



Programme Specification

PPP-2020: Professional Policing (Pre-join)

LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours 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 Professional Policing (Pre-join) 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	PPP-2020
Programme Title	Professional Policing (Pre-join)
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 August 2020
JACS Code	Other: Other
Programme Leader	Sarah Rodriguez

Programme Awards

Award	Award Type	Level	Awarding Body
LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours	Honours Degree (360 credits)	Level 6	Lancaster University

Programme Overview

The Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) is a new, professional framework for the recruitment and training of police officers and police staff. From the 1st January 2020 successful appointment as a police officer in any one of the 43 Police Forces in England and Wales is now dependent, in part, upon the completion of a professional educational qualification.

The professional body of the police service, the College of Policing recently introduced three new entry routes that supported entry into the police service. One of these routes is by the successful completion of a licenced pre-join degree. The pre-join programme provides you a three year degree in Professional Policing designed to equip you to work in the constantly changing landscape in which police personnel operate.

Whilst the BA (Hons) Professional Policing (Pre-join) programme has been designed primarily to

align to the National Police Curriculum (as detailed in the module specifications) and, as such, the needs of students who wish to embark on a career in the police service, it may also be useful for those wishing to pursue careers in related areas such as; Police staff roles, the NCS (National Crime Agency), Armed Forces, Private Security Sector, UK Border Force, Intelligence Analyst or banking and similar organisations where investigative or practical legal knowledge are required. This programme is validated by the University of Lancaster.

The programme is a Bachelors three year degrees comprising learning across levels 4, 5, 6, normally with 120 credits of assessment at each level. BA (Hons) Professional Policing may be awarded to students who have successfully completed and passed each module to obtain 360 credits of which 120 are at level 6. Students successfully completing 120 Level Four credits or above may be awarded the Certificate of HE whilst students successfully completing 240 Level Four and Five credits or above may be awarded the Diploma of HE.

Please note that all modules in the licence degree in BA(Hons) Professional Policing (Pre-join) are non-compensatory/non-condonable (e.g. the award of a compensatory/condonable pass as an assessment board decision, where a student has failed a module, is not possible). In the event of students achieving 300 credits or more where Lancaster University condonation regulations have been implemented students will be awarded a **BA(Hons) Contemporary Policing**. This award does not fall under the licence scheme and is not validated, awarded by or associated with the College of Policing.

Admission Criteria

The typical offer for the programme is 80 to 112 UCAS points. Blackpool and The Fylde College operate a flexible admissions policy and individuals are assessed on personal merit, so this means that we will take into consideration your educational achievements and where applicable any predicted grades. Along with the academic requirements we would also consider any relevant work experience, voluntary roles and a personal statement.

Applications from individuals with non-traditional qualifications, relevant work or life experience and who can demonstrate the ability to cope with and benefit from degree a degree in Professional Policing are welcome. If you have not studied recently you may be required to undertake an [Access to Higher Education programme](#). Accredited Prior Learning /Accredited Prior Experiential Learning will be assessed through standard Blackpool & The Fylde College procedures, any applications should be submitted on the APL/APEL application form. Should you wish to consider any of these options, please contact the programme team or email info@blackpool.ac.uk.

Typical A-Level Offer - BCC - CDD to exclude General Studies (this is equivalent to 104-80 UCAS tariff points).

Typical BTEC Offer - BTEC Extended Diploma Distinction Merit Merit - Merit Merit Pass (this is equivalent to 112-80 UCAS tariff points).

Typical IB Offer - Pass the International Baccalaureate Diploma with a minimum score of 29 overall including 5 or above in English at standard level.

Typical Access to HE Offer - Pass the Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 80 UCAS tariff points.

Additional Requirements: GCSEs: The programme normally requires a minimum 5 GCSEs including Mathematics/Numeracy and English at Grade C or Grade 4 or above, or their equivalent, but consideration is given to individual circumstances.

Candidates need to understand that successful completion of the BA (Hons) in Profession of Policing (Pre-join) programme does not guarantee entry to any Police Service in England and Wales. It is essential that students considering this course and a

career in the police service should make themselves aware of the [eligibility criteria](#) as well as the [Police Code of Ethics](#)

If you want to join the Police Service in England and Wales as a police constable, you must successfully undertake a number of recruitment stages. One of these is the Police Recruit Assessment Centre ([more details can be found here](#)). The Police Recruit Assessment Centre is a rigorous and standardised process involving observation of a candidate's performance across a variety of exercises, to assess their potential to perform the role of a police constable effectively and is used by forces to ensure they recruit to meet their resourcing demands.

