

## Programme Specification

*With effect from: September 2021*

A programme specification is the definitive record of your programme of study at the University. It sets out the aims, learning outcomes, and indicative content of the programme. You should read this programme specification alongside the relevant module descriptors and the University's Taught Programme Academic Regulations.

This specification only applies to the delivery of the programme indicated below. The details in this specification are subject to change through the modifications or periodic review processes.

### 1 Programme name and award

**This programme specification relates to the following award(s)**

BA (Hons) Criminology

### 2 Aims of the programme

**Rationale and general aims, including what is special about this programme**

This programme has been developed against the *UK Quality Code for Higher Education's Subject Benchmark Statement for Criminology (2019)*, which defines the academic standards that can be expected of a graduate. These benchmarks are informed by the acknowledgement that Criminology as a subject has developed and continues to evolve from a range of human and social science disciplines; thus making Criminology a 'rendezvous' subject.

The overall approach to the BA (Hons) Criminology degree programme and associated route ways is to develop a critical appreciation of the relationship between the individual and social aspects of crime, punishment and victimisation. It aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the core schools of criminological thought, their historical and political underpinnings in conjunction with their practical application. The Criminology degree programme is built around a core set of modules which, from the first year, lay the foundations of the study of Criminology. This is achieved through exposure to the primary theoretical interpretations of the causes of crime and the various public and private responses to it. It sets the study of the subject in a historical and political framework to ensure there is a full understanding of the environment in which crime occurs and in which society deals with and accommodates to it.

As such, you will develop a highly analytical, critical world view underpinned by criminological theory, explore and examine the empirical and research skills necessary for the social sciences, and develop a professional portfolio of work through work placements in your first and second years that complement and build on your studies.

This programme also explores and challenges the self-image of the social sciences and their historical roots. Traditionally, for example, Criminology is perceived as originating in Europe and this has consequently privileged Eurocentric accounts and views of the world. Whilst Criminology has been an influential discipline in many ways throughout its history, it is important to address these legacies and influences, particularly when they are used as justifications for the perpetuation of social injustices and inequalities. In grappling with its challenging past and with contemporary critiques of Criminology this programme asks you to consider the role that Criminology should play in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Combined, these strands deliver a programme that is responsive to transformations in social life equipping you with a wide range of social science skills that will contribute to your academic and professional success.

### 3 Level Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are expressed in terms of:

- Knowledge and understanding (K)
- Intellectual / cognitive / 'thinking' skills (I)
- Practical skills specific to the subject (P)
- Employability skills (E)

We design assessment tasks to enable you to demonstrate the level learning outcomes for your level of study. To a greater or lesser extent, all level learning outcomes are embedded into each assessment task. This means we can take a more integrated view of your overall performance at a level.

To progress to the next level, or to receive an award, you will need to satisfy the Level Learning Outcomes below and achieve credit as per the Taught Programme Academic Regulations.

Level Learning Outcomes	
Level 4	
K1	Basic knowledge and understanding of a range of core criminological topics and theories. The accurate use of scholarly conventions in evidencing arguments;
K2	A basic awareness of contemporary social problems and the role of criminality within these and the processes underpinning social change, conflict, and stability.
K3	Basic knowledge and understanding of the purpose of criminology and criminological explanations.
K4	A basic understanding of the impact of social processes and power on individuals, groups, and institutions, as well as a basic understanding of the relationship between social processes and policing, the legal system, inequality, diversity, and identity within society. An understanding of the relationship between individual action and social structure.

K5	A basic ability to explain social problems and phenomena through a basic application of criminological theory.
K6	An understanding and application of a variety of basic methods of social scientific research and analysis including quantitative and qualitative methods and approaches. An ability to assess the appropriateness of the use of qualitative and quantitative approaches to social research.
K7	A basic understanding of the contribution that criminology as a rendezvous subject can make to the wider community and society, its role in promoting human values of equality and social justice, and an understanding of the use of criminological knowledge across a variety of contexts including, professional, national, international, and third sector organisations.
I1	A basic ability to assess competing theories and explanations of social phenomena and the basic gathering and use of evidence to justify and evaluate competing ideas.
I2	A basic ability to bring together multiple pieces of evidence and academic arguments. A basic ability to offer conclusions from competing ideas and theories. The development of a reflexive approach to criminology that questions taken for granted ideas of the social world.
I3	A basic understanding and evaluation of ethics and values relevant to the application and purpose of criminology
I4	A basic ability to reflect on the relationship between empirical evidence, practical experience and theoretical understanding, and to demonstrate a basic understanding of the limits of criminological schools of thought
I5	The ability to discuss and work with others to present ideas in a reasoned way. The ability to initiate, design, and present a basic project on a topic within criminology
I6	The ability to begin to employ criminological knowledge in an integrated way to explore real-world problems including, but not limited to, those associated with criminalisation, victimisation, policing, inequality, identity, and injustice.
<b>Level 5</b>	
K1	Detailed knowledge and a developing critical and analytical understanding of a range of core criminological topics and theories. The accurate use of scholarly conventions in evidencing arguments;
K2	A developing awareness of contemporary social problems and their historical formation. A developing understanding of the role of comparison and cultural context within criminological thinking. A developing understanding of processes of social change, conflict, and stability.

