

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Business

School of Law, Criminology and Government

Programme Specification

BSc (Hons) Police and Criminal Justice Studies
(4568)

August 2018

1. Final Award Title: BSc (Hons) Police and Criminology Justice Studies

UCAS code: LM42

JACS code: L311

2. Awarding Institution: University of Plymouth

Teaching institution(s): University of Plymouth

3. Accrediting body(ies)

College of Policing (Approved Provider status for the Pre-Join Approved provider Scheme)

Summary of specific conditions/regulations: see

<http://www.college.police.uk/What-we-do/Learning/Certificate/Pages/Information-for-Students.aspx>

Date of accreditation: 1 April 2017

Date of re-accreditation: 31 October 2018

4. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

- ◆ **Teaching Excellence:** Criminal justice teaching at Plymouth has a long pedigree stretching back into the 1980s. Since then the demand for programmes has grown steadily and thus modules are offered in PCJS that benefit from considerable experience of design and delivery.
- ◆ **Underpinning Research Activity:** The PCJS teaching staff are predominantly active scholars with strong research profiles. The team believes in the importance of linking research and teaching. Staff research specialisms are reflected in the broad range of modules offered to students.
- ◆ **Contemporary Focus:** The research-led teaching in PCJS means that the PCJS programme identifies and focuses upon contemporary issues in criminology, policing and criminal justice, particularly through Stages 2 and 3 of the programme.
- ◆ **Theoretical Grounding:** Core modules in criminological theory at Stages 1 and 2 inform an historical understanding in PCJS for students that facilitates their knowledge, understanding and analysis of contemporary criminal justice matters.
- ◆ **Applied Knowledge:** Students in PCJS are provided with an applied understanding of criminology and criminal justice through evaluation of policy and practice – particularly that which relates to policing – in all stages of their degree programmes.

- ◆ **Agency Collaboration:** Teaching led by research has meant that PCJS students benefit from the close ties that PCJS staff have with both local and national criminal justice agencies. In addition, the PCJS programme draws upon staff with recent experience of learning and development with Devon and Cornwall Police. Together, these ties provide students with excellent research opportunities in their final year and the option of completing a work-based learning module.
- ◆ **Employment Opportunities:** Through their programme of study, students develop knowledge and understanding, skills and values that are transferable beyond higher education to employment settings within the criminal justice domain, and policing in particular, as well as to employment settings other than the criminal justice field. Particular emphasis is placed upon providing opportunities for career planning and development through volunteering and work-based placements, and through the embedding of a pre-join qualification in knowledge in policing for those students who are especially interested in pursuing a career with the police service.
- ◆ **Social Justice:** Research carried out by PCJS staff addresses a broad range of criminological issues, agencies, practices and ideas. Underpinning many of these is the theme of social justice, which means that issues of equality, fairness and human rights permeate the PCJS programmes delivered.

Police & Criminal Justice Studies (PCJS) is a variation from the core programme of Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies (CCJS). It is an applied degree programme that utilises the multi-disciplinary orientation of criminology to analyse social scientifically both crime and the various responses to it, with a particular emphasis upon policing responses. It seeks to provide its students with a practical and critical knowledge, understanding, analysis and evaluation of criminology, the institutions of criminal justice – particularly the police – and their role in the governance of crime and order in late-modern societies.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

Information can be seen on Subject Benchmarks on the following website:

http://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-criminology-14.pdf?sfvrsn=b3e2f781_8

6. Programme Structure

Police & Criminal Justice Studies can be read at University of Plymouth through a Single Honours route only. Figure 1 below diagrammatically shows the modules, credits, stages and levels for PCJS students. It also shows the map of the Single honours pathway, such that stage one consists of six core modules. Stage two students undertake four PCJS core modules with two twenty credit CCJS optional modules (one in each semester). Stage three students undertake a year long dissertation (forty credits), one core module (CCJS3144) and choose their remaining 60 credits from stage three options.

Stage one students will undertake their first module intensively, over a period of four weeks. For PCJS students, the module taught in this way will be CCJS 1116 'Crime in Context'. This module provides students with a context for their further criminological and criminal justice studies. Stage one students will also undertake a similarly structured module at the start of semester 2. Stage two students continue to study more intensively by undertaking three twenty credit modules over both two semesters including the Certificate in Police Knowledge. Teaching will take a more 'problem based' approach to enhance the student experience.

