

## **Course Specification**

Cou	Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		BA (Hons) Criminology	
2	BCU Course UCAS Code		US0682	M900
	Code			
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City University	
4	Teaching Institution(s)			
	(if different from point 3)			
5	Professional Statutory or			
	Regulatory Body (PSRB)			
	accreditation (if a	applicable)		

## 6 Course Description

Looking to study criminology degree at University? Our BA (Hons) Criminology course is supported by our close links with local criminal justice organisations, including West Midlands Police Force.

Make sense of the world of criminal justice by getting the big picture perspective on crime, punishment and victimisation.

This course aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the core schools of criminological thought, their historical and political foundations and practical application.

### What's Covered in the Course?

Our curriculum offers you a variety of subjects, through which you will be able to develop your interests before focusing on specialised fields within Criminology. The programme also utilises guest speakers, external visitors as well as unique assessments to enhance students understanding of the discipline.

The course's real world applications are supported by its close links with local and national criminal justice agencies, including police forces, charities, pressure groups, criminal justice agencies, criminal rehabilitation, probation service and prisons.

The course is delivered by expert staff in the fields of policing, security studies and criminology, and you will also enjoy regular guest lectures from highly influential voices in the discipline.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Criminology	6	360
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Criminology with Professional		
	Placement Year	6	480
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Certificate of Higher Education Criminology	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Criminology	5	240
	Bachelor of Arts Criminology	6	300



8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable

9 Delivery Patte	Delivery Patterns		
Mode(s) of Study	Location	Duration of Study	Code
Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US0682
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US0681
Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre	4 years	US0682S

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a> , or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">UCAS website</a> .

11	Course Learning Outcomes
1	The multidisciplinary underpinnings of the subject of Criminology and recognise and understand how it can assist in explaining how a variety of factors can result in criminal behaviour, victimisation and social control actions at a micro-, meso-, and macro-contexts;
2	The academic subject of criminology. This includes its development of criminology as a distinct area of study and inquiry; its multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary nature, and its core curricula as stipulated by QAA guidelines and subject benchmarks (2014: 11) including (but not limited to); the relationships of crime, deviance and offending, and victimisation to social divisions and stratification such as: age, gender, sexuality, social class, race, ethnicity and religious faith; the role of the state and non-governmental agencies; human rights issues; the philosophy and politics of criminalisation, victimisation, criminal justice;
3	How their own values, biography and social identity – have an impact on responses to and rival interpretations of, safety and security, crime control, and how to make ethically sound judgements in light of this knowledge and understanding;
4	Areas of social research and its methods, for example knowing how to conduct a wide-range of practice-based Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods, data collection, and data analysis and how to adhere to the ethical guidelines prescribed by specialised and academic institutional ethical bodies, which govern criminological research;
5	Criminology-related career prospects that are available for graduates who would like to pursue a career in the field of criminal justice; prisons; probation; police; and beyond. Specific careers related to Criminology will be explored, whilst emphasis on transferable skills will be maintained.
6	Develop a critical, intellectual insight into the context of the above knowledge and understanding and the opportunities to develop critical thinking and analytical skills in order to understand the



	role of evidence and make critical judgements about arguments in Criminology. Our redesigned curriculum gives students a range of opportunities to use and improve their critical thinking skills;
7	Adopt and integrate multiple perspectives and systematically analyse the relationships between them;
8	Show knowledge application of the main perspectives and schools of thought in Criminology to the explanation of the causes of crime and criminal behaviour, and hence the ability to pose, formulate, and critique;
9	Demonstrate competence in research skills through practical activities, including an ability to generate and explore research questions related to Criminological areas of study and the ability to review and critically evaluate quantitative and qualitative evidence using a range of techniques and show the ability to formulate and apply appropriate ethical judgments when carrying out research;
10	Use critical, analytical, synthesizing and problem-solving skills in a range of assessments in order to assimilate new knowledge, display development of a critical analysis of studied information, and show the application of basic knowledge in wider contexts.
11	Employ appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods when undertaking criminological research, variously designing, initiating and conducting quantitative and qualitative based research projects under appropriate supervision. Recognise theoretical, practical, and methodological implications and limitations;
12	Manage one's own independent learning in various contexts, including making use of scholarly reviews and primacy source material and gather information that is logical and appropriate, and which contributes to the formulation of balanced arguments. Handle primary sources critically and ethically;
13	Apply problem-solving skills, and be aware that knowledge may require different approaches to problem solving;
14	Become independent and pragmatic as learners.
15	Communicate effectively in a variety of modes, including those required for oral and written summative assessments. You will be able to select, apply and evaluate appropriate methods for complex tasks, and interpret data effectively. Students will be able to find, retrieve and organise information effectively;
16	Be computer literate, and use software applications, which are generic and discipline based; and have accumulated e-technology skills attained from virtual learning platforms;
17	Engage in effective individual and teamwork projects, and show an ability to work professionally on time-limited tasks where they are sensitive to contextual and interpersonal factors of others;
18	Demonstrate effective presentation skills; construct written reports and essays, and engage in critical and reflective learning to show key competencies and skills relevant to the study of the QAA benchmarks;
19	Consolidate skills and knowledge in the preparation for graduate destinations which includes being able to shows skills acquired from reflexive working experiences, including practice-based roles and engagement with staff-led research projects where possible.



