Course Specification

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

6	**Course Description**
	Looking to study a criminology degree at university? Our BA (Hons) Criminology course is supported by our close links with local criminal justice organisations in the voluntary, public, and private sectors. Make sense of the world of criminal justice by getting the big picture perspective on crime, punishment, and victimisation. Our course will equip you with knowledge and understanding of the core schools of criminological thought, their social and historical 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, such as homicide and harms of the powerful. This is an exciting and dynamic course that explores real-world problems, focusing on cutting edge and topical issues relating to crime and social justice. The course uses research-informed teaching and learning to develop a range of transferable academic and practical skills which will be attractive to employers. The course also uses external visits, as well as unique assessments to enhance your understanding of the discipline. The course's real-world applications are supported by its close links with local and national agencies, including police forces, charities, criminal justice agencies, probation service and prisons. You will have opportunities to gain work experience with relevant organisations, and there is an option for you to undertake international study. You will be taught by expert staff in the fields of criminology, policing, and security, 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 Bachelor of Arts with Honours Criminology with Professional Placement Year	6 6	360 480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Criminology Diploma of Higher Education Criminology Bachelor of Arts Criminology Bachelor of Arts Criminology with Professional Placement Year	Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 Level 6	120 240 300 420

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not Applicable

9	Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US0865
Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 years	
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US0866

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

11	Course Aims
	• Explore real-world problems focusing on topical and often controversial issues relating to crime and social justice • Deliver an inclusive and innovative curriculum informed by cutting edge scholarship, sector knowledge, and international perspectives • Provide an excellent learning experience, designed to develop a range of transferable skills directly relevant to careers within the Criminal Justice System and other organisations concerned with crime and social justice • Offer a variety of assessments throughout the course, including coursework, exams, and in-person assessments, to enable you to demonstrate your full range of abilities and skills • Enable you to strengthen your analytic, interpretative, and communication skills and - by graduation - to demonstrate the problem-solving, evaluative, and reflective skills intrinsic to the subject and the attributes needed for self-managed, lifelong learning
12	Course Learning Outcomes

	Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:
1	Describe a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology, with an appreciation of their social and historical development.
2	Summarise and explain empirical data about crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
3	Draw on relevant evidence to evaluate the viability of competing explanations within criminology and form logical conclusions.
4	Critically reflect on the values and practices of various agencies within the Criminal Justice System.
5	Apply key theories, debates, and concepts in the field of criminology to real-world issues.
6	Evaluate a range of research methods and assess the appropriateness of their use.
7	Communicate information, ideas, and arguments in a variety of academic formats.
8	Design and use an appropriate strategy to investigate a specific research problem.
9	Critically discuss ethical issues such as social justice, equality, and human rights, that require an awareness of global trends.
10	Present well-articulated critical thinking skills in an appropriate academic style.

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:
1	Describe a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology, with an appreciation of their social and historical development.
2	Summarise and explain empirical data about crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
3	Draw on relevant evidence to evaluate the viability of competing explanations within criminology and form logical conclusions.
	Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:
4	Critically reflect on the values and practices of various agencies within the Criminal Justice System.
5	Apply key theories, debates, and concepts in the field of criminology to real-world issues.
6	Evaluate a range of research methods and assess the appropriateness of their use.
7	Communicate information, ideas, and arguments in a variety of academic formats.
	Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, you will be able to:
8	Design and use an appropriate strategy to investigate a specific research problem.
9	Critically discuss ethical issues such as social justice, equality, and human rights, that require an awareness of global trends.
10	Present well-articulated critical thinking skills in an appropriate academic style.

14	**Course Learning, Teaching, and Assessment Strategy**
	Our Learning, Teaching, and Assessment Strategy delivers excellence by providing the framework for: • High quality teaching • An engaging and inclusive approach to learning, assessment, and achievement A clear structure through which you progress in your academic studies, your personal development and towards graduate-level employment or further study We recognise that our students come from diverse backgrounds and bring a wealth of different experiences to their time with us at university. Our strategy aims to inspire, support, and empower you in your chosen field of study:

	• Teaching and learning will take place in several different contexts, including lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, independent study, external trips, placements, and our virtual learning environment • You will be supported with excellent in-person and online learning and teaching methods and materials • A variety of authentic assessments will be offered to build your communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills, such as media reviews, debates, and case studies • The flexible nature of some of our assessment topics will allow you to tailor your learning towards your interests and areas relevant to future employment • Formative learning activities will play a central role in building confidence and preparing you for your final assessments • You will receive individual feedback on your work to support your development on the course • Work experience opportunities will be promoted that allow you to engage with the applied nature of criminology, as well as enhancing your employability and transferable skills • We will work in partnership with you and other students to bring about enhancements to learning practices

