

# **University of Plymouth**

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business

School of Society and Culture

## **Programme Specification**

BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology  
7211

Date of Approval: July 2021

Approved Final Version for  
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## 1. BSc

**Final award title:** BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology

**Level 5 Intermediate award title(s):** Diploma in Higher Education

**Level 4 Intermediate award title(s):** Certificate in Higher Education

**UCAS code:** LC68

**HECOS code:** 100484 (50%) 100497 (50%)

2. **Awarding Institution:** University of Plymouth

**Teaching institution(s):** University of Plymouth

3. **Accrediting body(ies):** N/A

**Date of re-accreditation:** N/A

## 4. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

- **Teaching Excellence:** Having created one of the first undergraduate Criminology and Psychology programmes in the UK, teaching at Plymouth has a long pedigree stretching back into the 1980s. The excellence of the teaching provision is informed by that considerable experience of design and delivery and has been enriched by innovative teaching methods and use of contemporary technology.
- **Research-led Teaching:** As leading scholars in their fields of research, the Criminology and Psychology teaching teams have strong national and international research profiles. The team believes in the importance of linking their contemporary focussed research with their teaching and therefore the staff research specialisms are reflected in the broad and exciting range of modules offered to students.
- **Critical Criminology:** The Criminology and Psychology programme encourages students to interrogate the boundaries of criminological and sociological ideas and criminal justice interventions through harm-based approaches and critical criminological theory. In particular the programme provides a platform to engage and reach local, national and global issues audiences.
- **Excellence in Psychology:** With over 800 students and comprising cutting-edge facilities like the Brain Research and Imaging Centre (BRIC), the University's School of Psychology is one of the UK's largest and best-resourced

psychology departments. It has academic expertise across all areas of the discipline and sits within the top 20 universities in the UK for its research.

- **Real-world Engagement:** Students in Criminology and Psychology learn from an applied perspective throughout each stage of their programme. Research-led teaching means that students benefit from the close ties our combined staff have with criminal and wider social justice agencies. These ties provide students with excellent research opportunities and an embedded approach to employability within their modules, as well as an optional placement year.
- **Collaborative Learning:** The Criminology and Psychology programme places the student experience at its core, with personal tutelage delivered within and through teaching delivery. The teaching team has a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility that ensures students have multiple opportunities to flourish through a diverse curriculum delivered within a comprehensive teaching and learning strategy.

## 5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

QAA Subject Benchmark for [Criminology](#) and [Psychology](#) (2019).

## 6. Programme Structure

Level 4			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
CRM4001 Being a Criminologist 20 credits (4 weeks)		CRM4004 Forensic Criminology: Police Investigations 20 credits (4 weeks)	
CRM4002 Introduction to Criminological Theory 20 credits (9 weeks)	PSYC419 Introduction to Cognitive Psychology and Applied Research 20 credits (9 weeks)	CRM4005 Responses to Crime: An Introduction 20 credits (9 weeks)	PSYC420 Introduction to Social and Developmental Psychology 20 credits (9 weeks)

Level 5	
Semester 1	Semester 2
SSC500 Stage 2 Placement Year Preparation 0 credits	
CRM5001 Employability Plus 0 credits	
CRM5002 Theorising Crime and Harm 20 credits	CRM5004 Critical Perspectives on Crime Control 20 credits
PSYC514 Individual Differences, Social, and Developmental Psychology 20 credits	PSYC518 Psychology of Health and Well-being 20 credits

<b>Choose one:</b>	<b>Choose one:</b>
<b>Specialism Module Elective 20 credits</b>	<b>Specialism Module Elective 20 credits</b>

<b>Optional Placement Year</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
SSC600 School of Society and Culture Placement Year 0 credits	

<b>Level 6</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
SOC6000 Dissertation 40 credits	

