

# **University of Plymouth**

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business

School of Society and Culture

## **Programme Specification**

BSc (Hons) Criminology with Foundation  
7225

Date of Approval: July 2021

Approved Final Version for  
September 2022

## 1. BSc

**Programme title:** BSc (Hons) Criminology with Foundation

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

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

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

**UCAS code:** L615

**HECOS code:** 100484

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

- The programme's foundation year is designed to provide a supportive environment that promotes nonstandard entry students' transition into Higher Education with high academic and pastoral support levels. The programme's foundation year is specially designed to enable students to negotiate the discipline and build their knowledge and understanding across key areas while also developing the critical thinking, research, and transferable skills required to progress to level 4 study and beyond.
- **Teaching Excellence:** Having created one of the first undergraduate Criminology 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 teaching team 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 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 and audiences.

- **Real-world Engagement:** Students in Criminology 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 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](#) (2019).

## 6. Programme Structure

Level 3 (Foundation)	
Semester 1	Semester 2
SSC301 Study and Self 30 credits	SSC302 Individual Project 30 credits
SSC303 Crime and Deviance 30 credits	SSC304 Human Rights and Social Justice 30 credits

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)	CRM4003 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Crime Problems 20 credits (9 weeks)	CRM4005 Responses to Crime: An Introduction 20 credits (9 weeks)	SOC4005 Social Science Research Methodologies 20 credits (9 weeks)

<b>Level 5</b>	
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
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
CRM5003 Harm in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits	SOC5003 The Social Science Research Process 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		
<b>Choose one from:</b>		
CRM6001 Futures Criminology 20 credits	CRM6003 Working for Justice 20 credits	
CRM6002 Systems of Oppression: Violence and Influencing for Change 20 credits	<b>Choose one from:</b>	
CRM6003 Social Change and Justice 20 credits	CRM6007 Global (In)Security and the State 20 credits	
CRM6004A Experiential Learning Opportunities 20 credits	CRM6008 Leisure, Consumerism and Harm 20 credits	
CRM6005A Inside Knowledge: Crime and Justice in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits	CRM6004B Experiential Learning Opportunities 20 credits	
SOC6001 Media, State and Society 20 credits	CRM6005B Inside Knowledge: Crime and Justice in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits	
	CRM6009 Fear, Crime and Control in the City 20 credits	

ANT6003 Gifts, Commodities and Crises: A Contemporary guide to economic anthropology 20 credits	SOC6002 Food, Culture and Society 20 credits
<b>Choose one:</b>	ANT6004 The Anthropology of Justice and Morality: Legal Anthropology in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century 20 credits
<b>Specialism Module Elective 20 credits</b>	

### 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 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**

### **For Level 3 (Foundation Year):**

- To foster a learning environment that facilitates students' success from a range of nonstandard backgrounds, offering bespoke support and skills training.
- To provide learners with academic and organisation skills within a supportive scaffold, enabling them to explore, interpret, and build informed opinions on key discipline areas.
- To develop students' confidence in their studies and to encourage and promote intellectual curiosity.

### **For Levels 4-6:**

The Criminology 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**

The School of Society and Culture runs three foundation years covering the Humanities, Social Sciences and Law, and Performing Arts. These programmes' learning outcomes are designed to provide students with the academic writing, critical thinking, research, and interpersonal skills required to progress onto a wide variety of cognate degrees within the School. These are detailed in section 10 of this specification.

The School's three foundation years share two common modules, one in each semester, which introduce the foundation community to the core academic skills required for level 4 study. While these modules are school-wide, they include subject-specific seminars and assessments, allowing students to practice applying the delivered academic skills in the context of their chosen field of study. The remaining

modules equip students with subject-specific skills in the broad areas of Humanities, Social Sciences and Law, and Performing Arts.

### **For Level 3 (Foundation Year):**

#### **F.1. Knowledge and understanding**

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

1. A solid knowledge base consisting of fundamental concepts and theories in the Social and Political Sciences and in Law.
2. A broad understanding of the key methods of enquiry used to study the structure and organisation of society and how to select and deploy these appropriately.

#### **F.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Approach and solve problems by reviewing and selecting appropriate solutions, drawing on their knowledge base and research skills to make informed decisions.
2. Evaluate information and opinions from divergent perspectives to form conclusions.

#### **F.3. Key and transferable skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Take responsibility for their learning and be able to self-manage their workload.
2. Communicate effectively in written and oral forms to different audiences.

#### **F.4. Employment related skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Exercise personal responsibility and decision-making with an appropriate level of confidence.
2. Seek out and undertake further training to develop existing skills and acquire new competencies.

