

Approved December 2018
Effective from September 2019 for BA (Hons) Criminology and Law

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. General information

Awarding body / institution	Leeds Trinity University
Teaching institution	Leeds Trinity University
'Parent' School (<i>ICE / SAC / SSHS</i>)	SAC
Academic Group (<i>or Cluster if clearer</i>)	LAW
Professional accreditation body (<i>if applicable</i>)	n/a
Final award (<i>eg. BA Hons</i>)	BA (Hons)
Title of programme(s)	Criminology and Law
Subsidiary award(s) (<i>if any</i>)	Certificate of Higher Education in Criminology and Law Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology and Law Ordinary Degree in Criminology and Law
Honours type (<i>Single / Joint / Combined</i>)	Joint
Duration and mode(s) of study	3 years: full-time
Month/year of approval of programme	December 2018
Start date (<i>this version</i>) (<i>month and year</i>)	September, 2019
Periodic review next due (<i>academic year</i>)	
JACS subject code(s) (<i>Level 3</i>) (Please refer to HESA listing on AQO website)	HECoS: 100484 (Criminology - 50%) HECoS: 100485 (Law – 25%) HECos: 100685 (Criminal Law – 25%)
UCAS course code & route code (available from Admissions)	M1M9
SITS codes (<i>Course / Pathway / Route</i>) (available from Student Administration)	LAWACRM / ULAWACRM
Delivery venue(s)	Leeds Trinity University

2. Aims of the programme

Rationale and general aims, including what is special about this programme
(from the student's and a marketing perspective)

The Criminology and Law programme explores crime from a wide range of perspectives: from its causes and effects, its policing and prevention, to the way the legal system classifies and processes criminal activities. Student learning is structured and supported by a highly-qualified staff team with specialisms in law, criminology and sociology. Students benefit from the University's student-centred approach to higher education, based upon active learning and encouraging connections between knowledge, theory, application, and professional practice.

Within a campus setting, students benefit from high levels of student support and Leeds Trinity's focus on helping its students to employment, such as through its unique work placement scheme in each year of study. In the third year, students can do an optional year-long professional project module, which allows them to work on specific practical projects in a professional setting. All these work placement opportunities are supported by regular contact with academic tutors, who also help students identify appropriate career paths and gain relevant experience in a chosen field *before* they graduate.

The aims of the programme, designed to be consistent with the University's vision and values, are:

- to provide students with a critical understanding of the legal justice system and the criminal justice process;
- to develop an understanding of the relation between the disciplines of criminology and law;
- to develop skills in reasoning, analysis, problem solving, synthesis and the communication of knowledge and research;
- to develop an appreciation of the diverse theoretical and critical perspectives scholars use to engage with issues in criminology and legal studies;
- to develop an informed understanding of divergent social perspectives on crime and the ways in which they interact: in policy, legislation, legal process, policing, the media, and public representations;
- to stimulate an understanding of the ethical issues within the disciplines of criminology and legal studies;
- to develop a range of transferable skills and to create an awareness of their vocational and academic value;
- to prepare students, through the development of an appropriate range of knowledge and skills, for careers in a range of occupations;
- to develop the capacity to undertake independent research within the disciplines of criminology and legal studies and to communicate it effectively.

3. Student learning outcomes of the programme

Learning outcomes in terms of:

- knowledge and understanding (K)
- intellectual / cognitive / 'thinking' skills (I)
- practical skills specific to the subject (P)
- employability skills (E)

The 'K1', etc codes are used in section 7b) and module descriptors to refer to each of these learning outcomes.

On successful completion of the programme, students will have *demonstrated*

Knowledge and Understanding

- K1 **The law and legal system of England and Wales:** Knowledge and understanding of the fundamental doctrines and principles which underpin the law of England and Wales particularly of the sources of that law, and how it is made and developed; and of the institutions within which, and procedures by which the law is administered and the personnel who practise law;
- K2 **Legal concepts, contexts and relationships:** Knowledge and understanding within institutional, social, cultural, economic, national and global contexts of a wide range of legal concepts, values,

principles and rules of the law of England and Wales, and of the relationship between them in a number of particular areas;

K3 **Criminological concepts and theories:** critical understanding of sociological concepts and theories; their application to reality, including challenge and contestation, and their development over time;

K4 **Social representation of, crime, crime victims, and the work of relevant state agencies:** an ability to distinguish diverse perspectives on crime and official and unofficial responses to and representations of it, including their presentation in popular and non-specialist accounts, i.e. in the media, literature and film;

Intellectual / cognitive / 'thinking' skills

I1 **Application of knowledge:** the ability to apply knowledge to complex situations and to offer evidenced conclusions, addressing complex actual or hypothetical legal problems;

