



## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

### 1. General information

<b>Awarding body / institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>Teaching institution</b>	Leeds Trinity University
<b>'Parent' School</b> ( <i>ICE / SAC / SSHS</i> )	<b>Faculty of Social and Health Sciences</b>
<b>Department</b>	CIP
<b>Professional accreditation body</b> (if applicable)	N/A
<b>Final award</b> ( <i>eg. BA Hons</i> )	MA
<b>Title of programme(s)</b>	<b>Criminology and Criminal Justice</b>
<b>Subsidiary award(s)</b> ( <i>if any</i> )	<b>PgCert and PgDip in Criminology and Criminal Justice (fallback awards)</b>
<b>Honours type</b> ( <i>Single / Joint / Combined</i> )	N/A
<b>Duration and mode(s) of study</b>	<b>1 Year Full Time; 2 Years Part Time</b>
<b>Month/year of approval of programme</b>	<b>August 2022</b>
<b>Start date</b> ( <i>this version</i> ) ( <i>month and year</i> )	<b>September '22</b>
<b>Periodic review next due</b> ( <i>academic year</i> )	<b>2026/2027</b>
<b>HECoS subject code(s)</b>	100483 Criminal Justice 100484 Criminology
<b>UCAS course code &amp; route code</b> (available from Admissions)	<b>No UCAS code. Direct application only.</b>
<b>SITS codes</b> ( <i>Course / Pathway / Route</i> ) (available from Student Administration)	The new course code for MA Criminology and Criminal Justice is: MALTUCRJUS and the route code is: CRIMJUS.
<b>Delivery venue(s)</b>	<b>Leeds Trinity University</b>

### 2. Aims of the programme

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

Criminology and criminal justice is a fast-paced field of research and practice, constantly producing new challenges as established problems of crime and disorder persist amidst those emerging from new technologies, changing demographic patterns and increasingly interconnected global networks attached to the combined realms of society, culture, politics and economy. In this

complex and multifaceted arena, the need for current and purposive appreciation of crime and harm, not to mention creative skills of research and intervention, has never been greater or more urgent. The MA Criminology and Criminal Justice will provide you with a firm grounding in current criminological thought at the forefront of the discipline along with the knowledge and training to engage effectively with practical and policy debates, identify creative strategies from the amelioration of social problems and, latterly, the skills necessary to conduct your own research in the UK and further afield. Throughout the programme, you will gain and/or practice:

- Knowledge and practical skills necessary to understand key issues and problems of criminology, crime, criminal and social justice.
- Expertise in philosophical, theoretical and practical fields related to the purpose, rigour and value of criminological research.
- Acquire and practice skills necessary to conduct effective research in the combined fields of criminology and criminal justice, mirroring those used in educational, public and private settings.
- Skills necessary to assess complex problems in the field of crime and justice, working independently and in concert with peers and mentors.
- Critical thinking, communication and self-management skills appropriate to a postgraduate level of education and directly transferable to an enhanced level of professional responsibility.
- Advanced appreciation of criminological perspectives and the ability to negotiate prevalent forms of ideological mystification in pursuit of realistic strategies of justice and enforcement.
- Opportunity and support to plan and execute a major scholarly project that poses effective research questions before addressing them through fieldwork and/or conceptual reasoning under the supervision of a mentor.

As a result, you will be well-placed to pursue a wide array of career opportunities from postgraduate and doctoral research to all manner of professional and graduate posts across the public and private sectors. Many postgraduate criminologists look to build or add to existing careers in criminal justice, potentially through graduate schemes offered by organisations such as the police, HMPPS, GCHQ and the wider security services whilst others, for example, look to put their research skills to work outside academic social science in the realms of market research and or local/national government. If you're looking to stand out, a postgraduate degree will be a worthwhile investment.

### 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*:

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| K1  | The utility of criminology as a conceptual framework for addressing complex social issues, problems and debates, showing a critical appreciation of the history and antecedents of relevant ideas, the problems of theoretical specialisation and the cultural, political and economic contexts of criminal justice practice. |
| K2  | The ability to identify and critique methods of enquiry in relation to the social-scientific analysis of a variety of problems and issues, designing and executing appropriate self- and pre-defined studies.   |
| K3. | Ability to create and use a variety of empirical evidence, both quantitative and qualitative, about the distribution of crime, deviance, offending, harm and victimisation, employing such material as the foundations of conceptual and practical debates in a critical and purposive manner.                                |

