Programme Specification

Criminology (2019-20)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	1
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Master of Science (MSc)
Name of Award	Criminology
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Diploma
FHEQ level of final award	Level 7
UCAS code	
Programme Code	5253
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Criminology 2007
Programme Lead	Jenny Fleming (jf2e11)
Pathway Lead	

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

This programme is designed to equip students to undertake independent research across the social sciences, with specific reference to the fields of criminology, policing and criminal justice, and to develop in-depth research methods skills that are of relevance to a broad range of careers in the public or private sector. The nature of the programme enables students to build their own degree according to their particular interests and preferences within the broad areas of criminology drawing on the diverse range of relevant modules taught across the Social Sciences and the University generally.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching
The programme will develop students' skills through individual reading, lectures, seminar discussions and presentations and the preparation of formal assessments. Such activity will enable students to develop and demonstrate an advanced understanding of criminological concepts, theories and empirical research and to evaluate epistemological and ethical issues within the design and conduct of research. In addition, working with individual supervisors on dissertations will enable students to evaluate research methodologies and to formulate research questions and appropriate research designs.

Assessment
Assessment includes a range of methods which are designed to encourage students to reflect on their learning, and to assess their understanding of taught material. For example, students are expected to complete essays and critical reviews of literature, and to prepare short oral presentations which address specific research questions.

Special Features of the programme

N/A

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

This programme is designed to equip students to undertake independent research across the social sciences, with specific reference to the fields of criminology, policing and criminal justice, and to develop in-depth research methods skills that are of relevance to a broad range of careers in the public or private sector. The nature of the programme enables students to build their own degree according to their particular interests and preferences within the broad areas of criminology drawing on the diverse range of relevant modules taught across the Social Sciences and the University generally.

The programme aims to provide you with:

- Knowledge and understanding of contemporary theoretical, conceptual and empirical debates in the study of criminology
- Knowledge and understanding of philosophical and methodological debates in the study of social sciences generally
- The skills necessary to design and complete a dissertation on a specialist topic in the field of criminology.
- A knowledge of the principal methods of qualitative research and an understanding of their application in different contexts and/or a knowledge of techniques of quantitative data collection and analysis utilised within the Social Sciences and their application
- The capacity to present ideas, arguments and research findings through different means of communication

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1. Key theoretical and conceptual issues in the study of criminology and criminal justice
A2. Theoretical implications of different approaches to conceptualising criminology and its potential impact on policy and policy-making
A3. Practical implications of criminology research and theory on policy and policy-making
A4. Quantitative and qualitative research methods and debates surrounding their use, and philosophical debates in Social Sciences and their impact on research design

Assessment Methods

Assessed module coursework and examinations (A1-A4); dissertation (A1-A4).

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1. Critical awareness and assessment of competing theoretical claims through the synthesis of a variety of materials (library sources, internet etc) on aspects of criminology
B2. Demonstrate and assess the relationship between concepts, theories and empirical research within criminology
B3. Construction of independent and well-evidenced arguments on the principles and concepts of criminology
B4. Construction of independent and well-evidenced arguments on the principles and concepts of criminal justice and its implications for modern policy-making
B5. Evaluation of the application of topics raised in debates on epistemological and ethical issues within the social sciences to the design and conduct of research in criminology and related fields
B6. Evaluation of the applicability of a range of research methodologies to the conduct of social research

Teaching and Learning Methods

These specific intellectual and research skills will be enabled through individual reading, lectures, seminar discussions and presentations and the preparation of formal assessments. Such activity will enable students to develop and demonstrate an advanced understanding of criminological concepts, theories and empirical research and to evaluate epistemological and ethical issues within the design and conduct of research. In addition, working with individual supervisors on dissertations will enable students to evaluate research methodologies and to formulate research questions and appropriate research designs.

Lectures (B1-B4), seminars (B1-B6), independent research (B1-B6).