K3	A developing understanding of the purpose of criminology and criminological explanations to social phenomena. A developing awareness and understanding of how criminological knowledge differs from other disciplines.
K4	A developing awareness and understanding of social processes and the relationship between individual action and social structure. A developing critical understanding of the relationship between and questions of power, diversity, inequality, difference, and identity.
K5	A developing independence in applying criminological theories and concepts in order to understand and examine social problems. The development of knowledge of a range of fields within criminology.
K6	The detailed understanding and application of a variety of methods and methodologies within the social sciences, including complex quantitative and qualitative methods and approaches, as well as ethical challenges to social research. An understanding of methods of data collection and different sources of data.
K7	An understanding of the contribution that criminology can make to the wider community and society and its role in promoting human values of equality and social justice, and an understanding of the use of criminological knowledge across a variety of contexts including, professional, national, international, and third sector organisations.
I1	A developing ability to assess competing criminological theories and explanations of social phenomena and problems, and a secure use of evidence from a range of sources to offer a sustained and analytical assessment of the merits of competing ideas.
I2	A developing ability to synthesise bodies of evidence and academic arguments. A developing ability to offer well-reasoned conclusions based on the interpretation of competing arguments. A secure ability to reflexively question taken for granted ideas of the social world.
I3	The consideration and evaluation of ethics and values relevant to the application and purpose of criminology within a variety of settings.
I4	A developing ability to reflect on the relationship between empirical evidence, practical experience and theoretical understanding, and to understand the limits of criminological knowledge
I5	The ability to discuss and work with others, to interpret and present ideas and theories on a crime-related topic. A secure ability to work with others or to work independently to initiate, design, analyse, and conclude a piece of criminological work.
I6	The ability to employ criminological knowledge in an integrated way to explore and address real-world problems including, but not limited to, those associated with criminalisation, victimisation, policing, inequality, identity, and injustice.

**Level 6**

K1	Detailed knowledge and a secure critical and analytical understanding of a range of criminological topics and theories. The accurate use of scholarly conventions when evidencing arguments;
K2	A secure understanding of the historical formation of contemporary problems. A critical understanding of processes of social change, conflict, and stability. Detailed knowledge of the purpose of comparison within criminology and an ability to compare diachronically and synchronically.
K3	Detailed and secure knowledge of the purpose of criminology, the ability to bring interdisciplinarity into work, the role of evidence within criminological argument, and a critical understanding of the distinction between criminology and other disciplines and forms of knowledge.
K4	Detailed and analytical knowledge of social processes and the relationship between individual action and social structure. A critical and analytical understanding of the relationship between and questions of power, social control, deviance, diversity, inequality, difference, and identity.
K5	The ability to independently and creatively apply criminological theories and concepts in order to understand and analyse social problems. The understanding of a particular subfield within criminology and the use of specialised knowledge from this field to make strong criminological arguments.
K6	A critical understanding and application of a variety of methods within the social sciences. The ability to apply social science methodology to an independent project.
I1	A secure ability to identify and gather an appropriate evidence base that is utilised to offer a critical, analytical, and evaluative assessment of competing explanations of social problems and phenomena.
I2	A secure ability to synthesise bodies of evidence and academic arguments and the ability to offer critical, well-reasoned conclusions based on competing explanations. A critical ability to be reflexive within work that questions both taken for granted assumptions and criminological assumptions.
I3	The consideration and critical evaluation of ethics and values relevant to the application and purpose of criminology within a variety of settings.
I4	The ability to reflect critically on the relationship between empirical evidence, practical experience and theoretical understanding, and to understand the limits of criminological knowledge.
I5	The ability to work individually under appropriate supervision, to initiate, design, and conduct an independent project with a clear outcome whilst conforming to ethical principles and codes of professional conduct.
I6	The ability to employ criminological knowledge in an integrated and sophisticated way to critically examine and address real-world problems including, but not limited to, those associated with criminalisation, victimisation, policing, inequality, identity, and injustice.

<b>Employability Outcomes</b>	
Employability skills are embedded and assessed throughout your programme. Therefore, we use a generic set of employability outcomes at all levels of study.	
E1	<b>Self-management</b> – 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	<b>Team-working</b> – 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	<b>Business and sector awareness</b> – 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	<b>Problem-solving</b> – 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	<b>Communication</b> – the ability to present information clearly and appropriately, both orally and in writing, and to tailor messages to specific audiences and purposes;
E6	<b>Application of numeracy</b> – 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	<b>Application of information technology</b> – the ability to identify and use 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	<b>Entrepreneurship/enterprise</b> – the ability to demonstrate an innovative approach and creativity, to generate ideas and to identify and take opportunities;
E9	<b>Social, cultural &amp; civic awareness</b> – 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.

### 3.1 External Benchmarks

<b>Statement of congruence with the relevant external benchmarks</b>
Learning outcomes for the programme have been cross-referenced and are fully congruent with the most recent Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement for 'Criminology' (2019).