- K4. Engage critically with current and pressing issues/problems, identifying suitable and effective strategies within and around detailed social-scientific appreciation of different parties' perspectives and motivations.
- I1 Secure and purposeful use of a variety of analytical techniques appropriate to specified fields of study, planning and undertaking substantial investigations individually and in concert with peers and mentors.
- I2 Approach the subject of crime, harm and victimisation with a critical disposition, systematically and creatively identify key aspects of criminological thought and criminal justice practice.
- I3 Effectively communicate conclusions and arguments to specialist and non-specialist audiences, demonstrating the intellectual flexibility required of a social scientist in the fields of crime and justice.
- I4 Understanding of the limits of social scientific knowledge, identify and articulate biographical and experiential opportunities and challenges whilst incorporating a strong ethical dimension into approaches to crime, harm, victimisation and justice.
- P1 Expert and critical understandings of the dissemination of research outcomes with critical reflection on challenges, limitations and the use/abuse of findings conclusions encompassing factors such as sensitivity, audience, peer review, targeting and impact.
- P2 Recognise opportunities for the original and creative exploration of a given subject relating to crime, harm and victimisation through practical and theoretical research, arguing and debating conclusions in a balanced, fair-minded and collegiate manner.
- P3. Ability to argue and debate, articulating practices and ideas in a clear, logical and effective manner, taking context and platform into account whilst seeking to engage with and solicit attention from a variety of audiences.

#### 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)*

All Leeds Trinity University programmes are congruent with the Framework for HE Qualifications (FHEQ) and, where appropriate, the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) / National Qualification and Credit Framework (NQF).

The structure and content of this programme is designed to meet the QAA requirements of category 2 master's degrees and fulfils the requirements of the relevant characteristics statement. The qualifications framework for taught postgraduate degrees includes generic information about the skills and qualities of such qualification holders as well as a recognition of the diversity and wide-ranging strengths and weaknesses of master's graduates, including their different aspirations, motivations, learning needs and personal circumstances.

Nevertheless, graduates of master's degrees are expected to demonstrate in-depth and advanced knowledge of their subject and/or profession, informed by current practice, scholarship and research. This includes a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject and/or profession; critical skills; knowledge of professional responsibility, integrity and ethics; and the ability to reflect on their own progress as a learner. Graduates of master's degrees are likely to be characterised by their ability to complete a substantial research project in their subject, which might include a critical review of existing literature or other scholarly outputs. Graduates of masters degrees are equipped to enter a variety of fields of employment (subject specific or generalist) or to continue academic study at a higher level provided they meet the requirements.

The QAA subject benchmark statement (2019) for master's degrees in criminology contains the following provisions:

- a systematic understanding and critical awareness of topics which are informed by the forefront of the subject of criminology
- a critical awareness of the history of ideas, the cultural context, and the social and political theories that inform and influence the practice of criminology
- a critical awareness of the intersectionality of power in relation to criminal justice agencies and responses to crime, law and order
- an ability to develop a critical discussion and analysis of power (for example in relation to gender relations)
- an ability to identify appropriate methodologies for dealing with complex problems
- an ability to develop critical discussion and analysis of complex concepts, and work independently and with some originality
- an ability successfully to complete a substantial empirical research project, systematic review or systematic case study, informed by wide current understandings in the subject.

## 4. Learning outcomes for subsidiary awards

### **Generic Learning outcomes for the award of Postgraduate Certificate:**

On successful completion of 60 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated an ability to:

- (i) Critically appreciate the utility of criminology when it comes to addressing social issues, problems and debates.
- (ii) approach complex issues and problems related to crime, harm and justice in a systematic and creative manner and make sound judgements about the utility and defensibility of diverse perspectives
- (iii) communicate to different audiences using appropriate social scientific conventions and mediums.
- (iv) develop the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment including the ability to exercise initiative and personal responsibility.

### **Generic learning outcomes for the award of Postgraduate Diploma**

On successful completion of 120 credits at Level 7, students will have demonstrated, **in addition to the outcomes for a Postgraduate Certificate**:

- (i) Demonstrate a proficiency of a range of social research skills and practical dispositions, demonstrating a critical grasp of the decision-making processes involved in the product of social scientific knowledge, including those surrounding research ethics and the fair treatment of diverse populations around issues of equality, diversity and inclusion.
- (ii) Design and defend a research disposition, reflecting critical on assumption, performance and bias to aid and develop personal and group capacity for knowledge generation.
- (iii) Critically apply knowledge to the development and proliferation of illicit markets within and between national contexts
- (iv) Develop cognitive skills and to demonstrate those skills to the benefit of independent study and the management of project work, including creativity, flexibility and critical reasoning.