I2 **Independent thinking:** the ability to exercise independent thought; to ask and answer cogent questions about law and legal systems; to engage in critical analysis and evaluation;

I3 **Research skills:** the ability to identify accurately the issue or issues which require researching; to use and analyse the law from relevant primary and secondary sources; to identify and retrieve accurate, current and relevant information from a range of appropriate sources including primary legal sources and standard paper and electronic sources and to apply the findings of such work to the solution of legal problems;

I4 **Analysis, collation and synthesis:** the ability to recognise and select the key relevant issues and to formulate them with clarity; to rank and collate issues in terms of relevance and importance; and to synthesise relevant issues and information;

I5 **Critical judgement and evaluation:** the ability to make a personal and reasoned judgement based on an informed understanding of standard arguments in the area of law in question; to provide critical judgement of the merits of particular arguments and supporting reasons for them; to recognise potential alternative conclusions for particular situations; to recognise ambiguity and deal with uncertainty in law; and to present and make a reasoned choice between alternative solutions;

Employability skills

E1 **Self-management** – the ability to plan and manage time; readiness to accept responsibility and improve their own performance based on feedback/reflective learning; the ability to take initiative and be proactive, flexible and resilient;

E2 **Teamworking** – the ability to co-operate with others on a shared task and to recognise and take on appropriate team roles; leading, contributing to discussions and negotiating; contributing to discussions; awareness of interdependence with others;

E3 **Business and sector awareness** – an understanding of the key drivers for business success, including the importance of customer/client satisfaction and innovation; understanding of the market/sector in which an organisation operates; the ability to recognise the external context and pressures on an organisation, including concepts such as value for money, profitability and sustainability;

E4 **Problem-solving** – a capacity for critical reasoning, analysis and synthesis; a capacity for applying knowledge in practice; an ability to retrieve, analyse and evaluate information from different sources;

E5 **Communication** – the ability to present information clearly and appropriately, both orally and in writing, and to tailor messages to specific audiences and purposes;

E6 **Application of numeracy** – a general awareness of mathematics and its application in practical contexts; the ability to carry out arithmetic operations and understand data, to read and interpret graphs and tables and to manage a budget;

E7 **Application of information technology** – the ability to identify the appropriate IT package for a given task; familiarity with word-processing, spreadsheets and file management; the ability to use the internet and email effectively.

- E8 **Entrepreneurship/enterprise** – the ability to demonstrate an innovative approach and creativity, to generate ideas and to identify and take opportunities;
- E9 **Social, cultural & civic awareness** – embracement of an ethos of community and civic responsibility; an appreciation of diversity and ethical issues; an understanding of cultures and customs in the wider community.

See also the learning outcomes for subsidiary awards set out in section 4 below.

3a External benchmarks

Statement of congruence with the relevant published subject benchmark statements

(including appropriate references to any PSRB, employer or legislative requirements)

The programme is fully congruent with the the most recent subject benchmark statements:

- The QAA's Quality Code for Higher Education
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- The QAA Subject Benchmark Standards: Criminology (2014) and Law (2015).

4. Learning outcomes for subsidiary awards

Guidance	
<p>The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module at Level 4.</p>	<p><u>Generic Learning outcomes for the award of <u>Certificate of Higher Education in Criminology and Law</u>:</u></p> <p>On successful completion of 120 credits at Level 4, students will have demonstrated an ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) interpret and evaluate data appropriate to the disciplines of Criminology and of Law; ii) make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts, as used in legal studies and criminology; iii) evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems within the disciplines of Criminology and Law; iv) communicate the results of their work coherently; <p>and will have had specific opportunities to display transferable skills relevant to employment related to the discipline.</p>
<p>The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module over Levels 4 & 5.</p>	<p><u>Generic Learning outcomes for the award of <u>Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology and Law</u>:</u></p> <p>On successful completion of 240 credits, including 120 at Level 5, students will have demonstrated, in addition to the outcomes for a Certificate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) critical understanding of the central principles used in the study of both criminology and law; ii) application of these concepts outside their initial context; iii) use of a range of techniques, typical in the study of criminology and of law; iv) proficient communication of the results of their work;

	and will have had the opportunity to develop transferable skills relevant to employment related to the discipline, including successful completion of at least one professional placement.
The assessment strategy is designed so that each of these outcomes is addressed by more than one module over Levels 4, 5 & 6.	<p>Generic Learning outcomes for the award of an <u>Ordinary Degree in Criminology and Law</u>:</p> <p>On successful completion of 300 credits, including 60 at Level 6, students will have demonstrated, in addition to the outcomes for a Diploma:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) an ability to make flexible use of disciplinary concepts and techniques, as used in the academic study of both criminology and law; ii) critical evaluation of approaches to solving problems within the disciplines of criminology and law; iii) an ability to work autonomously within a structured learning experience; iv) effective communication of the results of their work in a variety of forms; <p>and will have had the opportunity to develop transferable skills relevant to employment related to the discipline including successful completion of two professional placements.</p>

