Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD009025	**Version:** 3 **Date Amended:** 09/Mar/2026

1. Module Title
Criminology and Policing in Policy and Practice

2a. Module Leader
Paul Nelson

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:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

The objects of the criminological enquiry – crime, policing, justice, punishment, victims, order, and 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 systems that you seek to work in. In Criminology and Policing in Policy and Practice you will explore the intersections of crime, criminology, and contemporary practice to better understand how key policies impact on perpetrators and victims of crime, as well as the broader society. In Criminology and Policing in Policy and Practice you will analyse and critique a range of relevant policies, placing them within a political, policing, economic and social context. You will critically examine some of the tensions that exist within organisations, 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 apply some of the wider criminological and policing issues you have studied in relation to the criminal justice work setting, how do cultural, political, and patriarchal and policing attitudes affect the shape of agenda-setting, and what could be the impact of vicarious trauma upon the agents in whom we put so much trust? Criminology and Policing in Policy and Practice will provide you with the skills necessary to connect your degree with the criminal justice sector, its policies and practices.

6b. Outline Content

- Criminal justice policy, politics, and ideology
- Decision making and agenda setting
- Policy Implementation
- Joint working
- Tensions in Criminal Justice Institutions
- The roles of the Home Office and Police and Crime Commissioners in funding and influencing police policy
- Police and Crime Plans.
- How Police and Crime Plans impact on the public strategies
- The politics, accountability of the policing policy
- The changing nature of policy

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Active learning classrooms for all seminars.

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 criminological and policing policies are formulated and implemented through theory, research, and practice.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate understanding of how criminological and policing policies achieve their intended goals.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate the implementation of criminal justice policy and correlate cause and effect theories through research, criminological theory, criminal justice practice and evaluation.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Design a policy which involves planning of a Mind Map of a new criminological or policing policy which analyses the development of other/current criminological or policing policies.

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	12	1-3	Lecture, 2 hours x 6 weeks
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	Seminar, 2 hours x 6 weeks
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Student managed learning
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Mind map and commentary - 2,000 words (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]