

Course Specification

| Course Summary Information | | | |
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| 1 | Course Title | | BSc (Hons) in Professional Policing |
| 2 | BCU Course Code | UCAS 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 applicable) | | National College of Policing |

| 6 | Course Description |
|---|--|
| | <p>This course is a national pre-join degree programme licenced by the Policing Professional Body, the College of Policing and will be delivered by subject matter experts and experienced practitioners (including retired police officers) with a wealth of subject expertise to prepare you with key transferable skills required for the role of Police Constable.</p> <p>This course has been developed through consultation with a range of police service areas and the College of Policing, to give you the opportunity to examine the fundamental concepts of policing whilst also developing the practical and transferable skills you need for a career in law enforcement.</p> <p>The academic routeways onto the degree and applicants must contact the universities admissions team for full guidance. If potential candidates may not have the specific qualifications but have industry experience, we may consider them as eligible for a place on the course but this would be based upon an interview and assessment process conducted by the course director and teaching team.</p> <p>The course will help to develop your critical thinking about policing, policy and practice through complementary modules encompassing the theory and principles of operational policing, legislation and police powers, structured interviewing skills and much more. To develop these skills, you will be involved in practical activities, events and will be exposed to a range of guest speakers. These speakers will be from a range of criminal justice and public sector agencies as well as police officers of all operational levels. The course will utilise a range of exciting and innovative forms of assessment which match the working practices within policing. You will also be supported in applications for job roles within policing and will have opportunities to take part in mock assessment centres, fitness and team building exercises. You will take part in mock criminal investigations and be required to create relevant paperwork and understand current legislation and police powers in practice.</p> <p>Students will also benefit from a working arrangement between BCU and West Midlands Police. The organisation has agreed to support with the training of twenty five special constables both within the service settings and on campus. WMP will provide support and guidance through both the assessment and training stages so as to ensure students feel capable and equipment to face a variety of incidents and issues. Students will be encourage to participate in a range of work within a variety of regional forces to improve subject knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>The course will use a range of authentic assessment methods in order to reflect current working practices within policing. In all group activities, students will be assessed individually as well as a group so as to fairness is applied throughout. This will ensure that</p> |

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| | <p>students contribute equally to their groups overall grade but staff can award higher or lower grades to students who may have contributed/not contributed to the assessment.</p> <p>This course will combine all of these elements together while offering you the opportunity to take part in a work placement which could be within a variety of areas in the field community safety and criminal justice. You will be encouraged to take part in to visit courts, police training establishments and prisons. The course will develop a professional focus and real world experience, ensuring that when you graduate you are equipped to make an impact in your chosen career. The course teaching team will also provide additional support sessions to refresh students on academic and research skills so as to ensure students are fully prepared to carry out independent research projects throughout the course.</p> <p>The course will also discuss the international dimension to law enforcement and how criminal activities are not just domestic in their construction. Module content will explore this in greater detail and through the use of guest lecturers from around the world, the professional relationships between various policing agencies around the world will be discussed.</p> <p>Successful attainment of the BSc in Professional Policing does not in itself provide any guarantee of recruitment as a trainee Police Constable. Each police force within England and Wales sets out its own recruitment process and selection policy and entry requirements vary from force to force. You are therefore strongly advised to check the specific requirements of their chosen force prior to undertaking study. It is also important to contact local force areas and the college of policing to ensure that you are fully familiar with the eligibility criteria and any barriers which may inhibit you becoming a police officer.</p> |
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| 7 | Course Awards | | |
| 7a | Name of Final Award | Level | Credits Awarded |
| | BSc (Hons) in Professional Policing | 6 | 360 |
| 7b | Exit Awards and Credits Awarded | | |
| | Certificate of Higher Education in Policing Studies | 4 | 120 |
| | Diploma of Higher Education in Policing Studies | 5 | 240 |
| | Bachelor of Science in Policing Studies | 6 | 300 |

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| 8 | Derogation from the University Regulations |
| | <p>To satisfy the requirements of the College of Policing the University has approved the derogation from sections 3.3 and 3.4 of its Academic Regulations.</p> <p>For this reason all CORE modules specified below must be passed without either compensation or condonement.</p> |

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| 9 | Delivery Patterns | | |
| | Mode(s) of Study | Location | Duration of Study |
| | | | Code |

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------|--|
| Full Time | City Centre | 3 years | |
| Sandwich | City Centre | 4 years | |

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| 10 | Entry Requirements |
| | <p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/courses/policing-bsc-hons-2019-20 or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website</p> <p>This course requires 112 UCAS points (A Level - BBC), as well as English Language and Maths grade 4 or above at GCSE level.</p> |