5. Content

<p>Summary of content by theme (providing a 'vertical' view through the programme)</p>
<p>The Criminology and Law programme enables students to follow four central themes: the legal system; criminal justice; criminology, and researching crime. The programme is designed to deliver these skills through vertical strands that provide a means of developing skills and knowledge in each of these areas across all three years of undergraduate study. The programme is also designed with a progressive and convergent structure that establishes the core disciplines in the first year and then synthesises them in the second year in order to equip and prepare students for the independent project work in the final year.</p> <p>The strands are as follows – with core modules in bold font:</p> <p>Criminal Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4 – SOC4032 <i>The Criminal Justice System</i> • L5 – LAW5022 <i>Criminal Law</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L5 – SOC5032 <i>Policing</i> • L6 – SOC6022 <i>Prisons and Punishment</i> <p>Criminology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4 – SOC4082 <i>Understanding Murder</i> • L5 – SOC5002 <i>Serious Violent Crime</i> • L6 – SOC6082 <i>Critical Criminology</i> <p>The Legal System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4 – LAW4002 <i>The English Legal System</i> • L5 – LAW5072 <i>Human Rights and Social Justice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L5 – CYP5242 <i>Children's Rights, Young People and the Law</i> ○ L6 – LAW6022 <i>Employment Law</i>

- L6 – LAW6032 *Family Law*
- L6 – LAW6042 *Comparative Law*

Researching Crime

- **L4 – SOC4022 *Introduction to Criminology***
 - L5 – SOC5072 *Cultures of Crime*
- **L6 – SOC6044 *Dissertation***
- **L6 - LAW6994 *Work-Based Learning Project*.**

Section 7a of this document (below) describes how the content of the programme is further structured in progressive stages (by level) to ensure that the teaching and learning is cumulative and progressive.

6. Structure

BA (Hons) CRIMINOLOGY AND LAW (Joint Honours)

Duration: 3 years full-time

Total credit rating: 360 (180 ECTS)

Level 4 – with effect from September 2019

Core: Students are required to take:

SOC4082	Understanding Murder	Sem 1	20 credits
SOC4032	The Criminal Justice System	Sem 2	20 credits
SOC4022	Introduction to Criminology	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW4002	The English Legal System	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW4032	Legal Skills	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW4992	Ethics, Society and Employability	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits

Level 5 – with effect from September 2020

Core: Students are required to take:

SOC5002	Serious Violent Crime	Sem 1	20 credits
SOC5072	Cultures of Crime	Sem 2	20 credits
LAW5022	Criminal Law	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW5072	Human Rights and Social Justice	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW5052	Professional Development and Placement	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits

Option: Students are required to take 20 credits from:

SOC5032	Policing	Sem 1	20 credits
CYP5242	Children's Rights, Young People and the Law	Sem 1	20 credits

Level 6 – with effect from September 2021

Core: Students are required to take:

SOC6072	Criminal Investigation and Serious Crime	Sem 1	20 credits
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Core Option: Students are required to choose 40 credits from:

SOC6044	Dissertation	Sem 1 & 2	40 credits
LAW6994	Work-Based Learning Project	Sem 1 & 2	40 credits

Option: Students must take 60 credits from the following – but not more than 20 credits of SOC modules:

SOC6022	Prisons and Punishment	Sem 2	20 credits
SOC6082	Critical Criminology	Sem 2	20 credits
LAW6022	Employment Law	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits

LAW6032	Family Law	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
LAW6042	Comparative Law	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits
JOU6902	Law for Journalists [Media Law]	Sem 1 & 2	20 credits

7. Learning, teaching and assessment

7a) Statement of the strategy for learning, teaching and assessment for the programme

General Learning and Teaching Principles:

Teaching

- **Student-Led Enquiry:** The main form of teaching session is the seminar, where concepts and skills introduced by the lecturer are learned through practical application – specific tasks, problem-solving, discussion and collaborative close reading of texts, with regular provision of formative feedback on those activities. The emphasis is on problem-based sessions, with real or hypothetical case studies, as well as group learning activities to develop team-working ability.
- **Directed Activities:** Students are encouraged and expected to undertake independent research through directed reading and study in order to supplement and consolidate the formal teaching. They are required, for example, to complete specific activities each week between sessions, in order to support their learning and active engagement in teaching sessions. These activities are also used, as appropriate, as a vehicle for formative feedback and for structuring teaching sessions.
- **Use of VLE:** To support student-led inquiry; learning materials and resources are supplied in advance via Moodle. Resources offered include bespoke videos and podcasts; links to external sites and on-line resources; and access to all hand-outs, powerpoints, etc.
- **Use of other online resources and technology:** Full use is made of on-line resources, which are available via Moodle. Various on-line databases and resources are used to support legal study and research and training in these is provided, particularly in the module LAW4032 *Legal Skills*.

