



Programme Specification

CRM-2019: Criminology and Criminal Justice

LU Foundation Degree in Arts awarded by Lancaster University (FHEQ Level 5)

LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Top-up) awarded by Lancaster University (FHEQ Level 6)

Programme Status: Approved | Version: 1

Introduction

This programme specification provides a summary of the main features of the Criminology and Criminal Justice programme and the learning outcomes that you as a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate on successful completion of the programme.

Further detailed information related to this programme and the College can be found in the following resources:

- Programme Handbook
- B&FC Student Handbook
- B&FC Admissions Policy
- Work based and placement learning handbook (for foundation degrees)
- Student guide to assessment and feedback

Key Programme Information

Programme Code	CRM-2019
Programme Title	Criminology and Criminal Justice
Teaching Institution	Blackpool and The Fylde College
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) Accreditation	None
UCAS Code	
Language of Study	English
Version	1
Approval Status	Approved
Approval Date	05 December 2018
JACS Code	
Programme Leader	Laura Thomas

Programme Awards

Award	Award Type	Level	Awarding Body
LU Foundation Degree in Arts	Foundation Degree (240 credits)	Level 5	Lancaster University
LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Top-up)	Honours Top-up Degree (120 credits)	Level 6	Lancaster University

Programme Overview

The Criminology and Criminal Justice programme will develop your understanding of those who commit crime, the causes and preventions of crime, and the impact of crime on individuals and communities. A degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice will enable you develop knowledge and understanding of the changing nature and extent of the crime 'problem' and the agencies involved in the frontline management and control of crime.

The programme will support you to engage with theoretical principles and critically evaluate both your own and others research, whilst also gaining strong practical skills to enable you to seek employment in the criminal justice field. The programme is enriched by work experience, and preparatory practical experiences to fully equip you for industry or for further study and research. The programme will prepare you for a range of employment opportunities in the criminal justice field, such as the police, probation, prison service, social work, teaching, youth

justice, and the Crown Prosecution Service. To develop your employability skills and attributes, you will be required to complete a work placement in a professional setting. The programme will also be supported and enriched throughout by a range of activities and events designed to give you valuable insight into how criminal justice agencies work and the roles and responsibilities of those working in the criminal justice system – these include visiting guest speakers from relevant industries, and trips to criminology and criminal justice conferences. Depending on your choice of career pathway, the Criminology and Criminal Justice programme is designed to prepare you for postgraduate life, whether as a practitioner in the criminal justice field, an academic researcher or criminal justice policy maker. This programme is validated by the University of Lancaster.

Admission Criteria

A minimum of 80 UCAS points (excluding functional skills), gained from A level or equivalent level 3 qualification (e.g. Full Access to Higher Education Diploma or BTEC) in a relevant discipline, which includes one of the following – Criminology, Sociology, Psychology, Law, Forensic Psychology and Public Services, and GCSEs in English Language and Maths at grade C/4 or above. Applicants who are able to demonstrate relevant work/life skills or knowledge will also be considered on an individual basis.

Entry to Level 6 of the programme would normally be on the basis of students achieving a Pass or above on the FD Level 5 Criminology and Criminal Justice programme.

Career Options and Progression Opportunities

Graduates of the Foundation Degree at Level 5 can go on to employment, having developed a sound knowledge of theory and practice in Criminology and Criminal Justice, alongside relevant work experience. Many students join the BA top-up programme at B&FC to continue their studies.

Our graduates have ultimately progressed onto Level 7 (MA and MSc) programmes or gained employment at a professional level in a range of relevant sector areas. Our recent graduates have progressed onto Masters Degree courses at Lancaster University, University of Central Lancashire and Edge Hill University, such as Criminology and Criminal Justice, Social Work, Alcohol and Drug Studies, Mental Health, Human Rights, Forensic Psychology, Applied Social Science, Sociology, Gender and Women's Studies, and Politics and Philosophy. Other post graduate qualifications that our graduates have the option of studying include Law conversion courses, LLM in Law and teaching courses such as PGCE's in primary, secondary or post-compulsory education, including the PGCE programme at Blackpool and The Fylde College. Progression and employability are key to the structure of the programme, as demonstrated by the wide variety of graduate employment gained within criminal justice agencies and related areas. Alumni have taken up positions in teaching and research and a range of formal and informal agencies across public, private and voluntary sectors in the criminal justice field, such as central and local government, the Police Service, The Prison Service, law practices, The Home Office, The National Criminal Intelligence Service and welfare charities. Popular job roles include: Case Review Manager, Court Clerk, Community Worker, Immigration Officer, Fraud Investigator, Human Rights Officer, Paralegal, Police Officer, Prison Officer, Probation Officer, Youth and Community Worker and work in youth justice. Graduates are also prepared for work in a range of social welfare and social care posts, such as Social Worker, Drug Rehabilitation worker, Housing Officer and Victim Support.