Following successful completion of the recruitment assessment centre there may be further recruitment processes and interviews with-in individual police force. Individual forces would need to be contacted to discuss their recruitment process.

Students enrolling on BA (Hons) Professional Policing (Pre-join) with the intention of joining the police service on graduation are strongly encouraged to consider the police entry requirements (e.g. security vetting, health and fitness) before applying for entry on to the degree. Although the programme is focused on policing, the College does not assess your suitability to join the police service. For this reason, it is important that you make the necessary enquiries with police services and/or your General Practitioner (GP) regarding entry requirements for employment and are aware of any implications for pre-existing medical conditions, criminal records or cautions.

Levels of fitness are your responsibility. It is possible to click on the following link to access individual force websites for you to check eligibility against a force's requirements:

<https://www.police.uk/contact/force-websites>

Career Options and Progression Opportunities

It is envisioned that graduates will go onto seek a career in one of the 43 Police Forces in England and Wales or associated agency such as the British Transport Police. As well as preparing students for a career in the UK police service it will open the door to many other related careers in the police which could include, Custody Detention Officer, Police Control Room Operator, Police Community Support Officer, Intelligence Officer, Police Staff Investigator and many other related careers or further study. **The BA (Hons) in Professional Policing (Pre-join) programme has a currency of 5 years following validation. Please note that if you are considering a police constable career, you must apply to a force within 5 years upon graduating with the BA Professional Policing (Pre-join) degree for you to be eligible to qualify to join the police in a pre-join entry route.**

As employability is key to the programme you will also be able to gain employment with a range of national formal and informal agencies across public, private and voluntary sectors such as central and local government, The Prison Service, The Home Office, The National Crime Agency and National Criminal Intelligence Service and welfare charities.

Specific job roles outside the Police you may progress into include: Case Review Manager, Court Clerk, Community Worker, Immigration Officer, Fraud Investigator, Human Rights Officer, Border Control 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.

Please note: Completion of this degree does not guarantee the opportunity for recruitment into the police service. Recruitment process, selection policy, and entry requirements vary from force to force. Those planning a career in the police are advised to check eligibility criteria as set out by individual police services.

Programme Aims

The BA (Hons) Professional Policing programme aims to develop knowledge relating to professional performance of the police constable role, permitting learners who are subsequently recruited to the police service to pursue a career as a police constable. The pre-join Degree may also be of interest or benefit to those considering a career in non PC roles in policing, for those seeking to understand how society is policed, who have an interest in law enforcement or want to enter the wider justice sector. In the wider educational context, the professional aims of the pre-join degree entry route into policing extend well beyond the confines of the curriculum itself, embracing the higher-level skills that a degree based educational approach can import to the profession of policing.

In line with the NPC the aims of the pre-join degree may be stratified under over-arching headings of professional knowledge and education as follows

Learning and development applicable across a comprehensive range of policing professional situations and contexts;

- Aim 1 Understand the legal and professional responsibilities of policing as a profession, and modern policing strategies, moving forwards
- Aim 2 Understand ethical approaches to policing, and how to maintain the highest professional standards in providing a service to the public
- Aim 3 Proactively consider equality, diversity and human rights considerations as a core function of professional practice
- Aim 4 Acquire appropriate research skills in order to understand how to put evidence-based policing initiatives into practice
- Aim 5 Understand and evaluate evidence-based initiatives in the context of preventative policing and problem-solving
- Aim 6 Understand how policing-related decisions can be made, founded upon critical thinking, in complex professional situations and contexts, demonstrating appropriate knowledge of powers, legislation and Authorised Professional Practice
- Aim 7 Understand concepts of autonomy and professional discretion, as appropriate to policing
- Aim 8 Engage in continual self-reflection, evolving strategies to improve their own professional knowledge

Learning and development relating to the role of a police constable in key, specific areas of professional policing responsibility

- Aim 1 Develop knowledge of criminology, with particular emphasis upon community policing and crime prevention
- Aim 2 Understand the fundamental responsibility of the police service to identify and provide professional support to those who are vulnerable and at risk, whatever the context
- Aim 3 Understand how to support individuals in need of public protection
- Aim 4 Understand the concepts of effective digital policing, with specific reference to cyber-enabled crime
- Aim 5 Understand national strategies in relation to countering terrorism
- Aim 6 Understand the criminal justice system as relevant to policing, and how to provide appropriate support to victims and witnesses of crime
- Aim 7 Understand how to engage in lawful, safe and effective front-line policing in specific professional areas of response policing, policing communities, policing the roads, information and intelligence, and conducting investigations
- Aim 8 Research and develop practical, evidence-based initiatives to improve policing performance in these areas.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level 6