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| 11 | Course Learning Outcomes |
| 1 | Review the role of the police service and the responsibilities of those charged with delivering a professional service. |
| 2 | Explain the criminal justice system and the legislation and processes that support it. |
| 3 | Evaluate alternative policing models and strategies in light of different approaches to criminology. |
| 4 | Critically assess key issues relating to the complexity and challenges of operational policing in diverse police contexts, such as public protection, community policing, digital policing, response policing, policing the roads and counter terrorism. |
| 5 | Evaluate the different approaches to support or manage vulnerable people or those at risk of harm. |
| 6 | Explain the importance of information, intelligence and evidence-based policing and identify best practice. |
| 7 | Undertake and evaluate police investigation techniques and practices, including interviewing techniques. |
| 8 | Apply either quantitative or qualitative research techniques to analyse an emerging issue or problem in a specific policing area and formulate an evidence-based intervention to tackle the identified issue/problem. |
| 9 | Present coherent arguments both orally and written to a high professional standard. |
| 10 | Apply effective problem-solving techniques and risk assessment to inform professional judgement and decision making within diverse police contexts. |
| 11 | Critically review policing incidents in which ethical considerations have been crucial to the decision-making process. |
| 12 | Apply team-working skills that are sensitive to contextual and interpersonal factors considerations to produce outcomes. |

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 |
|-------------|--|--------------|
| | Policing in England and Wales | 20 |
| | Models of Policing and Intelligence | 20 |
| | The Criminal Justice System in England and Wales | 20 |
| | Criminal Investigation and Forensics | 20 |
| | Introduction to Evidence Based Policing | 20 |
| | Human Policing | 20 |

Level 5:

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 |
|-------------|--|--------------|
| | Criminal Law and Police Powers | 20 |
| | Policing and Ethics | 20 |
| | Investigative Interviewing Skills | 20 |
| | Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | 20 |
| | Public Protection and Managing Vulnerability | 40 |

Additional Research Guidance (Level 5)

In addition to curriculum content a range of support workshops will be provided throughout the second year in order to ensure that students are equipped to implement research methodologies to conduct an independent research project at level 6. These will be non-credit bearing and will be delivered through workshops, lectures and independent tasks which will be accessible through VLE systems. Students will also be allocated a support mentor, who will guide them into discussing potential research topics for their Independent Research Project.

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following **CORE** modules (totalling 100 credits):

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|-------------|---|--------------|
| | Organisation and Leadership within Policing | 20 |
| | Independent Research Project | 40 |
| | Policing Futures | 20 |
| | Tackling Terrorism | 20 |

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following list of **OPTIONAL** modules.

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | Policing and the Civil Law | 20 |
| | Community Safety Placement | 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.

| BSc (Hons) Professional Policing | | | | |
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| Level 4 | Level 4 HE Learner Programme | | | |
| | Semester 1 | Policing in England and Wales | Introduction to Evidence-Based Policing | The Criminal Justice System in England and Wales |
| | Semester 2 | Criminal Investigation and Forensics | Human Policing | Models of Policing and Intelligence |
| Level 5 | Level 5 Transition Programme | | | |
| | Semester 1 | Criminal Law and Police Powers | Policing and Ethics | Equality, Diversity and Inclusion |
| | Semester 2 | Investigative Interviewing Skills | Public Protection and Managing Vulnerability | |
| Optional Sandwich Year: Work Placement | | | | |
| Level 6 | Level 6 Transition Programme | | | |
| | Semester 1 | Organisation and Leadership within Policing | Independent Research Project | Option Module |
| | Semester 2 | Tackling Terrorism | | Policing Futures |

Level 6 Option Modules

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| | Policing and the Civil Law | 20 |
| | Community Safety Placement | 20 |

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 | |
| Directed Learning | |
| Private Study | |
| Total Hours | 1200 |

Balance of Assessment

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Coursework | |
| Exam | |
| In-Person | |

Level 5

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

| Activity | Number of Hours |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scheduled Learning | |
| Directed Learning | |
| Private Study | |
| Total Hours | 1200 |

Balance of Assessment

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Coursework | |
| Exam | |
| In-Person | |

Level 6

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

| Activity | Number of Hours |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scheduled Learning | |
| Directed Learning | |
| Private Study | |
| Total Hours | 1200 |

Balance of Assessment

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Coursework | |
| Exam | |
| In-Person | |

Appendix 1: Letter to New Students

Birmingham City University **BSc Professional Policing**

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for choosing Birmingham City University as one of your options for the upcoming 2019-20 academic year. We can see from your application that you have chosen our new BSc in Professional Policing as one of your options and we are really excited to potentially have you study with us. It is important to clarify that our new BSc Policing degree has changed its title to that of BSc in Professional Policing, so as to meet the core requirements of course delivery guidelines from The College of Policing. Our new degree will ensure that students gain the essential skills, knowledge and values required for the College of Policing's Policing Education Qualification Framework. This is the benchmark for contemporary policing and thus determines pre/post joining standards for policing.

