

BA (Hons) Contemporary Criminology [Top Up]



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Subject	Level	Study Mode	Duration	Start Date
Criminology and Psychology	Bachelors Degree (Level 6)	Full-Time	1 year full-time/2 years part-time	September 2025

The Course

This is a vocational course that develops a range of practical and knowledge-based skills related to the Criminal Justice Sector. It examines traditional and contemporary thinking about the causes and effects of crime, how it impacts individuals and society. You will be encouraged to challenge strategies to explore crime whilst developing an up to date critical approach to current issues in the criminal justice sector. Through this programme, you will have the opportunity to interact with professionals in the sector increasing your employability and skills.

Course Aims

- > Develop your understanding of the roles in the Criminal Justice System and security infrastructure.
- > Enhance your critical and independent enquiry surrounding academic principles underpinning criminology.
- > Enhance your theoretical knowledge and understanding of contemporary issues in criminology.
- > Develop your understanding of the complexities of recidivism organisations face managing crime.
- > Provide you with research opportunities in an area of criminology that you're interested in.

What You Will Study

- > Contemporary Issues in Criminology: This is a fluid module that embeds relevant current topics. It also discusses areas of criminology such as environmental issues, wildlife crime, piracy and globalisation. Geographical crime is a key aspect.
- > Cyber Crime: An old crime with a new tool. This module investigates which sit under this heading. Whilst new crimes are beginning to appear specifically linked to cyber crime, these crimes existed in a different format. Is trolling the same as stalking with a device? Is putting a derogatory comment on Twitter similar to that of a public order offence? As the internet currently has 3.9 billion internet users (2018), how do we police this? These are some of the questions asked in this module.
- > Homicide - Violence and Crime: As violent crime continues to grow globally, this module discusses the recording of violent crime and the influences of said crimes. How violent crime is investigated will be debated in relation to the UK and globally. You will also discuss the stereotypical observations of the male being the culprit and the woman being the victim.
- > Prison, Recidivism and Rehabilitation: Does prison work? was a question asked by theorists. When we consider figures of re-offending one would suggest prison does not work. You will address processes and support, considering alternate approaches and comparing international processes.
- > Dissertation: A chance for you to choose the area which interests you, or choose your desired career path and research a specific area within that. This module will run as independent study with support from the University Centre team.

Entry Requirements

You will need a relevant Level 5 qualification and an appropriate academic reference.

Life and/or experience of non-traditional students will be taken into account when considering applications. The successful completion of an entry task may be required when considering applications without the required formal entry qualifications.

If your first language is not English, or a Tier 4 student visa to study is required and GCSE grade C/4 English or equivalent is not held, English language proficiency level such as International English Language Testing System (IELTS) 6.0 overall (with a minimum 5.5 in each skill) will need evidencing.

Teaching and Learning Approach

This programme is delivered with a variety of learning and teaching approaches to include all students learning styles and preferences. For all modules, theory lectures are delivered that aim to deliver the core content and provide you with underpinning knowledge. To complement these theory lectures, you will have group seminar sessions that are used to reinforce concepts delivered theoretically. The teaching methods focus on facilitating a student-centered approach to enhance your independent learning outside of the classroom. Teaching will take place at the Bishop Burton campus in East Yorkshire, UK.

Time Required on Campus

As a full-time course, this programme includes approximately 10 to 16 hours a week of teaching, including lectures, seminars, debates and tutorials. You are also expected to carry out a significant amount of private study in addition to contact time (25-30 hours a week). Studying part-time you will have approximately 5-7 hours of contact time each week, including lectures, seminars, practicals and tutorials. You are also expected to carry out a significant amount of private study in addition to contact time (18-20 hours a week). You can expect to receive your timetable during induction week.

Work Experience

Work experience is not an integral part of the programme, but you may wish to continue to undertake work experience as this is invaluable to your CV and career direction.

How You're Assessed

Assessment includes reports and case studies, written assignments, portfolios, research, poster event and group or individual presentations. Opportunities for feedback on assessments are available prior to the final submission to support student development and achievement. Staff aim to return assessed work within a 20 working day timeframe (not including holidays) in order that students can most benefit from the feedback.

Clothing, Equipment and Additional Costs

- > There may be additional costs for DBS if you are seeking additional experience within relevant sectors. The cost will be dependent on the level of check completed, and would be at your expense. You can check the current cost on the www.gov.uk website.
- > A suitable electronic device, e.g. a laptop or tablet, with internet connectivity is required for accessing online learning.
- > Any educational visits/trips and enrichment activities will be additional to the course fees. You will be made aware of these optional visits and associated costs as required.
- > On successful completion of the programme, you will have the opportunity to graduate at a ceremony wearing formal dress. The hire of the formal dress is an additional cost.

Progression

Graduates have the potential to complete further higher study (i.e. Masters or PhD) in a range of subjects, including social work and/or take part in Probation training programmes.

Careers

The whole programme is designed with the Criminal Justice Sector and gives employment opportunities throughout the sector. Our students have gain employment as Police Constables, Prison Officers, Probation Officers and support networks for ex-offenders. Current students are volunteering as Police Specials.