University of the West of Scotland

Module Descriptor

Session: 202425

Title of Module: Comparative Policing			
Code: SSPG11015	SCQF Level: 11 (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)	Credit Points: 20	ECTS: (European Credit Transfer Scheme)
School:	School of Education & Social Science		
Module Co-ordinator:	C Wilson		
Summary of Module			
This module introduces students to the key theories and concepts related to contemporary policing, such as police legitimacy, plural policing and police accountability. The module examines a broad range of topics within policing: from roles, functions, the relationship between the police and the media and occupational culture of the police. Additionally, this module takes a comparative approach to situate the key tissues in contemporary policing in an international context. In doing so, this module explores the role, functions and tensions in policing in the Scotland, England and Wales, Scandinavia, Mexico and the United States.			

Module Delivery Method					
Face-To-Face	Blended	Fully Online	Hybrid	Hybrid 0	Work-Based Learning
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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:
☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	Add name

Term(s) for Module Delivery

(Provided viable student numbers permit).					
Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐

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 critical understanding of key theories, concepts and models applied to contemporary policing.
L2	Demonstrate a critical awareness of current and emerging issues in policing, including those related to trust, legitimacy and equity
L3	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the symbiotic relationship between the media and the police
L4	Critically analyse transnational and international policing.

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 **11** An overall appreciation of a range of theories and approaches to understanding contemporary policing in international contexts.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF Level **11** Apply and analyse a range of theoretical perspectives relating to policing in the contemporary world.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF Level **11** Students should be able to make use of lecture material, assigned readings and seminar activities to understand and evaluate a range of issues relevant to contemporary policing.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF Level **11** Students should be able to read and understand theories and data presented in various formats from research relevant to the study of policing. Students are expected to communicate in a variety of ways, including oral and written communication in line with the assessment strategy.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others	SCQF Level **11**

	Students are expected to show levels of autonomy commiserate with their level of study – this includes in preparing for learning and teaching, participating in group class discussions and completing assessed work. Work, under guidance, with others to acquire an understanding of current professional practice.	
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.	
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	12
Asynchronous Class Activity	38
Independent Study	126
	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:

Bowling, B., Reiner, R., and Sheptycki, J. (2019) The Politics of the Police. (5th Edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Policing and Society (Journal)

Police Practice & Research (Journal)

Please ensure the list is kept short and current. Essential resources should be included, broader resources should be kept for module handbooks / Aula VLE.

Resources should be listed in Right Harvard referencing style or agreed professional body deviation and in alphabetical order.

(**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)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

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.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

Adherence to the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.

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..

(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 ☐ No ☒
School Assessment Board	PG Social Science
Moderator	C Atkinson
External Examiner	M Ketola
Accreditation Details	N/A
Changes/Version Number	1

Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1 Students will submit a 10-minute presentation on a topic related to police culture and/or police leadership. In doing so, this assessment will address LO1 and LO2 by asking students to demonstrate a critical understanding of key theories, concepts and models applied to contemporary policing, as well as emerging issues in policing more generally
Assessment 2 Students will complete a 4000-word essay based on comparative policing. Students must ensure that they incorporate key theories and concepts related to their topic and demonstrate an awareness of the broader societal/policy implications of their chosen topic.
(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
Presentation	x	x	x	x	40	2

Assessment Type (Footnote B.)	Learning Outcome (1)	Learning Outcome (2)	Learning Outcome (3)	Learning Outcome (4)	Weighting (%) of Assessment Element	Timetabled Contact Hours
Essay	x	x	x	x	60	0

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)