PSYC606 Applications of Psychological Theory 20 credits	PSYC607 Psychology in Practice 20 credits
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<b>Choose one:</b>	<b>Choose one from:</b>
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<b>Specialism Module Elective 20 credits</b>	CRM6004B Experiential Learning Opportunities 20 credits
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CRM6005B Inside Knowledge: Crime and Justice in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits
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CRM6006 Working for Justice 20 Credits
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CRM6007 Global (In)Security and the State 20 credits
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CRM6008 Leisure, Consumerism and Harm 20 credits
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CRM6009 Fear, Crime and Control in the City 20 credits
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SOC6002 Food, Culture and Society 20 credits
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ANT6004 The Anthropology of Justice and Morality: Legal Anthropology in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits
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## Specialism Modules

All undergraduate programmes in the School of Society and Culture have been designed to enable students to personalise their degree through a wide assortment of optional modules. These allow students to study more topics related to their core degree or branch out and explore up to three modules from other disciplines across the School. This flexibility starts in the second year, with students being able to choose

one module from within cross-school elective pools at level 5 semester 1, level 5 semester 2, and level 6 semester 1. These are marked by the term *Specialism Module* in the programme structure above.

Students can elect to take any combination of modules from the three cross-school elective pools, and options will always be available from their core degree subject. However, students who complete three modules from another discipline will have the choice of graduating with that discipline as a specialism on their certificate: BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology with <specialism>. The School offers modules in the following areas:

- Acting
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Computing
- Creative Writing
- Criminology
- Dance
- Drama
- English
- History
- International Relations
- Law
- Music
- Musical Theatre
- Politics
- Policing and Security Management
- Sociology

A list of available specialism modules and their associated learning outcomes can be found in the School of Society and Culture's Specialism Specification and on the programme's webpage.

## **7. Programme Aims**

The Criminology and Psychology programme aims to:

- Provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of criminological theories, methods and paradigms applicable to the study of harm, deviance and crime, and the policy, politics and practice of criminal justice.
- Develop student knowledge and analytical skills through applied teaching that reflects and integrates scholarly research activity.
- Provide students with an integral and cohesive understanding of the discipline of criminology and the capacity to interrogate, contest and expand its boundaries.
- Develop a range of personal and employability skills that equip students as reflective employees and life-long learners.
- Provide students with an appreciation of global harms and notions of justice that facilitates them to pursue their interests in multiple and various jurisdictions.
- Produce individuals who are able to critically view the world and interrogate it through robust methodological approaches.

## **8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes**

### **8.1. Knowledge and understanding**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of crime, deviance and harm and societal response to them, including criminal justice approaches, in terms of changing values and relationships between individuals, groups, and public and private agencies in different locations at national, international and global levels.
2. Show understanding of the criminological/psychological theories and perspectives that are used to examine, analyse and evaluate complex problems, policy and practice.
3. Discuss criminological/psychological topics with an appreciation of relevant theory, of evidence, and of the relevance to current debates, and present the conclusions in a variety of appropriate academic formats, specifically looking to the future of criminological/psychological enquiry.
4. A comprehensive understanding of the main features of the scientific approach to, and philosophical foundations of, psychology and be able to identify and evaluate the contribution of psychological theory, research, and professional practice to real-world problems.

### **8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed and ability to:

1. Use a range of research strategies and methods, assess the appropriateness of their use, and identify an appropriate strategy for specific research problems within criminology and psychology.
2. Appraise critically political and social processes of victimisation and criminalisation in light of criminological theories.
3. Synthesise complex criminological theory with applied knowledge to provide an analytical account of social diversity and inequality and their effects in relation to crime, victimisation and responses to crime, deviance and social harm.
4. Critically appraise the contribution of psychology to the work of a public or commercial organisation.

### **8.3. Key and transferable skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Demonstrate good communication skills in both written and oral contexts, individually and within group settings.
2. Utilise and manage information effectively from a range of sources to solve problems.

