



Module Descriptor

Title	Crime, Media And Culture		
Session	2025/26	Status	
Code	CRIM08011	SCQF Level	8
Credit Points	20	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	10
School	Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	C Atkinson		

Summary of Module

This module explores, in historical and comparative perspectives, representations for crime and criminal justice across a shifting media landscape. By foregrounding theories of media and the conceptual approach of popular criminology this module equips learners with exciting and cutting-edge concepts and approaches to describe, explain and understand how media coverage of crime and criminal justice serves to produce (and reproduce) particular narratives of crime and constructions of people, events and place.

In exploring constructions of crime and criminal justice across both 'factual' and 'fictional' representations across multiple media this module invites learners to explore issues of power, inequality visibility, erasure, and resistance. Typically the syllabus may include learning related to several of the following topics, amongst others:

- Streaming serial killers
- Images of organised crime
- The spectacle of terror
- The prison in popular culture
- Representations of policing
- Video games, virtual reality, violence
- Science fiction and the future of crime and justice

The module will discuss the wider social, economic, political and cultural impact of media representations of crime and justice. In doing so it will engage with important sociological themes – of power, inequality, social class, age, gender, ethnicity, health and disability – as they intersect with and are represented in, between, and across the topic areas.

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus¹ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hybrid² <input type="checkbox"/>	Online³ <input type="checkbox"/>	Work -Based Learning⁴ <input type="checkbox"/>
Campuses for Module Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries	<input type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Identify, describe and evaluate theories and concepts that explain the relationship between crime, media and popular culture.
L2	Describe and explain representations of crime and criminal justice in media.
L3	Demonstrate a discerning understanding of how the contemporary plural media landscape produces and reproduces narratives of crime and criminal justice.
L4	Effectively communicate complex ideas about crime, media and culture using appropriate academic approaches and conventions.
L5	

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 8</p> <p>Demonstration of a knowledge of the scope, defining features, and power of the media in representing, surfacing, foregrounding and obscuring a broad range of issues of crime and criminal justice in contemporary society.</p> <p>Demonstration of a discerning understanding of a defined range of core theories, concepts, principles and terminology pertaining to media representations of crime and justice.</p>

¹ Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

² The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

³ Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

⁴ Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF 8 Apply knowledge, skills and understanding in using materials associated with the subjects of crime, media and culture.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF 8 Undertake critical analysis and evaluation of ideas, concepts, information and issues that are covered throughout the module and relevant to the inquiry of crime, media and culture.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF 8 Demonstrate an ability to identify, collect and interpret data presented in various formats from research and repositories relevant to the study of crime, media and culture. Work individually and collaboratively to disseminate and present information and analysis.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	SCQF 8 Participate in seminars in ways that show awareness of own and others' roles, responsibilities and contributions when carrying out and evaluating tasks. Work, under guidance, with others to acquire an understanding of current knowledge, topics and debates in the subject area. Students will take responsibility for own work and contribute to the collective learning activities of the group.

Prerequisites	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 (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	13
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	26
Asynchronous Class Activity	13
Independent Study	148
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

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Rafter, N. and Brown, M. (2011). *Criminology Goes to the Movies*. New York: New York University Press.

Grubb, JA. and Posick, C. (Eds). (2021). *Crime TV: Streaming Criminology in Popular Culture*. New York: New York University Press.

(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 with 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](#).

This module will adhere to the UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure.

(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 Sciences
Overall Assessment Results	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
Module Eligible for Compensation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
School Assessment Board	Social Sciences
Moderator	C Wilson
External Examiner	M Tartari
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Changes / Version Number	1.0

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Academic poster (40%)
Assessment 2
Essay (60%) - 1600 words
Assessment 3
(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.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	40%	

Component 2							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60%	

Component 3							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	When	Who
new template, no changes	mar 25	C Atkinson