Fig 1: PCJS Single Honours

Semester	Level 4		Level 5			Level 6			
Semester 1	Induction		Induction			Induction			
	CCJS1116 Crime in Context		CCJS 2115 Crime Theory & Culture	CCJS 2117 Prof Knowledge of Policing (CKP) I	CCJS2121 Policing and Community Safety	CCJS Option (CCJS3143 – Professional Knowledge of Policing 1) *	CCJS Option	CCJS Option: CCJS3141 Criminology & Criminal Justice Studies: WBL	Dissertation: CCJS3142 Criminology/Police & Criminal Justice Studies
	CCJS 1115 Being a Criminolo gist	CCJS 1117 An Introduction to the Crime Problem Policy Process							
	Assessment/personal development/tutorials (inc. Exams)								
Semester 2	CCJS1119 21 st Century Criminological Issues		CCJS2120 Researching Crime & Criminal Justice	CCJS 2125 Prisons, Probation and Punishment	CCJS2126 Profession al Knowledge of Policing 2	CCJS Core (CCJS 3144 Professional Knowledge of Policing 1) *	CCJS Option		

	CCJS 1112 Criminology & Crime Problems	CCJS 1118 Forensic Criminology						
Assessment/personal development/tutorials (inc. Exams)								

See highlighted periods for **Reading Week**/**Assessment Deadline**

* Students completing a PCJS as a ‘top-up’ to their foundation degree will be required to complete **both** the Professional Knowledge of Policing modules, if they have not already completed them. If they have completed that qualification as part of their foundation degree, they will complete optional modules.

7. Programme Aims

The Police & Criminal Justice Studies programme is intended to:

1. provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of criminological theories, methods and paradigms applicable to the study of the policy, politics and practice of criminal justice in general, and policing in particular.
2. provide students with an integral and cohesive understanding of the discipline of criminology and the place of policing therein.
3. produce individuals who are able to view the world critically, with an embedded understanding of social justice and the ethical issues therein, within the context of policing and criminal justice.
4. develop student research skills through applied teaching that reflects and integrates scholarly research activity.
5. develop student intellectual skills of conceptualisation, critical thinking, synthesis, analysis and evaluation through teaching that is contemporary and theoretically informed.
6. develop a full range of personal and employability skills that equip students as reflective employees and life-long learners.

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

The Police & Criminal Justice Studies programme provide opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, cognitive and intellectual skills, key/transferable skills, practical skills and employment-related skills.

8.1 Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

<p><i>Knowledge and Understanding</i></p> <p>On completion of the PCJS programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate factual knowledge of crime problems and the criminal justice system's response to them. 2. Show understanding of the criminological theories that are used to examine, analyse and evaluate criminal justice problems, policy and practice. 3. Show awareness of the ethical issues and precepts that criminology addresses. 4. Demonstrate understanding of the methodologies that inform criminological knowledge, analysis and evaluation. 	<p><i>Teaching/Learning Methods and Strategies</i></p> <p>Core knowledge and understanding (1-4) are acquired by students through attendance at lectures and seminars and through their associated reading of texts, journals, policy documents and internet sourced documentation.</p> <p>Lectures identify key issues of criminological enquiry with increasing specialism through the programme's Stages. Lectures are accompanied by lecture notes placed on the student portal, to facilitate note taking and guide future reading.</p> <p>Seminars provide students with space to develop their understanding of criminological concepts and practice through discussion, defined tasks and/or presentations.</p> <p>Students at Stage 1 rely on a range of core text books, but as they progress through Stages 2 and 3 they are increasingly required to draw on a range of sources. By Stage 3 students will pay particular attention to research presented in high quality refereed journals in criminology and the range of social science disciplines utilised by criminologists.</p> <p>Assessment Strategy</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding are inclusively assessed by coursework in the form of essays, portfolios, projects, and reports. Practical skills are inclusively assessed by students taking part in presentations which are orally assessed. As students develop their knowledge and understanding from Stage 1 and 2 into specialisation at Stage 3, they are increasingly required to present research based, autonomously derived coursework, culminating in the dissertation.</p>
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8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