To keep students updated on the current progress of the new policing programme, the university has been awarded the licence from the College of Policing to begin to develop the Degree in Professional Policing. This is hugely exciting, as it allows for staff team to create the structure and content of the new course, working directly with regional forces. We intend to develop a degree which will prepare its graduates with the skills to seek out exciting roles with a range of investigative agencies.

For further information regarding the Pre-Join degree in Policing and other areas of interest, please refer to the National College of Policing website at <https://www.college.police.uk/Pages/Home.aspx>

This link will help answer many enquiries that candidates may have regarding a future policing career, including eligibility criteria for new constables and direct entry programmes. Our new BSc in Professional Policing will combine practical activities with academic analysis. We will offer students an opportunity to understand the tactical, operational and strategic skills within investigation and analyse some of the biggest challenges facing policing in England and Wales.

Subject to validation, please see below the framework of our course starting September 2019.

Our new staff team are really excited to be working on this new and innovative opportunity and would look forward to hopefully seeing you all in September.

Kind regards,



Jonathan Jackson
Course Director: Criminology, Policing and Security Studies

Appendix 2

Student support service

Below is a range of support services available to the Birmingham City University BLSS students.

Centre for Academic Success

The Centre for Academic Success is the University's central learning development service. Their aim is to help students develop all of the necessary academic, technical and numerical skills needed to progress and successfully complete a student's chosen course. The centre can provide additional support regarding referencing, academic writing and presentation skills. For all information regarding please see the (see [Centre for Academic Success - student support](#)).

The Student Contract

When you accept an offer of a place, you enter into a contract with the University which includes obligations on both sides. The main terms you need to be aware of are set out in the Terms and Conditions which are available below.

Your responsibilities as a student include:

- Attending the University and engaging fully with your studies whether in a formal teaching environment, in group work with your peers or in self-directed study

- Following the rules, regulations, policies and procedures applicable to you as a student (the Academic Regulations and other relevant policies and procedures).
- Paying your fees.

Please see [The Student Contract](#), for further guidance.

Enablement and Wellbeing

Our professional and confidential Health and Wellbeing services offer support for your physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing, helping you to make the most out of your time at university. We can help you with:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Healthcare
- Disability Support
- Faith and spiritual wellbeing

For all information regarding the services available please see [Enablement and Wellbeing](#).

Appendix Three

BSc in Professional Policing

The BSc in Professional Policing is an academic knowledge-based degree, based upon the national curriculum for the police constable role. It will provide you with an entry route into policing if you wish to study before you apply to join a police force.

Your education will continue in force if you become a probationary police constable (see below). If you wish to use a pre-join degree as your entry route to the police service, you must apply to join a police force within five years of your graduation.

The pre-join degree may also be of interest or benefit to those considering a career in other roles within policing, for those seeking to understand how society is policed, for those who have an interest in law enforcement or for those who want to enter the wider justice sector.

Please note: successful achievement of the pre-join degree does **not** provide any guarantee of recruitment as a probationary police constable. Each police force sets out its own recruitment process and selection policy; the entry requirements vary from force to force. Prospective students are strongly advised to check the specific requirements of their chosen force before undertaking study.

How do I apply to become a police constable?

Once you have graduated with a pre-join degree, you will need to apply to join your chosen police force as a probationary police constable. To do this, you must:

- Apply within five years of your graduation date
- Meet all of the recruitment criteria for the particular force.

Once you have successfully joined a force as a probationer, you must then:

- Undertake further practice-based learning and assessment in your force
- Demonstrate competence in the police constable role
- Complete the two-year probationary period, in line with police regulations.

For further information please see: <https://www.college.police.uk/What-we-do/Learning/Policing-Education-Qualifications-Framework/Entry-routes-for-police-constables/Pre-join-degree/Pages/Information-for-students.aspx>

The range of both interpersonal and academic skills developed by students studying the BSc in Professional Policing will help to support student's future career aspirations. Whether students pursue a career in policing or choose instead to take on roles in other sectors, the broad range of assessments, experiences and team activities that students will take part in, will provide to be valuable in future employment.

Special Constable Training (West Midlands Police)

As part of a business relationship developed between BCU and West Midlands Police, students on the BSc in Professional Policing will be given an opportunity to align their studies to training to become a special constable with WMP. Some of the SC training will be done by WMP at their training facilities and some will be provided from within the course content. This is an exciting and creative opportunity to enhance career potential for a whole range of graduate roles and employment sectors.