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

1. Critically evaluate key criminological concepts, theories and use them to develop strategies for community policing and crime prevention.
2. Critically reflect on the role and responsibilities of police service professionals and make recommendations to provide support for those who are vulnerable and at risk in a range of contexts.
3. Construct a critical account of the origins, functions and key principles of the Police Service in England and Wales, and its role and significance within the wider criminal justice system
4. Investigate and interpret the advances in front line policing in relation to the promotion of community cohesion, response policing, multi-agency working and continuing investigations.
5. Critically reflect on the significance and impact of professional ethics, diversity, and accountability for police/community relations with reference to your own police practice and development.
6. Critically analyse contending ideological frameworks in relation to a diverse range of global issues including cyber enabled crime and their significance for digital policing.
7. Apply a critical and comparative understanding of the application of effective and evidence-based practice from national and international research within UK criminal justice responses.
8. Conduct a systematic research enquiry, drawing relevant conclusions and making recommendations to inform evidence based policing.
9. Evaluate evidence-based initiatives in the context of preventative policing in complex professional situations and contexts.
10. Critically appraise national strategies in relation to countering terrorism and develop on these strategies

Programme Structure

Module	Level	Credits	%	Category	Description	Length/Word Count	Grading Method
Stage 1							
PPP401: Introduction to Policing (Mandatory)	4	20	60%	Coursework: Essay	n/a	2500	Letter Grade
			40%	Practical: Presentation	n/a	20	Letter Grade
PPP402: Police Powers (Mandatory)	4	20	60%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Multiple Choice	60	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Other	Scenario Based Report	2500	Letter Grade
PPP403: Policing Contemporary Society (Mandatory)	4	20	50%	Coursework: Essay	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			50%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
PPP404: Public Protection-Risk and Vulnerability (Mandatory)	4	20	60%	Coursework: Other	Crime Profile	2500	Letter Grade
			40%	Practical: Presentation	n/a	20	Letter Grade
PPP405: Crime Prevention and Detection (Mandatory)	4	20	50%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			50%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
PPP406: Researching the Evidence: Skills and Methods in Professional Policing (Mandatory)	4	20	60%	Coursework: Other	Infographic	2000	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Other	Policy Review	1500	Letter Grade
Stage 2							
PPP501: Digital Policing for a Digital Age (Mandatory)	5	20	60%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			40%	Practical: Group Presentation	n/a	20	Letter Grade
PPP502: Fieldwork for Policing (Mandatory)	5	20	80%	Coursework: Project	Evidence-based Policing Project	3500	Letter Grade
			20%	Practical: Presentation	Project Proposal	20	Letter Grade
PPP503: Ethics, Integrity and Professional Standards (Mandatory)	5	20	40%	Coursework: Essay	n/a	1500	Letter Grade
			60%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Open Book Examination	120	Letter Grade
PPP504: Criminal Procedure and Investigations (Mandatory)	5	20	60%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	1500	Letter Grade
PPP505: Criminal Justice Environment (Mandatory)	5	20	60%	Coursework: Essay	n/a	2500	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Other	Journey Map	1500	Letter Grade
PPP506: Crime, Abuse and Human Behaviour (Mandatory)	5	20	50%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			50%	Practical: Presentation	Academic Poster	20	Letter Grade
Stage 3							

PPP601: Evidence Based Project (Mandatory)	6	40	100%	Coursework: Dissertation	n/a	8000	Letter Grade
PPP602: Working with Victims and Witnesses (Mandatory)	6	20	60%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2500	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	1500	Letter Grade
PPP603: Community Cohesion and Strategic Policing (Mandatory)	6	20	50%	Coursework: Essay	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			50%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
PPP604: Information and Intelligence for Case Management (Mandatory)	6	20	60%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Seen Exam	120	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Other	Academic Poster	1500	Letter Grade
PPP605: Counter Terrorism (Mandatory)	6	20	60%	Coursework: Case Study	n/a	2000	Letter Grade
			40%	Coursework: Other	Academic Poster	1500	Letter Grade

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 Canvas (VLE) online resources that enable you to study in your own time. The delivery of contact lectures, seminars, workshops and guest speakers from Police constabularies 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 Policing and the wider Criminal Justice environment. As well as being available digitally through your VLE a calendar of all academic assessments will be provided in your handbook at the start of the year; these involve work based research projects, written reports, and consideration of theory and supporting you to develop your independent study skills.