Assessment

- **Formative assessments:** Students have access to formative assessment in every module studied. This usually takes the form of feedback on specific tasks given in teaching sessions, on-line feedback, or feedback on outline plans for assessed work available via individual meetings. There is a written exam in LAW5022 *Criminal Law* and students will also have the opportunity to do a mock examination as part of the formative assessment. The exam is structured around case analyses of the same type undertaken in other Law modules.
- **Integrated Assessment:** Students undertake an integrated assessment at Level 4, for which a two-week period is set aside towards the end of Semester 2. This assessment is a mock court-room exercise, requiring students to research a given area of criminal law, prepare a brief and deliver oral arguments before a magistrate. This provides marks for three modules that help prepare students for this assessment: LAW4032 *Legal Skills* (30%), LAW4992 *Ethics, Society and Employability* (40%) and SOC4022 *Introduction to Criminology* (10%).
- **Negotiated Assessment:** Students are offered choices about the content through which their knowledge and skills are assessed. There are options for negotiating the mode of assessment in the analysis of case studies in the Law modules, and in the presentations in the Criminology modules.

As noted in section 5 above, the content is divided into four main strands: the legal system, criminal justice, criminology, and researching crime. Cutting across these are the three main stages of development, or levels, within the learning and teaching. A description, by level, is as follows:

Level 4: to understand the nature of both Criminology and Law, particularly their inter-connections, the range of skills and abilities required for professional practice, and the basic methods required for legal and criminological research;

Level 5: to practise those disciplines;

Level 6: to gain enough expertise in those disciplines to propose creative blends or hybrid innovations, in line with industry, agency, or sector requirements.

Level 6 provides scope for individual self-directed project work, preparing students for graduate-level employment or further academic study. This includes a 40-credit module (LAW6994 *Work-Based Learning Project*), which is the equivalent to a dissertation.

LAW6994 <i>Work-Based Learning Project</i>																	
SOC6072 <i>Criminal Investigation and Serious Crime</i>																	
SOC6022 <i>Prisons and Punishment</i>																	
SOC6082 <i>Critical Criminology</i>																	
LAW6022 <i>Employment Law</i>																	
LAW6032 <i>Family Law</i>																	
LAW6042 <i>Comparative Law</i>																	
JOU6902 <i>Law for Journalists</i>																	

8. Entry requirements

Honours degree programmes

Applicants should normally have achieved the following prior to registration for the programme:

5 academic qualifications, of which at least 2 should be level 3 qualifications equivalent to A2 and must also include GCSE grade C or 4 or above in English Language (or equivalent qualification).

Some equivalent qualifications and the current typical offer conditions in terms of UCAS Tariff points are detailed in the undergraduate prospectus. For students whose first language is not English, a pass in an approved test in English is needed, e.g. the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS), with a minimum of 6.0 and with no component below 5.5, or accepted equivalent test. Full details of entry requirements are published by course on the Leeds Trinity website.

Applications are welcome from those with few or no formal qualifications. Any previous relevant work experience and learning will be assessed and, where appropriate, accredited as part of the application process. Please see Leeds Trinity's Principles and Guidelines for the Recognition of Prior Learning.

9. Progression, classification and award requirements

Details of requirements for student progression between levels and receipt of the award(s)

(A certain level of attainment which must be achieved in a specific module; any modules exempted from condonement, any deviation from the standard institutional stipulations for award classification, e.g. exclusion of Level 4 module marks from Foundation Degree classification)

Undergraduate Taught Programme Academic Regulations apply.

10. Prerequisites

Details of modules which must be passed before enrolment on a module at a higher level

None

11. Additional support needs

Arrangements made to accommodate students with additional support needs and any unavoidable restrictions on their participation in the programme/scheme

Students with disabilities or other support needs are welcome and are expected to be able to participate fully in this programme. Arrangements will be made, via the normal University support systems, to accommodate students with additional support needs wherever possible, with reasonable adjustments made to accommodate individual needs.