Programme Aims

Foundation Degree

- To provide students with the opportunity to explore criminological issues, debates and problems through engagement with theoretical perspectives, research and criminal justice policy

and practice.

- To provide a programme of study which enables students to link and integrate theoretical perspectives and research in vocational contexts.
- To provide students with a knowledge and appreciation of the social, cultural, economic, political, historical and geographical contexts in which crime, victimisation and criminal justice are located.
- To provide students with the necessary cognitive and professional skills and literacies to enhance employability and develop reflective practice.

BA (Hons) Top up

- To further and extend knowledge of critical criminological theories and concepts
- To further develop research skills and apply them to the investigation of substantive topics in crime, victimisation and criminal justice.
- To develop an appreciation and understanding of changing forms and patterns of criminality in a globalising world.
- To synthesise and critically evaluate a range of criminological theories, perspectives, concepts, ideas and arguments.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level 5

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the ways in which crime and control are constructed and the contested nature of criminological inquiry.
2. Describe and examine a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology and discuss their contribution to the explanation of criminal behaviour and its definition.
3. Appraise the social and political context within which criminological theories have emerged.
4. Evaluate the application of criminological theories and perspectives to current problems in crime, victimisation and justice.
5. Assess the values, practices and processes of governance of key criminal justice agencies which administer responses to crime and deviance.
6. Explain and evaluate criminological arguments, integrating relevant issues from current problems in crime and justice and their relationship to criminological theory.
7. Communicate criminological knowledges to academic and professional audiences in a variety of academic formats.
8. Apply critical criminological knowledge to practitioner fields and develop practical and professional skills.
9. Summarise, utilise and evaluate key theories, perspectives and concepts in criminology.
10. Produce clear, logical, criminological information using academic and digital literacies and present these in a variety of academic and professional formats.
11. Apply research methodologies and tools in relation to theoretically driven, exploratory and evaluative research

Level 6

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

12. Critically analyse, and synthesize arguments, concepts, ideas and perspectives from a range of criminological sources.
13. Apply a critical approach to social scientific research and practitioner fields, using a range of methodologies and analytical techniques.

14. Produce clear, logical and theoretically grounded arguments to critically interrogate and contextualise current problems in crime, victimisation and justice.
15. Critically apply quantitative and qualitative research methods recognising the ethical implications of research in the collection, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of different types of evidence used in criminology.
16. Critically apply conceptions of human rights in order to evaluate social and environmental harms
17. Critically analyse changing forms and patterns of criminality in a globalising world

Programme Structure

Pathway	Module	Level	Credits	Coursework	Practical	Written Exam
Stage 1						
Stage award: LU Certificate of Higher Education (Awarded by Lancaster University)						
All	B4HUCRM: Introduction to Academic Study (Mandatory)	4	20	60%	40%	
	CR401: Introduction to Criminological Theory (Mandatory)	4	20	50%		50%
	CR402: Forensic Psychology: Crime, Offenders and Policing (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	CR403: Alternative Responses to Imprisonment (Mandatory)	4	20	75%	25%	
	CR404: Crime and Society (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	CR405: Multi-Agency Working in the Criminal Justice System (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
Stage 2						
Stage exit award: B&FC Foundation Degree in Arts (Awarded by Blackpool And The Fylde College)						
All	BFC502-T: Work Based Research Project (Mandatory)	5	20	80%	20%	
	CR501: Criminological Thought (Mandatory)	5	20	100%		
	CR502: International Human Rights (Mandatory)	5	20	70%		30%
	CR503: Youth Justice (Mandatory)	5	20	100%		
	CR504: Forensic Psychology: Witnesses, Experts and Evidence on Trial (Mandatory)	5	20	100%		
	CR505: Research Methods (Mandatory)	5	20	80%	20%	
Stage 3						
Stage exit award: LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Top-up) (Awarded by Lancaster University)						
All	CR601: Dissertation (Mandatory)	6	40	100%		
	CR602: Contemporary Critical Criminological Theory (Mandatory)	6	20			100%
	CR603: Contemporary Issues in Forensic Psychology (Mandatory)	6	20	50%		50%
	CR604: Philosophical Justifications and Functions of Punishment (Mandatory)	6	20	70%	30%	
	CR605: Crimes of the Powerful (Mandatory)	6	20	100%		

Course Options

There are no optional modules, as the current route of study has been carefully designed and developed in conjunction with the requirements of employers and in line with current developments in criminological research. The programme focuses on developing students for employment in the criminal justice field and a range of sectors, and is optimised for this through its creative design.

Study Workload

Attendance at the institution is spread over 2 days, to enable you to carry out independent research alongside developing theoretical knowledge. For each module there will be a minimum requirement of 152 hours of independent study. This will consist of guided reading activities, online tutorials, seminars and workshops, supported through excellent Moodle (VLE) online resources, that enable you to study in your own time. The delivery of contact lectures, seminars, workshops and guest speakers from the criminal justice system will form the remaining hours of study. It is essential, in order to be successful, that you engage in additional and wider independent study outside of the designated course contact time in order to develop a broader understanding of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Assessments involve work based research projects, written reports, and consideration of theory and so you will need to develop your independent study skills.