15	**Course Requirements**

15a **Level 4:**

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI4XXX	Key Debates in Criminological Theory	20
CRI4XXX	Crime and the Media	20
CRI4XXX	Crime, Punishment and Society	20
CRI4XXX	The Criminal Justice System	20
CRI4XXX	Policing and Investigation	20
CRI4XXX	Security, Conflict and Justice	20

Level 5:

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5XXX	Understanding Crime and Criminal Behaviour	20
CRI5XXX	Experiencing Harm	20
CRI5XXX	Prisons and Punishment	20
CRI5XXX	Research Proposal	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5XXX	Crime in the City	20
CRI5XXX	Youth Crime and Justice	20
CRI5XXX	Issues in Criminal Investigation	20
CRI5XXX	Race and Crime	20
CRI5XXX	Making Sense of Homicide	20
CRI5XXX	Substance Use, Crime and Deviance	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, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6XXX	Human Rights: Theory and Practice	20
CRI6XXX	Rehabilitation and Desistance	20
CRI6XXX	The Extended Project	40

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6XXX	Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice	20
CRI6XXX	Everyday Surveillance	20
CRI6XXX	Local to Global Organised Crime	20
CRI6XXX	Deviant Leisure	20
CRI6XXX	Gender and Crime	20
CRI6XXX	Cybercrime	20
CRI6XXX	Hate Crime	20
CRI6XXX	Harms of the Powerful	20

15b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Your 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

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Key Debates in Criminological Theory (20 credits) Crime and the Media (20 credits) Crime, Punishment and Society (20 credits)	Core The Criminal Justice System (20 credits) Policing and Investigation (20 credits) Security, Conflict and Justice (20 credits)

Level 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Understanding Crime and Criminal Behaviour (20 credits) Experiencing Harm (20 credits)	Core Prisons and Punishment (20 credits) Research Proposal (20 credits)
Optional Crime in the City (20 credits) Youth Crime and Justice (20 credits) Issues in Criminal Investigation (20 credits)	Optional Race and Crime (20 credits) Making Sense of Homicide (20 credits) Substance Use, Crime and Deviance (20 credits)

Level 6

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Human Rights: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Core Rehabilitation and Desistance (20 credits)
Core The Extended Project (40 credits)	
Optional Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice (20 credits) Everyday Surveillance (20 credits) Local to Global Organised Crime (20 credits) Deviant Leisure (20 credits)	Optional Gender and Crime (20 credits) Cybercrime (20 credits) Hate Crime (20 credits) Harms of the Powerful (20 credits)

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Key Debates in Criminological Theory (20 credits) Crime and the Media (20 credits) Crime, Punishment and Society (20 credits)	Core The Criminal Justice System (20 credits) Policing and Investigation (20 credits) Security, Conflict and Justice (20 credits)

Level 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Understanding Crime and Criminal Behaviour (20 credits) Experiencing Harm (20 credits)	Core Prisons and Punishment (20 credits) Research Proposal (20 credits)
Optional Crime in the City (20 credits) Youth Crime and Justice (20 credits) Issues in Criminal Investigation (20 credits)	Optional Race and Crime (20 credits) Making Sense of Homicide (20 credits) Substance Use, Crime and Deviance (20 credits)
Core Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	

Level 6

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Human Rights: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Core Rehabilitation and Desistance (20 credits)
Core The Extended Project (40 credits)	
Optional Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice (20 credits) Everyday Surveillance (20 credits) Local to Global Organised Crime (20 credits) Deviant Leisure (20 credits)	Optional Gender and Crime (20 credits) Cybercrime (20 credits) Hate Crime (20 credits) Harms of the Powerful (20 credits)

Part Time Course Structure

Year 1

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Key Debates in Criminological Theory (20 credits) Crime, Punishment and Society (20 credits)	Core Policing and Investigation (20 credits) Security, Conflict and Justice (20 credits)

Year 2

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Crime and the Media (20 credits) Understanding Crime and Criminal Behaviour (20 credits)	Core The Criminal Justice System (20 credits) Prisons and Punishment (20 credits)

Year 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Experiencing Harm (20 credits)	Core Research Proposal (20 credits)
Optional Crime in the City (20 credits) Youth Crime and Justice (20 credits) Issues in Criminal Investigation (20 credits)	Optional Race and Crime (20 credits) Making Sense of Homicide (20 credits) Substance Use, Crime and Deviance (20 credits)

Year 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Human Rights: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Core Rehabilitation and Desistance (20 credits)
Optional Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice (20 credits) Everyday Surveillance (20 credits) Local to Global Organised Crime (20 credits) Deviant Leisure (20 credits)	Optional Gender and Crime (20 credits) Cybercrime (20 credits) Hate Crime (20 credits) Harms of the Powerful (20 credits)

Year 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core The Extended Project (40 credits)	

16 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 you 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

17% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	204
Directed Learning	276
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Level 5

Workload

17% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	204

Directed Learning	276
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Level 6

Workload

12% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	145
Directed Learning	335
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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