

Minor Specification

Criminology

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the minor 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
Name of minor	Criminology
FHEQ level of final award	As for the Major programme
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Criminology
Faculty that owns the minor	Social Sciences
Minor Leader	Karen Anderson (S1) / Craig Webber (S2)
Date specification was written	28 October 2013

Overview of Minor

1 Brief outline of the minor

This minor enables students to investigate and acquire competence in the issues and theories and which are central to the study of criminology. Students will develop an understanding of how criminology has studied different forms of crime, the social dimensions of crime and the differing responses to crime. Students will also learn how to conceptualise and explain the logics and dynamics of criminal justice and how the criminal justice system contributes to a sense of public security, individual well-being and state legitimacy.

2 Learning and teaching

The learning and teaching methods provide students with knowledge of the key concepts and debates associated with criminology and a capacity to apply this knowledge in a variety of contexts. Lectures are complemented by seminar exercises and group activities and discussions. Individual options provide for institutional visits (e.g. prisons) – subject to availability.

3 Assessment

All teaching and assessment methods are designed with the above learning outcomes in mind, so that for students the steps that need to be taken to achieve them are clear. In Year one, students are assessed largely through essay and examination. Although some first/second year units use in-seminar assessment of content and academic skills (based on lectures/reading). Second/third year subjects are assessed via essays and examinations in combination with subject specific assessment, such as book reviews (students are required to read a key book that covers the themes in the module and produce a fully reference critical review) and presentations. All assessment is designed

to enhance transferable skills such as communication skills; problem solving; organizational skills; information skills; critical analysis.

Educational Aims of the Minor

Having successfully completed this programme, you will be able to demonstrate:

- a capacity to undertake independent enquiry into criminological issues, using appropriate methodologies
- skills in written and oral communication, the use of information technology, the analysis of different forms of information, and working cooperatively in groups to achieve designated outcomes
- an ability to communicate ideas and arguments in a variety of written formats
- an ability to communicate ideas and arguments orally and in the context of formal presentations
- informed and critical thinking about the relationship between crime, social change and social control.

Learning Outcomes of the Minor

Knowledge and Understanding

Having successfully completed this minor you will be able to demonstrate:

- a critical knowledge of the development of the field of criminology
- how criminal justice is related to broader conceptions of social justice
- a critical knowledge of key contemporary debates in this area
- an understanding of how criminology has studied different forms of crime, the social dimensions of crime and the differing responses to crime
- a clear understanding of the main theoretical perspectives in criminology
- the key ethical issues and controversies facing the criminal justice system
- an ability to work independently demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management
- a demonstrated ability to collaborate with others and contribute effectively to the achievement of common goals
- an ability to identify, select and draw upon a range of sources of printed, electronic and other material as a means to develop and present arguments and evidence

Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning activities include lectures, seminar discussions, peer review, videos, independent work, institutional visits and debate.

Assessment methods

Written unseen examinations, essays, reports, in-seminar assessment, independent peer review, are all used to assess the achievement of learning objectives

All teaching and assessment methods are designed with the above learning outcomes in mind, so that for students the steps that need to be taken to achieve them are clear.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

Having successfully completed this minor you will be able to:

- Identify, investigate, analyse and advocate explanations to questions and problems
- Develop reasoned argument, synthesise relevant information, and exercise critical judgement
- Reflect on your own learning and personal development to make use of constructive feedback and opportunities for further development
- Manage your own learning and personal development self critically and purposefully

Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning activities include lectures, seminar discussions, peer review, videos, independent work, institutional visits and debate.

Assessment methods

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All teaching and assessment methods are designed with the above learning outcomes in mind, so that for students the steps that need to be taken to achieve them are clear.

Transferable and Generic Skills

Having successfully completed this minor you will be able to:

- work independently demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management
- communicate evidence, ideas and arguments in a variety of different written and numerical formats
- communicate evidence, ideas and arguments orally and in the context of formal presentations
- problem solve
- demonstrate information and organizational skills
- engage in critical analysis

Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning activities include lectures, seminar discussions, peer review, videos, independent work, institutional visits and debate.

Assessment methods

Written unseen examinations, essays, reports, in-seminar assessment, independent peer review, are all used to assess the achievement of learning objectives

Subject Specific Practical Skills (optional)

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- describe, evaluate and apply different theoretical and methodological approaches involved in collecting, analysing and presenting information
- identify relevant issues for criminological and criminal justice enquiry
- assess the ethical implications of your own research and others
- gather, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of sources
- present scholarly work using appropriate formats and conventions

Structure of Minor

1 Typical Content

The criminology minor provides for two core subjects in Parts One and Two – that is, compulsory subjects which we believe will provide students with a strong foundation of criminology and criminal justice theory for optimum understanding of optional modules at part 2 and 3.

2 Special Features of the programme

You will be taught and supervised by internationally recognised criminologists whose research and policy analysis are sought by government departments, criminal justice agencies and the media. This innovative applied minor emphasises the connections between research and professional practice. Field trips may apply with specific optional modules.

3 Details of the minor

You may not select modules that are incorporated as core or compulsory on your Major programme of study.

Back Tracking and Forward Tracking: Back tracking and forward tracking by one level are allowed up to 15 ECTS/30 CATS.

Teaching is research led at all levels. As a result, the modules on offer vary from year to year as staff research interests and priorities develop and change. The following is an indicative list of the modules on offer to students wishing to study for the Minor.”

The minor consists of the following although not all modules may be available in any given year:

Part 1: 1 module (7.5 ECTS/15 CATS) from:

CRIM1004 Criminal Justice Studies

(Students are encouraged to take CRIM1003 Introduction to Criminology as an option in semester 1, although this is not compulsory).

Part 2: 2 modules (15 ECTS/30 CATS) from:

CRIM2001 Perspectives in Criminology

Plus

CRIM2002 Crime and Criminal Justice: Historical Perspective

CRIM2006 Criminology: Policy and Practice

CRIM2004 Criminological Psychology

Please note you cannot take CRIM2004 if previously taken it in part 2

Part 3: 2 modules (15 ECTS/30 CATS) from:

CRIM2002 Crime and Criminal Justice: Historical Perspectives

CRIM2004 Criminological Psychology

CRIM3001 Penology

CRIM3002 Issues in Law Enforcement and Social Control

CRIM3006 Global Crime and Justice

CRIM3014 The Deserving and Undeserving: Victims and Scroungers in Criminology and Social Policy

CRIM3007 Violent and Sexual Offenders

This minor would complement major studies in: Politics and International Relations; Sociology and Law.

4 Progression Requirements

The programme, of which this minor comprises a part, follows the University's regulations for Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes as set out in the University Calendar:

<http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs.html>

In order to qualify for the minor, students must pass all modules that make up the minor. There is no provision for students to be referred in a minor module solely for the purpose of qualifying for the minor.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the minor 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 on the minor website at <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/learning-teaching/customise-your-degree/minors.page> .

Revision History

1. Professor Jenny Fleming, 11 November, 2013.
2. CQA team July 2015
3. CQA team July 2016
4. Silke Roth/Paul Bridgen/Craig Webber August 2016
5. Paul Bridgen (HoTP SSPC) August 2017
6. S.Casey 18/19 revisions as approved by QAM on 26/03/18