Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	**MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership**
2	**Course Code**	**PT1863**
3	**Awarding Institution**	**Birmingham City University**
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	**N/A**
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	**N/A**

6	**Course Description**
	Do you want to lead, influence and improve policing and criminal justice in a complex world? Whether you are starting out or seeking to advance your career, our master's degree will equip you with the knowledge, skills and professional confidence to make a real impact. This course is ideal if you want to build a career in policing, criminal justice, public protection, security, investigation, policy, or leadership within the public and third sectors. It also offers a strong foundation for those considering doctoral study or senior professional roles. Our MSc in Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership is a professionally focused postgraduate degree that is suitable for graduates from any academic background as well as for practitioners working across policing, criminal justice and related public services. Through a powerful blend of academic insight and professional experience in policing and criminal justice leadership, our teaching team aims to prepare you to respond effectively to the complex, high-risk and rapidly changing environment in which modern policing and justice organisations operate. This MSc is designed to enhance your career prospects and leadership potential across a wide range of functions. By the time you graduate, you will be able to critically analyse challenging problems, evaluate evidence, communicate effectively with diverse audiences, and apply professional, ethical and legal reasoning to real-world decision-making. These transferable skills are in high demand across policing, criminal justice, government and related professional fields. **What's covered in this course** The course explores the theory, policy and practice that shape policing and criminal justice in contemporary society. You will examine how crime, harm and risk are understood and managed, how decisions are made in high-pressure operational environments, and how leadership influences organisational performance, legitimacy, and public trust and confidence. You will study key areas, including professional policing, criminal justice policy, criminology, safeguarding and public protection, leadership and management, inclusion and equality, and the ethical and legal dimensions of modern policing. As part of your studies, you will focus particularly on the use of evidence and data in decision-making, including the ethical development and application of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI).

	Our course incorporates an international perspective, recognising that crime and justice are increasingly global in nature. You will explore how organised crime, terrorism, cybercrime and transnational policing shape contemporary law enforcement and justice systems, preparing you to think beyond domestic boundaries when analysing crime and security. You'll also benefit from a flexible blend of optional modules that complement the core material and allow you to tailor your learning to your professional interests and career ambitions.

7	**Course Awards**		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership with Professional Placement	7 7	180 240
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Postgraduate Certificate in Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership Postgraduate Diploma in Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership	7 7	60 120

8	**Derogation from the University Regulations**
	Not applicable

9	**Delivery Patterns**			
Mode(s) of Study		**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full time		City Centre	12 months	*PT1863*
Full time with Professional Placement		City Centre (and placement provider)	18 months	*PT1864*

10	**Entry Requirements**	
	Home:	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.
	EU:	
	International:	
	Access:	

11	**Course Aims**
	This programme aims to: • Provide a postgraduate programme in policing and criminal justice leadership of the highest standard that is informed by contemporary, critical and international research. • Offer a detailed and critical overview of contemporary debates in policing and criminal justice and frame these within contemporary practice and thought. • Provide you with the opportunity to engage in optional modules, which will allow you to focus in and develop your understanding of a chosen, specialised area. • Interrogate the social processes that influence the relationship between individuals, groups and institutions. • Contextualise policing, crime, victimisation and offending within a framework that appreciates issues of equality, diversity and inclusion.

	• Provide an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methods in ways that are consistent with discipline expectations and that meet the expectations of the professional market. • Develop your intellectual, critical and analytical skills in the academic discipline of policing studies. • Enhance and develop your transferable skills including proficiency in oral and written communications, the capacity for independent learning, project management, the ability to reflect on the ethical components of your work and the capacity to work cooperatively with others.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
1	Critically evaluate strategic leadership and management approaches within contemporary policing and criminal justice. (S1)
2	Evaluation of core and contemporary issues around ethics and diversity in policing and criminal justice. (S1)
3	Analyse the political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal and organisational issues within the criminal justice system. (S1)
4	Synthesise and apply the key tenets of artificial intelligence/ machine learning and associated emerging technologies within policing and criminal justice. (S2)
5	Identify the appropriate methodologies when researching issues within policing and criminal justice. (S2)
6	Critically evaluate and apply concepts of evidence-based policing and criminal justice within a contemporary setting. (S2)
7	Identify, synthesise and apply research methodologies and practices within contemporary policing and criminal justice. (S3)
8	Critically evaluate strategic, operational and tactical approaches in relation to multi-professional practice within policing, criminal justice and partner agencies. (S3)
9	Evaluate contemporary approaches to the command and management of critical incidents within policing and criminal justice.
10	Identify relevant work skills they have developed through engaging in a professional placement*.
	*This learning outcome is only applicable to the MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership with Professional Placement.

