

Module specification

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Module Code	SOC465
Module Title	Signal Crimes and Criminals
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100483
Cost Code	GACJ
Pre-requisite module	None

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice	Core
LLB (Hons) Law	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	36 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	164 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	200 hrs

Module aims

By the end of the module students will have been introduced to key turning points and debates associated with the practice of criminal justice.

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Explain the meaning of signal crime and identify the rationale for designating some events as signal crimes.
2	Demonstrate an understanding of how signal crimes impact on how certain offences/offenders are understood.
3	Identify the criminal justice system significance of particular signal crimes/signal criminals
4	Identify ongoing challenges in responding to a particular form of offending

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Assessment 1: Choosing two 'signal crimes' from the ones covered in the module, students are required to explore the significance and impact of the crime on society and/or the criminal justice system (750 words each).

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1-4	Coursework	750 words	100%	N/A

Derogations

None.

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching strategy is grounded in the University's commitment to an Active Learning Framework (ALF) so that learning will be both accessible and active and include synchronous and a-synchronous elements. Face to face classroom teaching will be supplemented by online lectures wherein students will be expected to complete activities such as watching panopto videos; undertake Other Indicative Reading; complete quizzes and exercises; and post comment for a-synchronous debate. These activities will be the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Added to this, will be access to staff who provide presence, challenge and support for student learning and can relate learning to real world uses.

Welsh Elements

Students can present their work, access forms, resources, email correspondence, placement support and personal tutorials in Welsh.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Racism in the CJS: Lawrence,
- Youth Justice and Imprisonment: Mubarek
- Miscarriages and Policing with Consent: Hillsborough
- Serial Crime: Hannibal Lecter
- Celebrity offending: Savile
- Mass Killings: Columbine
- Terrorism: 9/11 and 7/7
- Prison for children and Doli Incapax: Thompson and Venables
- Women and Offending: Myra Hindley
- Death penalty: Ruth Ellis
- Domestic Violence: Clare Wood
- Sex Offenders and Registers: Roy Whiting

Indicative Bibliography

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

Essential Reads:

Innes, M (2014) Signal Crimes: Reactions to Crime and Social Control. Oxford: OUP
Jarvis, B (2014) Monster's Inc: Serial Killers and Consumer Culture. Crime, Media, Culture: An International Journal 3(3) pp.326-344

Marsh, I and Melville, G (2011) Moral Panics and the British Media- A look at some contemporary 'Folk Devils' Internet Journal of Criminology 2011
<https://www.scribd.com/document/136955524/Marsh-Melville-Moral-Panics-and-the-British-Media-March-2011>

Altheide, D. (2009) 'Moral Panic: From Sociological Concept to Public Discourse', Crime, Media and Culture, vol 5:1, pp79-99.

Innes, M. (2004) 'Crime as a Signal, Crime as a Memory', Journal for Crime, Conflict and the Media, vol 1, pp 15-22.

Other indicative reading:

Innes, M. (2003) 'Signal Crimes: Detective Work, Mass Media and Constructing Collective

Innes, M. and Fielding, N. (2002) 'From Community to Communicative Policing: 'Signal Crimes' and the Problem of Public Reassurance', Sociological Research Online Memory', in Mason P (ed) Criminal Visions: Media Representations of Crime and Justice, Cullompton: Willan Publishing

Jewkes, Y. (2015) *Media and Crime*. London: Sage.

Administrative Information

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Initial approval date	May 2021
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