## 4 Indicative Content

### Summary of content by theme

At the start of this learning journey, we will manage the transition into university by introducing students to core criminological knowledge and promoting development of intellectual thought, research, employability and independent learning skills. In second year, students will refine these skills and develop critical thinking. The final stages of the degree involve application of these skills in research, real world, and employability contexts, ensuring that students are well-rounded, employable graduates who can easily adapt to the continuing societal changes presented in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Specifically, the first year will focus on the fundamental tenants of criminology, with such modules as “Introduction to Criminology” introducing students to the key theoretical schools and perspectives within the subject area. In particular, this module will help students to understand theories of crime and punishment, and research in its global and historical context before considering how the criminal justice system shapes societies views criminals and victims of crime. Students will also learn how to retrieve and organise information effectively, handle primary source material critically, and begin to make critical judgements in our study skills module. By taking part in a wide range of modules that cover a number of disciplines, students will gain a more holistic understanding of the unique route-ways we offer, and provides students with the means to make an informed decision with regards to what to study in second and third year.

In the second year, “Crime, Media, Culture” introduces students to how media platforms such as newspapers, TV, and films influences and shapes our understandings of crime whilst our “Victimology” module builds upon the theoretical foundations introduced in the previous year by further challenging conventional understandings and perceptions of crime and its victims. Our research and placement module designed to enhance students’ employability development.

In the third and final year, modules provide attention to current and criminological oriented affairs, such as “Justice, Punishment and Human Rights”. Such modules draw students’ attention to global and current events that seeks to build upon the theoretical frameworks presented in the previous two years, whilst also emphasising the importance of applying such theories into real-world contexts and scenarios. Each student will be expected to complete our “Dissertation” module which will enable them to focus on their areas of interest and apply their knowledge and skills which they have accumulated throughout their time with us.

## 5 Programme Structure

Programme Structure – BA (Hons)Criminology	
<b>Duration</b>	3 years full time
<b>Total credit rating</b>	360 (180 ECTS)
<b>Level 4– With effect from September 2021</b>	

<b>Core:</b> You are required to take the following modules			
Module Code	Module Title	Semester	Credits
SOC4003	Introduction to Criminology	Semester 1&2	30
SOC4023	Extreme Violence	Semester 1&2	30
SOC4033	Policing and Protecting the State	Semester 1&2	30
SOC4013	Social Sciences Skills	Semester 1&2	30
<b>Level 5– With effect from September 2022</b>			
<b>Core:</b> You are required to take the following modules			
Module Code	Module Title	Semester	Credits
SOC5043	Crime, Media, Culture	Semester 1&2	30
SOC5073	Transnational and Corporate Crime	Semester 1&2	30
SOC5083	Victimology	Semester 1&2	30
SOC5053	Research Methods and Professional Placement	Semester 1&2	30
<b>Level 6– With effect from September 2023</b>			
<b>Core:</b> You are required to take the following modules			
Module Code	Module Title	Semester	Credits
SOC6006	Dissertation	Semester 1&2	60
<b>Options:</b> You are required to choose 60 credits from the following modules			
Module Code	Module Title	Semester	Credits
SOC6XXX	Justice, Punishment and Human Rights	Semester 1&2	30
SOC6XXX	Crimes of the 21st Century	Semester 1&2	30
SOC6XXX	Policing Priorities	Semester 1&2	30
SOC6XXX	Gender and Society	Semester 1&2	30
SOC6XXX	Surveillance Societies	Semester 1&2	30

## 5.1 Pre-requisites

**Modules which must be passed before enrolment to a module at a higher level**

N/A



The University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy informs the design of your programme. You can find more information about learning, teaching and assessment for your programme within the relevant Assessment Handbooks.

## 7 Entry requirements

### Honours degree programmes (Level 4, 5 and 6)

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). However, in some cases there may be additional special requirements, for example for ITT programmes or when the entry criteria are specified by an accrediting body. All required GCSEs will be listed by programme on the University 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 Recognition of Prior Learning Guidelines and Procedure.

## 8 Additional support needs

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.

### Programme-specific requirements / unavoidable restrictions on participation in the programme

N/A

## 9 Technical Information

<b>Awarding Body / Institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>Teaching institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>Parent School</b>	Social and Health Sciences
<b>Department</b>	Social and Behavioural Sciences
<b>Professional accreditation body</b>	N/A

<b>Final award</b>	BA (Hons)
<b>Title of programme(s)</b>	Criminology
<b>Subsidiary award(s)</b>	Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, Ordinary Degree
<b>Honours type</b>	Single
<b>Duration and mode(s) of study</b>	3 years; full-time
<b>Month/year of approval of programme</b>	April 2020
<b>Periodic review due date</b>	2024/25
<b>HECoS subject code(s)</b>	100484 Criminology
<b>UCAS course code</b>	L3R9
<b>SITS route codes</b>	CRMOLGY
<b>Delivery venue(s)</b>	Leeds Trinity University