<p><i>Cognitive and Intellectual Skills</i></p> <p>On completion of the PCJS programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apply criminological methodological approaches to data with minimum guidance.2. Critically analyse information about crime problems, criminal justice processes, policy and practice.3. Synthesise complex criminological theory with applied knowledge and understanding of policy and practice in criminal justice.4. Evaluate criminological issues with an awareness of social justice.	<p><i>Teaching/Learning Methods and Strategies</i></p> <p>Cognitive and intellectual skills are embedded throughout the PCJS programme. Lectures identify critical thought and encourage deep analysis (2) and seminars require students to synthesise theory and practice (1&3). Seminar discussion and project preparation provide students with evaluative tools (4).</p> <p>As students progress from Stage 1 into Stage 2 they develop their analytic skills in class debate and through reading critical accounts of police and criminal justice matters. The research-led focus of Stage 3 modules means that students are able to synthesise their understanding of the range of modules they have studied through their own research.</p> <p>The development in lectures and seminars of cognitive and analytic skills is supported through student induction sessions that are provided at every stage of PCJS programme. These sessions, provided by the Learning Development team supply students with advice and support on the skills they acquire as they go through their degree programmes.</p> <p>Assessment Strategy</p> <p>Students' cognitive and intellectual skills are assessed through coursework. In Stages 1 and 2 students' problem solve and apply methodology in portfolios and projects. Formative assessments are used, for example some modules contain a rolling process of tasks such that students are given formative feedback periodically. In Stage 3 the dissertation requires students to critically analyse a crime problem through a distinct piece of research and smaller projects in modules similarly require critical analysis and evaluation. Essays at all Stages assess students' ability to develop and apply analytic frameworks.</p>
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8.3 Key and transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

Key/Transferable Skills	Teaching/Learning Methods and Strategies
<p>On completion of the PCJS programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Demonstrate good communication skills in both written and oral contexts.2. Work within a group setting towards achievable set outcomes.3. Utilise and manage information effectively from a range of sources to solve problems.4. Self evaluate practice reflectively.5. Work autonomously to produce set tasks and to develop new ideas.	<p>Key/Transferable skills permeate the student learning experience. Students present their work in seminars in both written and oral forms (1&2). They work in groups in the seminar setting and autonomously (2&5) collect information from a range of sources (3) to support both group and individual research needs. Presentations in seminars provide students with the opportunity to self evaluate academic requirements, while Personal Development Planning (PDP) provides this opportunity in a broader context (4).</p> <p>All PCJS students are assigned a personal tutor at stages 1 and 2 and a dissertation supervisor and tutor at Stage 3. Tutors provide a vital support and guidance role to students by seeing them each term, and at stage three as part of their regular dissertation supervision. Tutors encourage students to engage in personal and professional development, which includes personal reflection.</p> <p>Students also have the option of taking a work based learning module at Stage 3 which requires reflective, autonomous practice.</p> <p>Induction sessions at each stage of PCJS provided by library staff give students information and guidance on information retrieval systems.</p> <p>Assessment Strategy Assessment of Key/Transferable skills occurs formatively through tutor contact, seminar discussion and dissertation formative feedback. Seminar presentations are assessed summatively and formatively, as is the work-based learning report that requires a reflective account. Successful autonomous study is identified by the dissertation at Stage 3.</p>

8.4 Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

<i>Employment Related Skills</i>	<i>Teaching/Learning Methods and Strategies</i>
<p>On completion of the PCJS programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Show career awareness that will enable lifelong learning.2. Reflect on own practice and development to inform personal and professional development.3. Prepare an effective CV and application and give a good account of themselves at interview.	<p>Employment related skills and understanding are provided within the PCJS programme both explicitly and implicitly.</p> <p>By presenting the process, practice and institutions of criminal justice in England and Wales (and comparatively at Stage 3) the programmes implicitly provide students with an awareness of the varied professions available to them in criminal justice and criminology (2).</p> <p>Explicitly a series of career planning opportunities are provided to students throughout their years of study (1-3). At Stage 1 induction students are introduced to the potential careers they might follow in criminal justice or beyond their discipline through application of their key/transferable skills.</p> <p>At Stages 1, 2 and 3 a careers advisor from the Careers Service presents a dedicated session to students on careers. That guidance is enhanced by the personal tutelage system which supports student queries about careers and at Stage 3 provides advice on CV preparation and interview technique.</p> <p>Assessment Strategy</p> <p>The requirement for students to be reflective within the process of personal tutelage, and within stage three modules where students choose them, gives them a formative opportunity for career consideration. Knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system is assessed according to the details in 8.1 A of this document and key/transferable skills are assessed as outlined in 8.3 C of this document.</p>