Assessment Methods

Assessed module coursework (B1-6), dissertation (B1-6)

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. Communicate and evaluate complex theoretical and methodological arguments in written and oral form
C2. Access and utilise library and electronic resources in an effective manner, displaying the ability to independently identify and locate relevant materials and to critically assess their appropriate usage in the preparation and presentation of a range of outputs
C3. Identify, select and access a range of sources of printed, electronic and other material as a means to the development and presentation of arguments and evidence
C4. Demonstrate awareness and understanding of the ethical and legal issues associated with the conduct of

research in the social sciences.

C5. Design, implement and manage a piece of research, utilising appropriate research methodologies

Teaching and Learning Methods

Library Workshop (C2-C3) Seminars – (C1, C3-5) Lectures (C1, C3-5) independent research (C1-C5)

Assessment Methods

Assessed essays (C1-C4), dissertation (C1-C5).

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Pathway

Part I
The programme is studied over 12 months full-time. The taught programme component consists of 30 study weeks divided into two semesters during which time students study six modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS). Students also undertake a three month period of supervised research for a Master's dissertation.

The option modules shown below constitute an indicative list; there will always be choice but the options might vary between years. A full list of modules and rules will be available to you via the Student Record Self-Service system once you enrol at the University.

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
CRIM6003	Criminal Behaviour	10	Core
CRIM6001	Criminal Justice	10	Core
CRIM6006	Dissertation (Crim)	30	Core
RESM6001	Philosophy of Social Science Research	5	Core
RESM6003	Qualitative Methods 1	5	Core
RESM6004	Quantitative Methods 1	5	Core
RESM6002	Research Design and Practice	5	Core

Part I Optional
Select 40 credits from the following:-

You should ensure that you have an even split of modules across semester 1 and 2, this includes core and

compulsory modules.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
CRIM6004	Contemporary Policing	10	Optional
PAIR6002	Contemporary Security Challenges	10	Optional
CRIM6002	Cyber Crime, Insecurity and the Dark Web	10	Optional
SOCI6046	International Social Policy	10	Optional
STAT6077	Key Topics in Social Science: Measurement and Data	5	Optional
CRIM6005	Life Behind Bars	10	Optional
RESM6006	Qualitative Methods 2	5	Optional
RESM6007	Quantitative Methods II	5	Optional
RESM6005	Survey Design	5	Optional
SOCI6043	Understanding Social Change	10	Optional

Part II

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
CRIM6006	Dissertation (Crim)	30	Core

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes*** and ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes*** as set out in the University Calendar: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia)
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV.
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community (18.00-08.00).

- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

· Student module evaluation questionnaires. At the end of each module, you will be asked to give us feedback on the module using the standard Social Sciences module evaluation form.
· Staff/Student Liaison Group, which meets at least once each semester.
· Informal feedback to module tutors and academic tutors.
· Programme Board. The Sociology and Social Policy Programme Board holds meetings during the year and has responsibility for the overall quality of all of the programmes that is coordinates. The Programme Board is made up of all members of the academic team plus student representatives.

The quality of your programme is also assessed and monitored in the following ways:

· There are External Examiners who each have responsibility for a number of modules in their disciplinary area. They view a sample of each module's assessments to ensure that the work produced is of an appropriate standard and that the marking of assessments is consistent within and across modules. The External Examiners are also members of the Programme Examinations Board and their role is to ensure consistency and equity across modules and between students. They are required to produce an annual report.
· Annual reviews of modules and programmes.
· Review of Programme Board minutes and proposed changes to the programme by the Social Sciences Academic Unit Programme Board.
· Regular auditing by the Quality Assurance Agency of the University's procedures for monitoring and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality handbook*.

Career Opportunities

· Tailor-made postgraduate employability workshop
· Workshops for Social Sciences students on writing effective CVs and application forms. (These take place throughout the academic year and information about dates will be sent to you by email).
· Interview Skills workshops for Social Sciences students. (These take place throughout the academic year and information about dates will be sent to you by email).
· Career Panels and Talks. (Information about dates will be sent to you by email).
· One-to-one appointments with a Careers Adviser (bookable throughout the year, on a first-come-first-served basis. Information about dates will be sent to you by email).

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Andrew Millie - Edge Hill University

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved model is Casio FX-570 This may be purchased from any source and no longer needs to carry the University logo.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In the majority of cases, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.