Programme Delivery: Learning and Teaching

The programme will be delivered at the University campus and in your indication the programme team will highlight the extensive range of learning resources and additional support available to you whilst undertaking your course – these resources range from IT support, access to libraries and study areas to academic support, student wellbeing and support from learning mentors. 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 evidence based policing, research skills and wider policing knowledge can be developed as part of tutor- and student-led activities in the lectures, seminars and through role plays and table top scenarios. Regular trips to both Lancashire Constabulary's Hutton HQ as well as attendance at Policing conferences will serve to give you a vocational and experience based curriculum.

Evidence-based practice is increasingly being recognised and promoted in the field of Policing and criminal justice policy. Over the course of the BA (Hons) in Professional Policing programme you will be given opportunities and experiences that allow you to develop and implement innovative and effective solutions to prevent and reduce crime. Evidence-based Policing (EBP) projects supported by Lancashire Constabulary, Blackpool Police and potentially

wider UK Police forces will allow you to develop transferable skills and challenge you to create innovative and effective solutions to prevent and reduce crime – for example reviewing the rise in moped crime or growth in knife carrying. You will learn how, with a little planning, smarter decisions-based upon theoretical/empirical evidence you can inform resource deployment to drive effective Policing practice.

Over the course of the programme you may get the chance to listen to visiting speakers from other areas such as offender profiling, youth offending, probation services and other law enforcement and community agencies. Our flexible and responsive approach to learning means these events and activities can be built-in to the programme in order enhance sessions where appropriate.

Programme Delivery: Assessment

All assessments on this programme have been designed to support you and are relevant to policing practice. Your assessments will consist of essays, simulations, reports, briefing papers, role plays, oral presentations, case studies, briefing reports a research project and open book and multiple choice examinations. Guidance on academic regulations around misconduct, research integrity and ethical research approval will be provided via your programme handbook and also provided on your VLE page. Blackpool & Fylde College current taught regulations can be found [here](#)

Programme Delivery: Work Based and Placement Learning

The programme follows a traditional degree structure and the modules that make up the curriculum include core or key themes that naturally interrelate and build upon previous knowledge at different stages and reflect key aspects of knowledge in the National Policing Curriculum.

A unique feature of the programme is that it is very employer focused and reflects contemporary society and the police. You will complete formative and summative assessments which will be sector focused which will include live briefs, sector simulations and real-world case studies. There are many voluntary placements which you will be encouraged vehemently to access outside of normal curriculum timetable.

Students are encouraged to volunteer as a Special Police Constable to develop their practice-based understanding of taught material and prepare them for a range of employment opportunities within the police service. (This is subject to meeting the requirements of Lancashire Constabulary and those set out by the Home Office). If students do not wish to join the Special Constabulary they are encouraged to undertake some work placed learning within the criminal justice field or police staff volunteer positions. However any volunteering/ Specials placements are not a requirement for successful completion of the programme.

Programme Delivery: Graduate Skill Development

The Professional Policing (Pre-join) programme will support a wide range of skills development, enabling students to commit to a career in Policing 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 Policing environment. Students 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 evidence based Policing skills, leadership and teamwork skills, and also become an independent and autonomous student.

The embedding of guest speakers, who are often Police practitioners, on the programme,

will serve to give you valuable insight into the working in the wider Police Service, as well as developing useful employment links. Guest speakers providing motivation and encouragement for engagement in the work-based experience and practice. Where possible, we offer study visits to give you a professional insight into different policing organisations within the UK. Previous trips have included riot training, Crime scene investigating, custody detention suites, the dog handling unit and Crown Court visits.

Students will also be provided opportunities to engage with local Police forces 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 Policing and you will develop an understanding and appreciation of these issues and debates in contemporary Policing.

Over the course of the programme students will be invited to take part in inter-professional events; providing you with the opportunity to collaborate with other practitioners on a range of applied degree programmes at Blackpool & the Fylde College and Lancaster University which may enhance your employability.

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. Students are encouraged to bring their 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 Policing and criminal justice conferences involving law enforcement 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 Policing in support of your studies.

Related Courses

Related courses delivered at B&FC:

- FdA/BA(Hons) Criminology
- FdA/BA(Hons) Public Services and The Community

Further study:

Some career paths will require additional qualifications and training. Post graduate qualifications that Policing graduates will go on to study include Master's courses such as MA or MSc in Criminal Investigation, Counter Terrorism, Criminal Justice, Cybercrime Investigation, DNA Profiling, Forensic Psychology, Forensic Psychology, LLM Law, LLM in Law and International Security.

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.