## **5. Content**

### **Summary of content by theme**

(providing a 'vertical' view through the programme)

This programme is designed to furnish students with the skills, values and competencies to begin and/or build careers in the highly competitive and rapidly changing field of criminal justice or to pursue doctoral study as skilled, structurally and contextually conscious social scientists fully immersed and ready to make a meaningful contribution to their discipline and their professional environment. The MA in Criminology and Criminal Justice consists of five modules:

- 1. Justice and Control in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** examines the institutions, practices and processes that make up the UK criminal justice system and those further afield, exploring the social, cultural, political and economic factors that affect the administration of justice.
- 2. Current Criminological Concepts** build on the longstanding problems of 20<sup>th</sup> century theoretical frameworks to push forwards into new and emergent concepts directly connected to the problems of the current times.
- 3. Practical Criminological Research** develops an advanced appreciation of the practical side of social science, considering the relationship between theory, methods and data whilst giving students an array of opportunities to design, conduct and analyse research.

4. **Illicit Markets** provides students with the interdisciplinary knowledge, understanding and skills to research criminal markets in the twenty-first century whilst introducing the field of global crime to critically engaging with debates about the criminogenic aspects of global economic networks.
5. **Postgraduate Scholarly project** acts as a capstone to postgraduate study and a clear and final demonstration of intellectual and practical skill through the planning and execution of an extended scholarly project.

## 6. Structure

### MA Criminology and Criminal Justice

**Duration:** 12 months full time; 24 months part time.

**Total Credit Weighting:** 180 Credits

Core:	Students are required to take:		
SOC7033	Current Criminological Concepts	Sem 1	30 Credits
SOC7023	Practical Criminological Research	Sem 1	30 Credits
SOC7013	Justice and Control in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Sem 2	30 Credits
SOC7043	Illicit Markets	Sem 2	30 Credits
SOC7006	Scholarly Project and One Day Summer Conference [Including Summer Staff and Student One Day Research Conference]	Sems 1&2/Summer	60 Credits

[At end of Semester 2 there will be a SOC7006 *Summer Staff and Student Research Conference*]

Full Time Programme Structure (1 Year)

Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
Current Criminological Concepts (10x 2.5hrs on Tuesday evenings from 16:30pm)	Justice and Control in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century (10x 2.5hrs on Tuesday evenings from 16:30pm)	Summer Staff and Student Research Conference  Scholarly Project
Practical Criminological Research (10x 2.5hrs on Thursday evenings from 16:30pm)	Illicit Markets (10x 2.5hrs on Thursday evenings from 16:30pm)	

Part Time Programme Structure (2 Years)

### Part-Time

**Year 1** – with effect from September 2023

SOC7033	Current Criminological Concepts	Sem 1	30 Credits
SOC7013	Justice and Control in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Sem 2	30 Credits
SOC7006	Scholarly Project	Semesters 1&2/Summer	60 Credits

**Year 2** – with effect from 2024

SOC7023	Practical Criminological Research	Sem 1	30 Credits
SOC7043	Illicit Markets	Sem 2	30 Credits
SOC7006	Scholarly Project	Semesters 1&2/Summer	60 Credits

[At end of Semester 2 there will be a SOC7006 *Summer Staff and Student Research Conference*]

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
Current Criminological Concepts (10x 2.5hrs on Tuesday evenings from 16:30pm)	Justice and Control in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century (10x 2.5hrs on Thursday evenings from 16:30pm)	Summer Staff and Student Research Conference
Semester 4	Semester 5	Semester 6
Practical Criminological Research (10x 2.5hrs on Tuesday evenings from 16:30pm)	Illicit Markets (10x 2.5hrs on Thursday evenings from 16:30pm)	Postgraduate Scholarly project

## **7. Learning, teaching and assessment**

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

#### ***MA Criminology and Criminal Justice***

This programme will equip students with the skills and competencies necessary to enter and thrive in crime, security, law enforcement and wider criminal justice arenas of employment, whilst also enhancing the continuing professional development of those already engaged in criminal and social justice career paths. As such, this programme will equip students with the knowledge and skills (cognitive, intellectual, research and transferable) necessary to begin or augment

careers in criminal and social justice, public and social policy, advanced study, advocacy and for those simply looking to develop personally or professionally.

The programme will utilise a broad range of assessment procedures to invigorate student engagement and learning experiences with a range of assessments including [but not exclusively] traditional written communications, new technological formats i.e. podcasts, group and individual presentations for students to acquire and/or advance with valuable communications skills far beyond higher education.

The programme will guide students to structure and scaffold their learning by pursuing interests and engaging in debate, developing their confidence and practical skills, all of which they will need whether they choose to enter the criminal justice sector, pursue doctoral research or look further afield. Drawing upon published work that spans the combined fields of criminological and criminal justice, along with a number of substantial contributions to the allied field of sociology, including wide-ranging conceptual developments to the critical and administrative aspects of the discipline along with specific research on illicit markets, sexual offending, finance crime, narcotics and probation practice to cite but a few examples.