Programme Delivery: Learning and Teaching

Whilst lectures, seminars and practical workshops feature strongly in this programme, there are a range of other opportunities available due to the advantages of being taught in small cohorts. This means that research skills and criminological knowledge can be developed as part of tutor- and student-led activities in the lectures, seminars and the criminal justice field, with many regular trips to criminal justice agencies, Criminology and Criminal Justice conferences and visiting speakers from criminal justice agencies. Our flexible and responsive approach to learning means these events and activities can be built-in to the programme in order to enhance sessions where appropriate.

Programme Delivery: Assessment

A variety of assessment methods link to both personal development and industry practices and include the following:

- Research reports and data interpretation exercises
- Critical analyses of case studies
- Examinations, including mock examinations
- Individual and group presentations (whether oral and/or technology-based)
- Critical self and peer-evaluation
- Reflective logbooks and diaries relating to professional practice/work placement and Personal Development Planning
- External placement or work-based learning reports
- Powerpoint presentations and poster production

This range of methods is used to reflect the programme aims and learning outcomes, alongside supporting your subject knowledge and the skills and attributes you will need for employment. They enable us to provide feedback to you and identify ways for you to improve. They will contribute to your module grade and final award.

Programme Delivery: Work Based and Placement Learning

All students will be required to undertake a work placement in the area of criminal justice. Work Based learning supports the development of higher level learning, where the learning in College can be applied to a work environment. You are encouraged and supported to find work placements throughout the programme, with the work-based learning assessment embedded in the second year. For the work-based placement, you will create a reflective log of your experience and techniques adopted during your placement, which will in turn be used to generate a final written research report. Historically, students have worked in a range of agencies in the criminal justice field, spending 96 hours placed within relevant organisations. You will create a presentation of your work as part of an academic poster event at the college, with the further possibility of participating and presenting at conference events attended by academic researchers and industry representatives. The work based placement learning activities will allow you to demonstrate your employability skills and attributes, in a professional and supportive environment, and enable you to demonstrate your ability to research and discuss an area of your own particular interest.

Programme Delivery: Graduate Skill Development

The Criminology and Criminal Justice programme will support a wide range of skills development, enabling you to commit to a career in this sector or in related areas. The programme is designed to build these skills over time and to embed a strong commitment to lifelong learning. You will be given opportunities to focus on your role as a global citizen, by considering ethical and professional issues related to the criminal justice environment. You will develop excellent communication skills, verbal, written and digital, so that you can engage with the wider criminological research community. Whilst carrying out practical research and work-based experiences, you will strengthen your leadership and teamwork skills, and also become an independent and autonomous student.

The embedding of guest speakers, who are often criminal justice practitioners, on the programme, will serve to give you valuable insight into the working in the criminal justice system, as well as developing useful employment links. Guest speakers providing motivation and encouragement for engagement in the work-based experience and practice. You will also become an active volunteer within the criminal justice field which will serve to develop your employability skills and attributes and provide the opportunity to actively contribute to the wider community. Social and environmental awareness and responsibility are central to the study of criminology and you will develop an understanding and appreciation of these issues and debates.

Study Costs: Equipment Requirements

Resources required to study on the programme are largely provided by the College. There are small costs associated with printing of work and posters over the duration of the course. You are encouraged to bring your own lap-top device to lectures, seminars and workshops, but access to computer facilities is provided by the college. A one-day conference trip to a venue in the region, including conference fee and transport, typically costs around £60/student, although this will be partially funded by the college and is also subject to discount rates offered by conference organisers for group visits.

Study Costs: Additional Costs

As part of the programme, you are strongly recommended to attend external events, aimed at developing your knowledge, understanding and appreciation of course material, develop practical skills and embed theoretical concepts. There will also be the opportunity to attend criminology and criminal justice conferences involving criminal justice practitioners, policy-makers and academic researchers. Costs may be incurred to cover transport, accommodation and food. Travel for local trips is paid for by the college. Though most of the course material is available online, there may be additional costs to consider, such as printing and photocopying of course material, though students will be given a photocopying allowance to cover this.

You are encouraged to purchase an introductory textbook in Criminology, in support of your studies.

Related Courses

Related courses delivered at B&FC:

- Foundation Degree in Public Services
- BSc Hons Degree- Topup in Public Services and The Community

Further study:

Some career paths will require additional qualifications and training. Post graduate qualifications that most criminology graduates will go on to study include Master's courses such as MA or MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Social Work, Alcohol and Drug Studies, Mental Health, Human Rights, Forensic Psychology, Applied Social Science, Sociology, Gender and Women's Studies and Politics and Philosophy. Other post graduate qualifications you have the option of studying include Law conversion courses, LLM in Law and teaching courses such as Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) in primary, secondary or further education.