C1 – C3);</i> • <i>seminars (C1 – C4);</i> • <i>directed reading (C2, C4);</i> • <i>Supervision sessions (C1-C4)</i> • <i>independent research (for dissertation) (C1 – C4).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>coursework assignments (C1, C2, C3);</i> • <i>dissertation (C1-C4).</i>
<p>D: Transferable skills</p> <p>This programme provides opportunities for students to:</p>	<p>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</p>
<p>D1 <i>show qualities needed for employment, such as exercise of initiative, personal responsibility, sound judgement in professional environments;</i></p> <p>D2 <i>deploy a range of interpersonal skills including effective listening, reflection, persuasion and presentation;</i></p> <p>D3 <i>demonstrate openness and sensitivity to diversity in terms of other people, cultures and business and management issues;</i></p>	<p>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>lectures (D2, D3);</i> • <i>seminars (D1- D4);</i> • <i>use of the VLE (D2, D3);</i> • <i>directed reading (D2, D4).</i> <p>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):</p>

D4 *an ability to work independently and with some originality.*

- *coursework assignments (D1, D2, D4);*
- *dissertation (D1- D4).*

Programme Skills Matrix

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes		A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4	D 1	D 2	D 3	D 4
L7	Contemporary Criminological Theory	X	X		X	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X
L7	Research Methods for Criminology and Criminal Justice	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
L7	Penalism and Punishment		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X		X		X
L7	Policy Making in the Criminal Justice System	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X		X	X	X
L7	Masters Dissertation Project	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
L7	Hate Crime and Extremism	X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X
L7	Victimisation and Sexual Violence	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X
L7	Complexities of Contemporary Policing	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X
L7	Professional Practice and Leadership Skills			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

Please refer to the [course website](#) for further information regarding admission regulations for this programme: [Courses | Bournemouth University](#)

PROGRESSION ROUTES

No internal progression.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Assessment Regulations.

The University's standard assessment regulations for this programme are: 6A Standard Assessment Regulations Postgraduate and can be found here: [Important information | Bournemouth University](#)

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

Not applicable