## 12 **Course Requirements**

#### 12a | Level 4:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI4032	Policing Investigation and Society	20
CRI4033	Crime in its Political and Historical Context	20
CRI4029	On Crimes and Punishment – An Introduction to Criminological Theory	20
CRI4035	Doing Criminological Research	20
CRI4036	Security Studies – The Essentials	20
CRI4031	The Social Construction of Crime and Deviance	20

#### Level 5:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5067	Crime in the City: Criminology, Urban Culture and Social Change	20
CRI5070	Beyond the Statistics: Researching Criminological Experiences	20
CRI5048	Prisons and Punishment	20
CRI5068	Crime Media Culture: Representation, Consumption and Production	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5061	Youth Crime and Justice	20
CRI5071	Issues in Criminal Investigation: Forensic Science	20
CRI5072	Working in Criminal Justice	20
CRI5074	Victims and Victimology	20
CRI5073	Substance Use, Deviant Behaviour and Crime	20
CRI5051	Intelligence and Security Since 1945	20
CRI5087	Race and the Racialization of Crime	20

In order to qualify for the award of BA (Hons) Criminology with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PLA5XXX	Professional Placement Year	120



## Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6064	Transnational, Organised and Corporate Crime	20
CRI6088	Dissertation / Live Project / Placement	40
CRI6093	Human Rights: Theory and Practice	20

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6083	Homicide and Multiple Homicide: Criminological Understandings of Killing	20
CRI6068	Gender and Crime	20
CRI6092	Hate Crime	20
CRI6086	Cyber Crime	20
CRI6091	Rehabilitation, Reintegration, Re-entry and 20 Therapeutic Communities	
CRI6089	Britain and Terrorism 20	
CRI6090	Everyday Surveillance	20
CRI6087	Dark Leisure	20



## 12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

### **Full Time Course Structure**

BA (Hons) Criminology: Course Structure				
		Level 4 HE Learner Programme (e.g. Two weeks)		
Level 4	Semester 1	On Crimes and Punishment: An Introduction to Criminological Theory Core Module	Doing Criminological Research Core Module	Crime in its Political and Historical Context Core Module
	Semester 2	Policing, Investigation and Society Core Module	Security Studies: The Essentials Core Module	Social Construction of Crime and Deviance Core Module
	Level 5 Transition Programme			
Level	Semester 1	Crime in the City: Criminology, Urban Culture and Social Change Core Module	Beyond the Statistics: Researching Criminological Experiences Core Module	Optional Module
5			Optional International Exchange	
	Semester 2	Prisons and Punishment Core Module	Crime Media Culture: Representation, Consumption and Production Core Module	Optional Module
			Optional International Exchange	
	Level 6 Transition Programme			
Level 6	Semester 1	Transnational Organised and Corporate Crime Core Module	Dissertation / Live Project /	Optional Module
	Semester 2	Human Rights: Theory and Practice Core Module	<b>Placement</b> Core Module	Optional Module



## **Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure**

		BA (Hons)	Criminology: Course Structu	ure
	Level 4 HE Learner Programme (e.g. Two weeks)			wo weeks)
Level 4	Semester 1	On Crimes and Punishment: An Introduction to Criminological Theory Core Module	Doing Criminological Research Core Module	Crime in its Political and Historical Context Core Module
	Semester 2	Policing, Investigation and Society Core Module	Security Studies: The Essentials Core Module	Social Construction of Crime and Deviance Core Module
			Level 5 Transition Programme	
Level	Semester 1	Crime in the City: Criminology, Urban Culture and Social Change Core Module	Beyond the Statistics: Researching Criminological Experiences Core Module	Optional Module
5		Optional International Exchange		
	Semester 2	Prisons and Punishment Core Module	Crime Media Culture: Representation, Consumption and Production Core Module Optional International Exchange	Optional Module
	Professional Placement Year Core Module			
	Level 6 Transition Programme			
Level 6	Semester 1	Transnational Organised and Corporate Crime Core Module	Dissertation / Live Project /	Optional Module
	Semester 2	Human Rights: Theory and Practice Core Module	Placement Core Module	Optional Module



## **Part Time Course Structure**

Year 1	Semester 1	L4 On Crimes and Punishment: An Introduction to Criminological Theory (20 credits)	L4 Doing Criminological Research (20 credits)
	Semester 2	L4 Policing, Investigation and Society (20 credits)	L4 Security Studies: The Essentials (20 credits)
Year 2	Semester 1	L4 Crime in its Political and Historical Context (20 credits)	L5 Crime in the City: Criminology, Urban Culture and Social Change (20 Credits)
Semester 2		L4 Social Construction of Crime and Deviance (20 credits)	L5 Prisons and Punishment (20 credits)
Semester 1 Year 3 Semester 2	L5 Beyond the Statistics: Researching Criminological Experiences (20 credits)	L5 Optional Module (20 credits)	
	L5 Crime Media Culture: Representation, Consumption and Production (20 credits)	L5 Optional Module (20 credits)	
Year 4	Semester 1	L6 Transnational Organised and Corporate Crime (20 credits)	L6 Optional Module (20 credits)
	Semester 2	Human Rights: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	L6 Optional Module (20 credits)
Year 5	Semester 1	L6 Integrative Criminology Project Based Module (40 credits)	



#### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- Scheduled Learning includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- Directed Learning includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- Private Study includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 4

#### **Workload**

#### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	206
Directed Learning	252
Private Study	742
Total Hours	1200

#### **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	67%
Exam	0
In-Person	33%

### Level 5

### Workload

#### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	206
Directed Learning	284
Private Study	710
Total Hours	1200

#### **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	30%
Exam	17%
In-Person	53%



## Level 6

## **Workload**

# % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	133
Directed Learning	339
Private Study	728
Total Hours	1200

## **Balance of Assessment**

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	56
Exam	20
In-Person	24