3. Work autonomously to produce set tasks and to develop new ideas using robust methodological approaches.

#### 8.4. Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Show career awareness that will enable lifelong learning.
2. Reflect on own practice and development to inform personal and professional development within a harm-minimisation framework.
3. Be flexible in applying criminological skills in a range of workplaces, seek out employment opportunities, and prepare/deliver effective CVs and interviews.

#### 8.5. Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Use a range of criminological/psychological research strategies and methods, assess the appropriateness of their use, and identify an appropriate strategy for specific research problems.
2. Summarise and analyse quantitative and qualitative empirical data and responses to them, in order to evaluate competing criminological/psychological theories.
3. Recognise the ethical implications of research into criminological/psychological questions and identify appropriate solutions.

### 9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Service arrangements

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade 4 or above (equivalent to a Grade C as per the grading system until 2017).

<b>Entry Requirements for BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology</b>	
A-level/AS-level	Normal minimum entry requirements are A level/AS level/Vocational A level: 104-120 points
BTEC National Diploma/QCF Extended Diploma	Candidates can be interviewed before an offer is made. Grade Pass MMM - DMM in any subject.
Access to Higher Education at level 3	Candidates can be interviewed before an offer is made. Pass an Access to HE Diploma in any subject, including GCSE English and Maths grade 4 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	104-120 points

Irish Leaving Certificate	Obtain H4, H4, H4, H4, H4 - H3 H3 H4 H4 H4 (all at Higher level)
International Baccalaureate	26-30 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 and not studying English within IB – MUST have IELTS: 6.0 overall with 5.5 in all elements.

## 10. Progression routes/criteria for progression to Final and Intermediate Awards

<b>Certificate in Higher Education</b>	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4.
<b>Diploma in Higher Education</b>	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4 and 120 credits at level 5.
<b>BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology</b>	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4, 120 credits at level 5, and 120 credits at level 6.

## 11. Non Standard Regulations

N/A

## 12. Transitional Arrangements for existing students looking to progress onto the programme

N/A

## Appendices

### Programme Specification Mapping (UG) – core/elective modules



**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.**

Core 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	1	2	3	1			2	3		
Level 4	CRM4001	x	x					x						x					Y	C1 – 90% / P1 – 10%		
	CRM4002		x	x				x	x						x				Y	C1 – 100%		
	CRM4004	x				x								x					Y	C1 – 100%		
	CRM4005	x	x											x		x			Y	C1 – 100%		
	PSYC419		x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	E1 - 50% / C1 - 50%		
	PSYC420		x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Y	E1 - 50% / C1 - 50%		
Level 4 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x								
Level 5	CRM5001												x	x	x				N/A	N/A		
	CRM5002		x					x							x		x	x	Y	C1 – 100%		
	CRM5004		x	x		x		x		x						x			Y	C1 – 100%		
	PSYC514		x	x	x	x		x	x										Y	E1 – 100% / A1 – Pass/Fail		
	PSYC518		x	x	x				x										Y	E1 – 50% / C1 – 50%		
Level 5 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
L6	SOC6000	x	x															x	x	x	N	C1 – 100%
Level 6 LOs		x	x															x	x	x		
Confirmed Award LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					

**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	1	2	3	1			2	3
Level 6	<b>CRM6004B</b>											x	x	x	x				Y	C1 – 80% / P1 – 20%
	<b>CRM6005B</b>	x						x							x				Y	P1 – 70% / C1 – 30%
	<b>CRM6006</b>	x									x			x	x	x			Y	C1 – 70% / P1 – 30%
	<b>CRM6007</b>	x	x					x											Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6008</b>		x	x						x						x			Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6009</b>		x				x	x							x			x	Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>SOC6002</b>						x										x		Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>ANT6004</b>					x				x									Y	C1 – 60% / P1 – 40%
	<b>PSYC606</b>			x	x		x	x	x										Y	E1 – 50% / C1 – 50%
<b>PSYC607</b>		x	x	x			x	x										Y	E1 – 50% / C1 – 50%	
<b>Level 6 LOs</b>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
<b>Confirmed Award LOs</b>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		