Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology
2	**Course Code**	US0654
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	British Psychological Society (BPS)

6	**Course Description**
	If you're interested in both psychology and criminology, this BPS-accredited BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology degree gives you the opportunity to engage with content and theory in both disciplines. Accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS), Psychology forms the major component of the programme (70%), supported by Criminology as a minor (30%), giving you a strong grounding in both fields. The programme encourages you to develop a contemporary understanding of how psychological and criminological concepts apply to real-world issues. You'll use scientific reasoning to analyse behaviour, build essential skills such as communication, teamwork and problem-solving, and explore how both psychological perspectives and criminological theory help explain crime and criminal behaviour. This blend of disciplines creates a versatile qualification that supports careers in psychology, criminology or related fields. You'll benefit from experiences that extend beyond the classroom, including field trips linked to psychology and criminology, such as visits to museums or prisons. Guest speakers from both fields offer valuable insight, helping you gain a clearer picture of potential career paths. **What's covered on this course** Across each semester, you'll study two psychology modules alongside one criminology module, and you can also choose to undertake a year-long professional placement. The degree equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in either subject area, opening a wide range of future opportunities. Over three years, you'll investigate the workings of the mind and behaviour through psychology modules, while criminology modules deepen your understanding of crime, victimisation and criminal behaviour. Learning is delivered through a combination of lectures, interactive seminars and online activities, supported by lecture capture and guided by staff who draw on both professional practice and research expertise. Their experience enriches the learning environment and helps connect theory with real-world contexts. Assessment throughout the programme is varied and designed to build confidence across multiple formats. You'll complete essays, reports, presentations, case studies, quizzes and exams, all while developing transferable skills that employers value. Studying two complementary disciplines also strengthens your academic versatility and broadens your career options.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Psychology with Criminology	6	360
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Psychology with Criminology with Professional Placement Year	6	480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Psychology with Criminology	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Psychology with Criminology	5	240
	Bachelor of Science Psychology with Criminology	6	300
	Bachelor of Science Psychology with Criminology with Professional Placement Year	6	420

8	Variations from the University Regulations
	None

9	Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City Centre	3 Years	US0654
Full Time with Professional Placement	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 Years	US1403
Part Time	City Centre	5 Years	US0658

10	Entry Requirements
	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

11	Course Aims
	• The BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology course will be of particular interest if you are interested in Psychology but are also wanting to gain knowledge on another subject area. • The course enables graduates to gain the required knowledge base, practical skill, emotional awareness and maturity for postgraduate professions or employment. • Psychology with Criminology course is a BPS accredited degree • After completion, you can pursue a career into becoming a psychologist by studying a postgraduate degree in a relevant area such as Health Psychology, Forensic Psychology, and Occupational Psychology etc.

	• The course provides you with an in-depth exploration of human development, mental health and distress, crime and victimisation, • As well as practical listening which will prepare you for a range of people-focussed roles with adults, young people and children. This can include primary school teaching, social work or working in HR.

12	**Course Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:
Knowledge and Understanding	
1	Describe a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology, with an appreciation of their social and historical development
2	Know and understand of the British Psychological Society (BPS) GBC core syllabus and topic areas in Psychology.
3	Knowledge and understanding of the historical and scientific underpinnings of the discipline of psychology and how these underpinnings change across the core curriculum topic areas.
4	Understand core areas of psychology and explore how research and theory can be applied to behaviour
5	Explore how research methods can underpin concepts and approaches within psychology
Subject-specific skills	
6	Integrate ideas and findings across the multiple psychological and criminological perspectives, recognising the distinctive approaches to relevant issues, leading to an appreciation of theory, research findings, and relevant ethical and socio-cultural issues.
7	Review and critically evaluate psychological and criminological theory and empirical research using a range of techniques.
8	Appraise how psychology can be part of the world and describe and apply these in non-core psychology contexts
9	Employ evidence-based reasoning and examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues associated with the range of methodologies.
10	Use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments.
11	Apply multiple perspectives to psychological issues, recognising that psychology involves a range of research methods, theories, evidence and applications in a way that fosters critical evaluation and reflection.
12	Appropriately use a range of research methods and understand how to obtain and analyse evidence acquired and demonstrate understanding through practical work.
13	Integrate ideas and findings across the multiple psychological perspectives, recognising the distinctive approaches to relevant issues, leading to an appreciation of theory, research findings, and relevant ethical and socio-cultural issues.
14	Review and critically evaluate psychological theory and empirical research using a range of techniques.
15	Appropriately comply to APA referencing and formatting expectations
16	Appraise and evaluate psychological approaches, and discuss the key issues and debates related to these
17	Carry out an extensive piece of independent empirical research to demonstrate a range of research skills, including planning, considering and resolving ethical issues, analysis and dissemination of findings.
18	Apply psychological knowledge ethically and safely to real-world problems.
Transferable Skills / Key Skills	
19	Be effective in written and oral communication using appropriate arguments supported by relevant evidence