13	Level Learning Outcomes
	Upon completion of 60 credits / the Postgraduate Certificate, you will be able to:
1	Critically evaluate strategic leadership and management approaches within contemporary policing and criminal justice. (S1)
2	Evaluation of core and contemporary issues around ethics and diversity in policing and criminal justice. (S1)
3	Analyse the political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal and organisational issues in criminal justice. (S1)
	Upon completion of 120 credits / the Postgraduate Diploma, you will be able to:
4	Synthesise and apply the key tenets of artificial intelligence/ machine learning and associated emerging technologies within policing and criminal justice. (S2)
5	Identify the appropriate methodologies when researching issues within policing and criminal justice. (S2)
	Upon completion of 180 credits / the master's degree, you will be able to:
6	Critically evaluate and apply concepts of evidence-based policing and criminal justice within a contemporary setting. (S2)
7	Identify, synthesise and apply research methodologies and practices within contemporary policing and criminal justice. (S3)

8	Critically evaluate strategic, operational and tactical approaches in relation to multi-professional practice within policing, criminal justice and partner agencies. (S3)
9	Evaluate contemporary approaches to the command and management of critical incidents within policing and criminal justice.
	Upon completion of 240 credits / the master's degree with professional placements, you will be able to:
10	Identify relevant work skills they have developed through engaging in a professional placement.

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	Teaching and Learning Strategy Students enrolled on to this course will engage with a range of teaching and learning strategies. The teaching and learning arrangements may vary across modules, depending on the subject matter being addressed and mode of assessment. Some of the teaching and learning activities that you may engage in include: Lectures Seminars Workshops Group Discussions Independent Learning (including reading and researching) Online Activities (including quizzes, group discussion forums, online videos) **Assessment strategy** Whilst we do not assess you with exams, you will be required to complete a range of authentic coursework assessments that have direct links to applied professional practice (e.g., assignments, professional reports, research proposals) and in-person assessments (e.g., individual and/or group poster presentations, video presentations, focus group facilitation). We offer opportunities throughout the academic year to receive informal feedback on assessments that will enable you to develop your assessment skills throughout the academic year. Feedback is therefore provided informally throughout your modules. Individual feedback is also provided when your assessment grades are returned. The focus of feedback is to help you develop your academic and professional skills. The course leader will also be your personal academic tutor (PAT), responsible for your academic, professional and pastoral support.

15	Course Requirements

15a

Level 7:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 140 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI7038	Strategic Leadership and Management	20
CRI7040	Ethics and Diversity in Policing	20
CRI7066	Criminal Justice Leadership	20
CRI7065	Policing and Criminal Justice in the Machine Age	20
CRI7045	Research Methods and Practice	20
CRI7048	Police Action Project	40

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI7044	Multi-Professional Practice **(Semester 2)**	20
CRI7043	Evidenced Based Practice **(Semester 2)**	20
CRI7047	Critical Incident Command **(Semester 3)**	20
CRI7046	Advanced Safeguarding and Public Protection **(Semester 3)**	20

In order to qualify for the award of MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership with Professional Placement, you must successfully complete all of the Level 7 modules listed above as well as the following Level 6 module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PLA6001	Professional Placement	60

15b Structure Diagram

MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership				
Level 7	Level 7 HE Learner Programme			
	Semester 1	CRI7038 Strategic Leadership and Management	CRI7040 Ethics and Diversity in Policing	CRI7066 Criminal Justice Leadership
	Semester 2	CRI7065 Policing and Criminal Justice in the Machine Age	Option Module	CRI7045 Research Methods and Practice
	Semester 3	Option Module	CRI7048 Policing Action Project	

Level 7 Option Modules Semester 2/3

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI7044	Multi-Professional Practice **(Semester 2)**	20
CRI7043	Evidenced Based Practice **(Semester 2)**	20
CRI7047	Critical Incident Command **(Semester 3)**	20
CRI7046	Advanced Safeguarding and Public Protection **(Semester 3)**	20

MSc Policing and Criminal Justice Leadership				
Level 7	Level 7 HE Learner Programme			
	Semester 1	CRI7038 Strategic Leadership and Management	CRI7040 Ethics and Diversity in Policing	CRI7066 Criminal Justice Leadership
	Semester 2	CRI7065 Policing and Criminal Justice in the Machine Age	Option Module	CRI7045 Research Methods and Practice

	Semester 3	Option Module	CRI7048 Policing Action Project (40 credits)
	Semester 3	PLA6001 Professional Placement (60 Credits)	

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 12 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	108
Directed Learning	352
Private Study	1,340
Total Hours	1,800

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	80%
Exam	0%
In-Person	20%