#### **F.5. Practical skills**

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

1. Use computers and information technologies competently.
2. Work individually and collaboratively.

### **For Levels 4-6:**

#### **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. Understand the criminological theories and perspectives that are used to examine, analyse and evaluate complex criminological problems, policy and practice.
3. Discuss criminological topics with an appreciation of criminological 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 enquiry.

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

On successful completion graduates should have developed the 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.
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.

### **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. Prepare an effective CV and application and give a good account of themselves at interview.



### 8.5. Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed that ability to:

1. Use a range of criminological 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 about crime, deviance and harm and responses to them, in order to evaluate competing criminological theories.
3. Recognise the ethical implications of research into criminological 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 with Foundation</b>	
A-level/AS-level	32-48
BTEC National Diploma/QCF Extended Diploma	PPP - MMP in any subject. All applications to be referred to the Admissions Tutor.
Access to Higher Education at level 3	Candidates can be interviewed before an offer is made. Pass an Access to HE Diploma in any subjects with at least 33 credits at Merit/Dist.
Welsh Baccalaureate	All applications to be referred to the Admissions Tutor.
Scottish Qualifications Authority	32-48 points at Advanced Highers.
Irish Leaving Certificate	H5 H5 H5 H5 H5.
International Baccalaureate	24 overall. If overseas and not studying English within IB – MUST have IELTS: 6.0 overall with 5.5 in all elements.
Proficiency in English	If overseas and not studying English within IB – MUST have IELTS: 6.0 overall with 5.5 in all elements.

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

<b>Progression Routes from Foundation Year</b>	Students are required to pass all modules of Level 3 (Foundation Year) to progress directly onto Level 4 of one of the following degree programmes in the School of Society and Culture:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSc (Hons) Criminology</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Criminology and Sociology</li> <li>• BA (Hons) Anthropology</li> <li>• BA (Hons) Art History</li> <li>• BA (Hons) Creative Writing</li> <li>• BA (Hons) English</li> <li>• BA (Hons) English and Creative Writing</li> <li>• BA (Hons) History</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) International Relations</li> <li>• LLB (Hons) Law</li> <li>• LLB (Hons) Law and Criminology</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Politics</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Politics and International Relations</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Sociology</li> <li>• BSc (Hons) Professional Policing</li> </ul> <p>Requests to change programmes at the end of the Foundation Year will be considered only within the normal University regulations.</p>
<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</b>	Achieved through completion of 120 credits at level 4, 120 credits at level 5, and 120 credits at level 6.

## 10. Non Standard Regulations

N/A

## 11. 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	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2		
Level 3	SSC301			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	C1 100%
	SSC302	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	C1 100%
	SSC303	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	N	C1 100%
	SSC304	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	N	C1 100%
Level 3 LOs		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Confirmed Award LOs		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

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	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3		
Level 4	CRM4001	x	x			x			x			x				Y	C1 – 90% / P1 – 10%	
	CRM4002		x	x		x	x									Y	C1 – 100%	
	CRM4003			x				x							x	Y	C1 – 70% / P1 – 30%	
	CRM4004	x			x				x							Y	C1 – 100%	
	CRM4005	x	x						x		x					Y	C1 – 100%	
	SOC4005				x					x				x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Level 4 Los		x	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	x	Y	C1 – 100%
	CRM5003	x	x			x		x								Y	C1 – 100%	
	CRM5004		x	x	x		x	x			x			x		Y	C1 – 100%	
	SOC5003				x						x			x	x	x	Y	C1 – 100%
Level 5 LOs		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
L6	SOC6000	x	x											x	x	x	N	C1 – 100%
	CRM6006	x							x		x	x	x			Y	C1 – 70% / P1 – 30%	
Level 6 LOs		x	x						x		x	x	x	x	x			
Confirmed Award LOs		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	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3		
<b>Level 6</b>	<b>CRM6001</b>			x			x		x								Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6002</b>	x			x											x	Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6003</b>		x			x											Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6004A/B</b>									x	x	x					Y	C1 – 80% / P1 – 20%
	<b>CRM6005A/B</b>	x							x			x					Y	P1 – 70% / C1 – 30%
	<b>CRM6007</b>	x	x			x											Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6008</b>		x	x					x								Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>CRM6009</b>		x			x	x					x			x		Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>SOC6001</b>			x			x										Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>SOC6002</b>					x									x		Y	C1 – 100%
	<b>ANT6003</b>	x					x								x		Y	C1 – 60% / P1 – 40%
<b>ANT6004</b>				x				x							x	Y	C1 – 60% / P1 – 40%	
<b>Level 6 LOs</b>		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		