

Module specification

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Module Code	SOC735
Module Title	Contemporary Crime and Justice
Level	7
Credit value	30
Faculty	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences (FSLs)
HECoS Code	100483
Cost Code	GACJ
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
MA Criminology and Criminal Justice	Core
MSc Policing	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	32 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	32 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	268 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	300 hrs

Module aims

To provide students with a critical understanding of the consistencies, contradictions and conflicts that are inherent within contemporary criminal justice practice.

Module Learning Outcomes

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

1	Possess a critical appreciation of the nature and context of contemporary crime and be able to synthesize and articulate the consistencies, contradictions and conflicts that are inherent within the Criminal Justice System.
2	Be able to critically analyse recent trends that have shaped and influenced the UK Criminal Justice System and recent legislative changes.
3	Be able to critically assess the way in which the Criminal Justice System has responded to social and cultural shifts in recent decades.
4	Analyse and critically explore the way the Police and Criminal Justice System responds to particular groups of offenders or offences.

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: Students are encouraged to decide on one specific area which has been covered within this module and provide a critical discussion with regards policy trends and legislation changes in relation to the topic of interest. While the essay requires a consideration of up-to-date policy and legislation, it is vitally important that student discuss these within an historical and socio – political context (4,000 words).

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1 - 4	Written Assignment	4,000 words	100%	

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. Online Panopto based lectures are supplemented by interactive elements and students will be expected to complete activities such as watching videos; undertaking Other Indicative Reading; completing quizzes and posting responses to a-

synchronous debate. These activities are the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Regular real time online sessions ensure students also have access to staff who thereby provide presence, challenge and support for student throughout the module.

Welsh Elements

In line with the University's Welsh Language Standards and commitment to bilingual education, students enrolled on this module have the option to submit all assessments in Welsh and to receive feedback in Welsh. This ensures parity of academic experience and upholds students' linguistic rights at postgraduate level.

Students also have access to a Welsh-speaking Personal Tutor who can provide academic guidance, pastoral support and professional development advice through the medium of Welsh where preferred.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

The module will examine the changing nature of contemporary crime within the Criminal Justice System. This will include:

- Violent and Sexual Offenders
- Young Offenders
- Women and Crime
- Violence Against Women And Girls (VAWG)
- Race and Crime
- Mental Health and Crime
- White Collar and Corporate Crime
- Organised Crime
- Miscarriages of Justice
- Cyber Crime

Indicative Bibliography

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

Essential Reads:

Case, S., Johnson, P., Manlow, D., Smith, R and Williams, K (2017) Criminology. Oxford, Oxford, University Press.

Liebling, A., Maruna, S., and McAra. L (2023) The Oxford Handbook of Criminology (7th Edition)

Oxford: Oxford University Press

Other indicative reading:

Brookman, F. Maguire, M, Pierpoint, H. and Bennett, T. (eds.) (2010) Handbook on Crime. Devon: Willan Publishing.

Case, S., Johnson, P., Manlow, D., Smith, R. and Williams, K. (2021) The Oxford Textbook on Criminology (2021) Oxford: Oxford University Press

Newburn, T. (2009) Key Readings in Criminology. Devon, Willian Publishing.

Administrative Information

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Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	April 2026: AM1 modification to update the module learning outcomes, indicative syllabus and bibliography.
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