

University of the West of Scotland Module Descriptor

Session: 2024/25

Title of Module: Criminology Foundations			
Code: CRIM08002	SCQF Level: 8 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: 10 (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education & Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator:	H Myles		
Summary of Module			
The aim of this module is to provide an overview of key criminological and approaches in the study of crime and criminal behaviour. A brief synopsis of the module content is as follows: Criminological perspectives including strain theory, social disorganisation theory, cultural criminology, and feminist criminology will be covered. Throughout the module, reference is made to movies and other types of media to help students engage with the theories covered on the module. This module provides a link between the module criminal behaviour and deviance at L7 and Deconstructing crime and criminality in term 2 of L8.			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	HybridO	Work-based Learning
✓					
Face-To-Face Term used to describe the traditional classroom environment where the students and the lecturer meet synchronously in the same room for the whole provision. Blended A mode of delivery of a module or a programme that involves online and face-to-face delivery of learning, teaching and assessment activities, student support and feedback. A programme may be considered "blended" if it includes a combination of face-to-face, online and blended modules. If an online programme has any compulsory face-to-face and campus elements it must be described as blended with clearly articulated delivery information to manage student expectations Fully Online Instruction that is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies. This term is used to describe the previously used terms distance learning and e learning. HybridC Online with mandatory face-to-face learning on Campus HybridO Online with optional face-to-face learning on Campus Work-based Learning Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace.					

Campus(es) for Module Delivery						
The module will normally be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit)						
Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:
✓						
Term(s) for Module Delivery						
(Provided viable student numbers permit).						
Term 1	✓	Term 2		Term 3		

Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)	
On successful completion of this module the student will be able to: L1. Demonstrate practice of academic conventions. L2. Examine crime and criminal behaviour from individual, sociological and political perspectives. L3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different theories in terms of their ability to aid an understanding of crime in society. L4. Demonstrate an ability to critically analyse a criminological theory through the use of film.	
Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF Level 8. Demonstrating a broad knowledge of the scope, defining features, and main areas of criminology. Understanding of core theories, principles and concepts
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level 8. Interpreting and explaining criminological theories and their contributions to our understanding of criminal behaviour. Retrieving, interpreting and manipulating primary and secondary information from a variety of sources including electronic database sources.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level 8. Undertaking critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues which are within the common understandings of the subject.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level 8. Students will develop their ICT skills through the use of online research engines and tools such as Aula. They will practise their oral communication skills by interacting with peers during the seminars.

Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level 8. Students will exercise substantial autonomy and initiative in carrying out learning activities. Students will take responsibility for own work and contribute to the collective learning activities of the group.	
Pre-requisites:	Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:	
	Module Code:	Module Title:
	Other:	
Co-requisites	Module Code:	Module Title:

Learning and Teaching	
Learning and teaching will take place via lectures and interactive seminars that will introduce key ideas and debates. Films will be used in lectures and seminars to stimulate discussion about the representation of theories in popular culture and to help students visualise the theories in action. In addition to class discussion, students will be encouraged to make use of the VLE site to take part in online activities such as discussion boards. Students will be provided with formative feedback on their input to the seminars and online discussion boards.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	Student Learning Hours (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial/Synchronous Support Activity	14
Asynchronous activity	12
Independent Study	150
	200 Hours Total
**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)	
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Rafter, N. and Brown, M. (2011) <i>Criminology Goes to the Movies</i> . New York: New York University Press. Newburn, T. (2017) <i>Criminology</i> . Routledge.	
(**N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)	

Engagement Requirements

In line with the Academic Engagement Procedure, Students are defined as academically engaged if they are regularly engaged with timetabled teaching sessions, course-related learning resources including those in the Library and on the relevant learning platform, and complete assessments and submit these on time. Please refer to the Academic Engagement Procedure at the following link: [Academic engagement procedure](#)

Where a module has Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body requirements these will be listed here:

Attending seminars, working through Lecture material, completing assignments.

Supplemental Information

Programme Board	Social Sciences
Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	No
Subject Panel	UG Criminal Justice
Moderator	S Gallagher Graham
External Examiner	D Parker
Accreditation Details	
Version Number	23.2

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

Peer-assessed written assignment (1500 words) OR Presentation (40%)

A group presentation OR group written (2000 words) film report (60%)

(N.B. (i) **Assessment Outcomes Grids** for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.
(ii) An **indicative schedule** listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Handbook.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (Footnote A.)

Component 1

Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Essay OR Presentation	✓	✓	✓		40	0

Component 2

Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Report of practical/ field/ clinical work OR presentation	✓			✓	60	0
Combined Total For All Components					100%	0 hours

Footnotes

A. Referred to within Assessment Section above

B. Identified in the Learning Outcome Section above

Note(s):

1. More than one assessment method can be used to assess individual learning outcomes.
2. Schools are responsible for determining student contact hours. Please refer to University Policy on contact hours (extract contained within section 10 of the Module Descriptor guidance note). This will normally be variable across Schools, dependent on Programmes &/or Professional requirements.

Equality and Diversity

Aligned with the overall commitment to equality and diversity stated in the Programme Specifications, the module supports equality of opportunity for students from all backgrounds and with different learning needs. Using Moodle, learning materials will be presented electronically in formats that allow flexible access and manipulation of content. The module complies with University regulations and guidance on inclusive learning and teaching practice. Specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.uws.ac.uk/equality/>

Our partners are fully committed to the principles and practice of inclusiveness and our modules are designed to be accessible to all. Where this module is delivered overseas, local equivalent support for students and appropriate legislation applies.

[UWS Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)