

Module code: MOD007445	Version: 6 Date Amended: 05/Jul/2024

1. Module Title

Introduction to Contemporary Issues in Criminology

2a. Module Leader

Michael Mills

2b. School

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty

Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level

4

3b. Module Type

Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits	
30	

4b. Study Hours	
300	

5. Restrictions					
Туре	Module Code	Module Name	Condition		
Pre-requisites:	None				
Co-requisites:	None				
Exclusions:	None				
Courses to which this module is restricted:					

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6a. Module Description

This module provides a comprehensive introduction to key social issues as they relate to crime and crime control. Throughout this module you will learn core sociological, criminological and psychological concepts and theories of crime and how they may be used to understand contemporary crime. To achieve this, module lectures have been designed to explain and explore key theoretical ideas in an accessible way. These ideas will be applied to contemporary criminological case studies during module seminars. Each week, following the lecture, you will complete structured tasks, supporting you to actively engage in your own learning and develop the skills needed to study at undergraduate level. This module will aim to build your academic skill set by supporting the development of your analytical and critical thinking skills. The module is designed to include practical study skills sessions that will support the development of your academic writing and communication skills. Throughout this module you will also be introduced to the importance of planning your employability journey and taking your first steps towards building a strong employability profile.

6b. Outline Content

- What is crime? What is Criminology?
- Investigating Crime
- Early Sociologies of Crime
- Critical Criminology
- Policing Crime & theories of Crime Control
- · Course based activity
- Crime, Sexuality and Gender
- Race, Ethnicity and Crime
- Psycho-social explanations of Crime
- Victims, Victimisation and Victimology
- Justice, Punishment and the Prison System

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)				
No.	Туре	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:		
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Recognise, distinguish and evaluate what is known about crimes, their impact and crime control.		
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate knowledge of the factors that contribute to our perception of crime, contrasting new knowledge and theoretical ideas to assess credibility of information, and challenge mainstream media and news representations.		
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Identify key gateway learning skills, such as information literacy and emotional resilience, and evaluate your own aptitudes to inform personal development.		
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Incorporate contingency planning for overcoming obstacles to your own learning style and critically reflect on your learning process, academic behaviour and achievements.		
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Develop realistic expectations of the emotional demands of learning, which will underpin academic success.		

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers					
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery	
2025/6	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	22	1-3	Lecture, 2 hours x 11 weeks	
Other teacher managed learning	33	3-5	Study skills, 1 hour x 11 weeks (all). Seminars, 2 hours x 11 weeks	
Student managed learning	245	1-5	Student managed learning	
TOTAL:	300			

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-5	25 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Annotated Reading Journal - 2,500 word equivalent					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-5	75 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay - 2,500 word equivalent					

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]