

Module specification

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Refer to guidance notes for completion of each section of the specification.

Module Code	POL606
Module Title	Dissertation
Level	6
Credit value	40
Faculty	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100484
Cost Code	GACJ

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BSc (Hons) Professional Policing	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	12 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	6 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	18 hrs
Placement / work-based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	388 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	400 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	15 th August 2024
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

To critically analyse a contemporary policing challenge and propose practical, ethical, and legal solutions to inform operational policing practices.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	<p>Critically review the challenges associated with contemporary policing to define a feasible and clear area of research around a policing problem.</p> <p>NPC mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prevention and Problem Solving</u> Understand how to gather, analyse and evaluate relevant information and data 3.1
2	<p>Critically review the evidence base to identify the nature and potential causes of the problem.</p> <p>NPC mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prevention and Problem-Solving</u> Review the application and influence of evidence-based policing: 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6
3	<p>Critically review seminal and up-to-date research to inform a practical, ethical and legal police response to a particular problematic issue</p> <p>NPC mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Police Constable Role and Professional Standards:</u> Critically review key issues relating to the complexity and challenges of operational policing 2.1,
4	<p>Present the findings of a research project on a specific policing issue at student research conference.</p> <p>NPC mapping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prevention and Problem Solving:</u> Present and disseminate information / data on the identified issue/problem and proposals for resolutions: 6.1

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Dissertation:

8,000-word dissertation to include

- i. Abstract
- ii. Introduction- to include aims and objectives, rationale and contextual information related to the chosen area of study (1500 words)
- iii. Findings (5000 words)
- iv. Discussion and Conclusion (1500 words)

Presentation:

10 minute presentation of findings in a viva with module leader/supervisor and student, followed by Q&A

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1-3	Dissertation/Project	80%
2	4	Presentation	20% 15 minutes

Derogations

Module cannot be compensated.

Both elements of the module have to be passed at 40%

Learning and Teaching Strategies

At this point in their studies students will have developed their academic and critical skills and be in a position to undertake work as independent learners. Be that as it may support will be provided in the form of formal lectures providing guidance on how to write and present a dissertation and then supervision with a member of the team who will guide the student incrementally through the process of submitting the work.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Aims and Objectives

How to write a rationale

The 21st century socio-political and policy context

Party Political philosophies and criminal justice tendencies

Data and where to get it

Primary v secondary research

Literature searching

Doing a literature review

The ethics of doing research

Presenting a research dissertation

Drawing conclusions

Making recommendations

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads (to be agreed with supervisor based on methodology and topic area)

Greetham, B (2020) How to Write your Literature Review. London: Macmillan Study Skills

Young, S (2022) How to Write your Undergraduate Dissertation in Criminology. London: Routledge

Spooner, E. Hughes, C and Jones, P (2020) Police Research and Evidence-Based Policing. St Albans: Critical Publishing.

Other indicative reading

Lum, C., and Koper, C.S. (2017). *Evidence-Based Policing: Translating Research into Practice* <http://cebcp.org/wp-content/evidence-based-policing/LumKoperEvidenceBasedPolicing.pdf>

