

University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 2024/25

Title of Module: Comparative Penology			
Code: SSPG11012	SCQF Level: 11 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education and Social Science		
Module Co-ordinator:	K Cooper		
Summary of Module			
<p>This module examines the landscape of contemporary comparative penal practice by exploring penal systems and attitudes to punishment across different cultures and countries/continents (e.g. Latin America, Scandinavia, North America). Using evidence and examples from the different regions, students explore the application of punishment systems, their effectiveness in penal practice, and the ongoing trends, innovations and challenges facing penal systems today. The module provides opportunities to examine life inside prisons and prison culture, and to understand the relationship between penal systems and the broader cultural, historical, economic and social contexts in which these systems are located.</p>			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	HybridC	Hybrid 0	Work-Based Learning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
See Guidance Note for details.					

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) (tick as appropriate)						
Paisley:	Ayr:	Dumfries:	Lanarkshire:	London:	Distance/Online Learning:	Other:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Add name
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Term(s) for Module Delivery

(Provided viable student numbers permit).

Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)**These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module.**

At the end of this module the student will be able to:

L1	Demonstrate a significant critical understanding of the theories, concepts and principles of comparative penology.
L2	Demonstrate some originality and creativity in dealing with complex problems and issues through selection of innovative practice in penal practice.
L3	Engage in and demonstrate a significant capacity for independent study and self-directed learning through choice of comparative penal countries in written assessment.
L4	Communicate complex ideas, concepts and information related to the study of comparative penology.

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)	<p>SCQF Level 11</p> <p>An overall appreciation of a range of theories and approaches to understanding penal practice and punishment in international contexts.</p>
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	<p>SCQF Level 11</p> <p>Identify and analyse penal practices and policy-related challenges, trends and innovations in contemporary societies.</p>
Generic Cognitive skills	<p>SCQF Level 11</p> <p>Critically identify, review, conceptualise and analyse complex issues relevant to the study of comparative penology.</p> <p>Offer insights and creativity by identifying innovative changes to address problems and issues.</p> <p>Make judgements where data/research is limited or comes from a range of sources.</p>

Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	<p>SCQF Level 11</p> <p>Understand theories and data presented in various formats and to convey, formally and informally, information about the chosen topic to other students and academics.</p> <p>Communicate information effectively using a range of ICT applications to support and enhance work at this level. This includes oral and written presentations, in line with the assessment strategy.</p>	
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	<p>SCQF Level 11</p> <p>Demonstrate levels of autonomy by preparing for learning and teaching: participating in group class activities, providing short oral presentations to facilitate discussions, and completing all assessed work.</p>	
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	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
<p>Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:</p>	<p>Student Learning Hours (Normally totalling 200 hours): (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)</p>
Lecture/Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial/Synchronous Support Activity	8
Laboratory/Practical Demonstration/Workshop	4
Asynchronous Class Activity	6
Independent Study	158

	Hours Total 200
**Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)	
<p>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</p> <p>Cavadino, M & Dignan, J. (2006) <i>Penal Systems: A Comparative Approach</i>. London: Sage</p> <p>Dreisinger, B. (2016) <i>Incarceration Nations</i>. Other Press: NY.</p> <p>Jewkes, Y (2016) <i>Handbook on Prisons</i>. Cullompton: Willan</p> <p>Please ensure the list is kept short and current. Essential resources should be included, broader resources should be kept for module handbooks / Aula VLE.</p> <p>Resources should be listed in Right Harvard referencing style or agreed professional body deviation and in alphabetical order.</p>	
<p>(**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)</p>	
Attendance and Engagement Requirements	
<p>In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure: Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.</p> <p>For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:</p> <p>Adherence to the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure.</p>	
Equality and Diversity	
<p>The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.</p> <p>Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..</p> <p>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 Aula, 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</p>	

regulations. The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Policy can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.uws.ac.uk/equality/>

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

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Social Science
Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School Assessment Board	PG Social Science
Moderator	C Atkinson
External Examiner	M Ketola
Accreditation Details	
Changes/Version Number	1

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)

Assessment 1 A 10-minute pre-recorded PowerPoint presentation on an innovative penal practice that students believe has the potential to make a contribution to penal reform in any country of the world.

Assessment 2 A 3,000-word comparative essay exploring the approaches to punishment and the use of prison as an institution in two different countries. The essay must incorporate the overall approach, along with the broader cultural, historical, economic, and social aspects underpinning the practices in each country.

(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 Module Handbook.)

Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)

Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
	✓	✓		✓	50	4

Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
	✓		✓	✓	50	2

Change Control:

What	When	Who
Further guidance on aggregate regulation and application when completing template	16/01/2020	H McLean
Updated contact hours	14/09/21	H McLean
Updated Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure	19/10/2023	C Winter
Updated UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code	19/10/2023	C Winter
Guidance Note 23-24 provided	12/12/23	D Taylor
General housekeeping to text across sections.	12/12/23	D Taylor

Version Number: MD Template 1 (2023-24)