8.5 Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

<p>Practical Skills</p> <p>On completion of the PCJS programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apply research methods to address criminological enquiry.2. Work autonomously applying skills to develop evidence-based practice.3. Demonstrate an ability to use and manipulate IT systems to attain information, data and to communicate and present work.4. Show awareness of ethical practice.	<p>Teaching/Learning Methods and Strategies</p> <p>Stage 1 module (CCJS1115) is central to embedding practical scores throughout the programme including study skills. These skills are then further developed in particular in the stage two research methods module (CCJS2120).</p> <p>From the beginning of their studies in PCJS however, students are provided with an applied understanding of criminology. At induction in Stage 1 students are introduced to the concept of social justice and the ethics of criminal justice practice (4) and these issues are addressed throughout their programme of learning in lectures, seminars and through the personal tutelage system.</p> <p>Students are required to study autonomously throughout their PCJS programme, supported by the personal tutelage system that advises students on applying their skills (2). The use of IT systems is embedded into student learning practices as the digital learning environment (Moodle) provides access to lecture notes and general information on PCJS. Students are able to e-mail staff and vice versa (3).</p> <p>Stage 3 specialises in skills application in subject specific modules, and in the dissertation, as student-centred learning results in more autonomous study (2). The supervisory role of tutors provides students with support and advice on applying their methodological knowledge to crime problems (1).</p> <p>Assessment Strategy</p> <p>All student coursework must be completed using appropriate IT systems and presented</p>
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	<p>as such. The dissertation requires an ethical assessment of practice as an integral part of the research process and is the key opportunity for students to apply their methodological understanding autonomously. Students are given the opportunity for formative feedback such that they can improve on work submitted formatively in readiness for final submission. The work-based learning module report also provides an opportunity for some students to reflect on their practical skills in context. Other students are able to do this through their dissertation, again in relation to formative feedback, and their specialist modules project work.</p>
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9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and DAS arrangements

NB The following table is a draft exemplar for an undergraduate programme

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade C or above.

Entry Requirements for BSc (Hons) Police and Criminal Justice Studies	
A-level/AS-level	Normal minimum entry requirements are A level/AS level/Vocational A level: 104 points, minimum 2 A Levels, any subject is considered, excluding General Studies.
18 Unit BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM in any subject.	18 Unit BTEC Extended Diploma: DMM in any subject.
Access to Higher Education at level 3	Candidates are interviewed before an offer is made. Pass an Access to HE Diploma in any subjects, including GCSE English and Maths grade C or above or equivalent with at least 33 credits at Merit/Dist.
Welsh Baccalaureate	Accept as add on points; in addition to 2 A Levels
Scottish Qualifications Authority	104 points, typical offer would be CCC and Advanced C in any subject considered and a good standard grade profile.
Irish Leaving Certificate	Obtain H3 H3 H4 H4 H4 (all at Higher level)
International Baccalaureate	26 overall to include 4 at in any subjects at Higher Level. English accepted within Higher Level = 4+ (A1) or 5 (A2/B) Standard Level = 5+ (A1) or 6 (A2/B)

	If overseas & not studying English within IB – MUST have IELTS: 6.0 overall with 5.5 in all elements
Management, Government and Law (Foundation Route for Specified Qualification)	Students who pass the BSc (Hons), BA (Hons) or LLB (Hons) Course at the Faculty of Business, incorporating a foundation year in Management, Government and Law - 4 years (or five years if placement included) , are guaranteed progression onto level four of the BSc Police and Criminal Justice Studies programme.

Other qualifications may be accepted for entry; information is provided on Programme Course pages specifying what these are and the level at which they need to be achieved.

Where appropriate, applicants who do not possess the entry requirements noted above, may be called for interview.

10. Progression criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

As per University regulations

11. Non Standard Regulations

none

12. Transitional Arrangements

n/a

Appendices

Appendix 1: Programme Specification Mapping (UG): module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes

CORE MODULES: tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes. Insert rows and columns as required.

ELECTIVE MODULES: tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes. Insert rows and columns as required.

Elective Modules		Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																Compensation Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical									
		Knowledge & understanding				Cognitive & intellectual skills				Key & transferable skills				Employment related skills						Practical skills								
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4					
4 Level																												
Level 4 LOs																												
Level 5																												
Level 5 LOs																												
Level 6	CCJS3141	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 80% P1 20%	
	CCJS3150	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%	
	CCJS3158	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%	
	CCJS3162	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 80% P1 20%	
	CCJS3165	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%	
	CCJS3167	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 60% E1 40%	
	CCJS3166	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%	
	CCJS3144 & 43	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 40% E1 50% T1 10%		
	CCJS3148	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%		
	CCJS3154	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%		
	CCJS3149	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%		
	CCJS3156	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%		

	CCJS3168	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 100%
	CCJS3171	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		C1 90% P1 10%
Level 6 LOs																							
Confirmed Award LOs																							