The programme uses a range of teaching and learning methods to enable students to acquire and practice the knowledge, skills and competencies specified in the course and module learning outcomes. Lectures, seminars and workshops, supported by paper-based, audio-visual and web-based materials, are used to provide and disseminate information, analyse concepts and practices and provide guidance on further work. A led student research conference will be held each summer [Term 3]. This is positioned as an enrichment event that is designed to build upon the collaborative and reflective learning environment fostered in the preceding aspects of the programme connected to ongoing dissertation research.

The School of Criminology, Investigation and Policing is committed to matters of equality and diversity and to creating a learning and employment environment that advances equality of opportunity in all areas of activity. This programme will pro-actively respond appropriately to disabled students' needs and will support a mainstreaming approach to disability with a 'social model' of disability. This model recognises disability as located in the interaction between an individual and the environment and recognises that it is attitudinal and environmental barriers that disable people, rather than their impairments.

All appropriate measures will be undertaken to provide an 'inclusive' learning environment for *all* students. The programme will adopt policies and practices which do not discriminate against disabled students including [but not exclusively] diabetes, cancer, multiple sclerosis and heart conditions; hearing or sight impairments, or a significant mobility difficulty; mental health conditions and learning difficulties.

All reasonable steps to ensure that disabled students can fully participate within the inclusive ethos of the programme, and that necessary adjustments and provisions will be made with disabled students in mind. Students with recognised Dyslexia and other Specific Learning Difficulties will be recognised, and additional specifically focused additional competencies and resources will be addressed at individual levels. Students who miss teaching sessions due to ill health will be provided with copies of lecture/workshop materials.

Issues on cultural variations, race, racism and ethnicity will be addressed throughout taught modules within the programme. Additionally, and where appropriate, concepts of gender and sexuality will also be conveyed and meaningfully debated.

#### Teaching focused:

1. All modules take and include an international perspectives and teachings in attempt to ensure the learning process and programme we offer is not only reachable and relatable to all students but has the capacity to further develop and widen students' knowledge. We will:
  - a. Include the teachings of key international thinkers (such as Hook, Crenshaw and Du Bois) as well as their images within teaching materials and assessments,



- b. Refer to international issues and examples (such as FGM, migration, transnational crime and more)
  - c. Utilise and refer to international empirical research to allow and influence students' creativity and to understand different methods used (e.g. cartography data collection and analysis)
- 2. We also take a practical approach with our teaching style by utilising more visual aids including videos that are subtitled and when using images we will include a descriptions (verbally and written) of the images to further support students with any impairments.

# 7b) Programme learning outcomes covered

	Assessed learning outcomes of the programme											Skills development								
<i>Adjust LO codes as necessary. ↓</i>	K1	K2	K3	K4	I1	I2	I3	I4	P1	P2	P3	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6	E7	E8	E9
Lighter or hatched shading indicates modules that are not core, ie. not all students on this programme will undertake these.	<i>Critical Appreciation</i>	<i>Methods D&amp;E</i>	<i>Empirical Evidence</i>	<i>Issues/Probelms</i>	<i>Analytical Technique</i>	<i>Critical Disposition</i>	<i>Responsive Communication</i>	<i>Limits &amp; Ethics</i>	<i>Dissemination</i>	<i>Collegiate Scholar</i>	<i>Logical and Effective</i>	<b>Self-management</b>	<b>Teamworking</b>	<b>Business &amp; sector awareness</b>	<b>Problem-solving</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Application of numeracy</b>	<b>Application of IT</b>	<b>Entrepreneurship / enterprise</b>	<b>Social, cultural &amp; civic awareness</b>
<b>SOC7013 Justice and Control in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b>																				
<b>SOC7023 Practical Criminological Research</b>																				
<b>SOC7033 Current Criminological Concepts</b>																				
<b>SOC7043 Illicit Markets</b>																				
<b>SOC7006 Scholarly Project</b>																				



## 8. Entry requirements

Do the University's standard entry requirements apply (as outlined within the University's Admissions Policy)?	Yes
Detail of any deviation from and/or addition to the University's standard entry requirements (if applicable)	In addition, there is some scope for non-standard entry into this programme, particularly for prospective students without an undergraduate degree if they can substantial professional experience of any aspect of the criminal justice system and sufficient academic ability to produce a short essay.

## 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 <u>must</u> 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)
The following regulations apply, together with the General Academic Regulations ( <u>delete those not relevant</u> ): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Programme Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees</li></ul>

## 10. Prerequisites

Details of modules students <u>must</u> study and achieve credit for before enrolling on a module at a higher level, or attaining their final programme award
N/A

## 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.