

Module code: MOD005502	Version: 4 Date Amended: 14/Jun/2018
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1. Module Title
Criminology in Policy and Practice

2a. Module Leader
Simon Kerss

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Criminology, BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology, BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology and BA (Hons) Criminology and Policing		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

The objects of the Criminological enquiry – crime, policing, justice, punishment, fear, victims, control, order, security – have come to occupy a prominent and disputed place in the lives and consciousness of citizens and governing authorities. Your career may be determined upon how well you understand the system that you seek to work in.

In this module, you will consider how criminological theory has informed the landscape of crime, order and control and impacted legislation, policy and practice. You will examine the political, economic and social contexts in which criminological research is shaped and carried out in order to usefully inform criminal justice policy. For example, you will consider complex issues such as balancing policing in the age of austerity against the growth of punitive populism, or allocating resources effectively between the prevention of terrorism or violence against women and girls.

Scrutinising institutions such as the police, county councils and victim-focused charities, you will examine some of the tensions that exist within them such as decision-making, agenda-setting and resource allocation. You will think critically about the processes that are involved in turning ideas into action, building 'joint working' initiatives and managing policy implementation. Furthermore, you will consider some of the wider criminological issues you have studied in relation to the criminal justice work setting – how do cultural, political and patriarchal attitudes affect the shape of agenda-setting, and what could be the impact of vicarious trauma upon the agents whom we put so much trust? Criminology in policy and practice will provide you with the skills necessary to connect your degree with the criminal justice sector, its policies and practices.

The module is taught by lectures and seminars.

6b. Outline Content

- Criminal justice policy, politics and ideology
- Decision making and agenda setting
- Policy Implementation
- Joint working
- Tensions in Criminal Justice Institutions

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

N/A

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Show knowledge of how criminal justice policies are formulated and implemented through theory, research and practice
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand whether criminal justice policies achieve their intended goals
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate the implementation of criminal justice policy
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Correlate cause and effect theories through research, criminological theory, criminal justice practice and evaluation

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	16	1&2	Lectures 2 hr x 8 weeks
Other teacher managed learning	8	1-4	Seminars 1 hr x 8 weeks
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Reading, research and preparation for workshops and assessment
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio 2500 words (indicative tasks may include an essay and a case study)					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above

(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]