20	Display numerical reasoning skills, understanding and employing appropriate statistical methods.
21	Be computer literate, displaying skills in the using software applications which are generic, and discipline based.
22	Effectively retrieve, organise and evaluate primary and secondary sources of information found in library books and journal collections, and online.
23	Recognise and understand the complexity of social interaction and behaviours required for effective teamwork and competent in evaluating your own strengths and weaknesses.
24	Show responsibility for own learning and skill development; this will include effective personal planning, self-reflection and project management skills
25	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to convey meaning to a variety of audiences

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, you will be able to:
1	Describe a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology, with an appreciation of their social and historical development.
2	Know and understand of the British Psychological Society (BPS) GBC core syllabus and topic areas in Psychology.
3	Knowledge and understanding of the historical and scientific underpinnings of the discipline of psychology and how these underpinnings change across the core curriculum topic areas.
5	Explore how research methods can underpin concepts and approaches within psychology
18	Apply psychological knowledge ethically and safely to real-world problems.
20	Display numerical reasoning skills, understanding and employing appropriate statistical methods.
21	Be computer literate, displaying skills in the using software applications which are generic, and discipline based.
22	Effectively retrieve, organise and evaluate primary and secondary sources of information found in library books and journal collections, and online.
	Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:
4	Understand core areas of psychology and explore how research and theory can be applied to behaviour
6	Integrate ideas and findings across the multiple psychological and criminological perspectives, recognising the distinctive approaches to relevant issues, leading to an appreciation of theory, research findings, and relevant ethical and socio-cultural issues.
8	Appraise how psychology can be part of the world and describe and apply these in non-core psychology contexts
9	Employ evidence-based reasoning and examine practical, theoretical and ethical issues associated with the range of methodologies.
10	Use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments.
12	Appropriately use a range of research methods and understand how to obtain and analyse evidence acquired and demonstrate understanding through practical work.
23	Recognise and understand the complexity of social interaction and behaviours required for effective teamwork and competent in evaluating your own strengths and weaknesses.
	Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelor's Degree, you will be able to:
7	Review and critically evaluate psychological and criminological theory and empirical research using a range of techniques.
11	Apply multiple perspectives to psychological issues, recognising that psychology involves a range of research methods, theories, evidence and applications in a way that fosters critical evaluation and reflection.
13	Integrate ideas and findings across the multiple psychological perspectives, recognising the distinctive approaches to relevant issues, leading to an appreciation of theory, research findings, and relevant ethical and socio-cultural issues.

14	Review and critically evaluate psychological theory and empirical research using a range of techniques.
15	Appropriately comply to APA referencing and formatting expectations
16	Appraise and evaluate psychological approaches, and discuss the key issues and debates related to these
17	Carry out an extensive piece of independent empirical research to demonstrate a range of research skills, including planning, considering and resolving ethical issues, analysis and dissemination of findings.
19	Be effective in written and oral communication using appropriate arguments supported by relevant evidence
24	Show responsibility for own learning and skill development; this will include effective personal planning, self-reflection and project management skills
25	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to convey meaning to a variety of audiences

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	This section explains the learning and teaching approaches, activities and experiences that your course will offer; the range of assessments and types of feedback and feed forward you will encounter and explain how these will support your continuous learning throughout the course and explain the expectations we have of you in this learning partnership. Our Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy delivers excellence by providing the framework for: • High quality teaching, engaging, and inclusive approach to learning, assessment and achievement. • A clear structure through which you progress in your academic studies. • Developing your personal development and towards professional-level employment or further study. We recognise that our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds and bring a wealth of different experiences to their higher education experience with us. Our strategy aims to inspire, develop, support and empower our diverse community of students in their chosen field of study. Our learning, teaching and assessment approach is informed by relevant subject research, pedagogic research, sector knowledge and awareness of potential graduate destinations, best practice, reflection and innovation. Through our strategy, we endeavour to develop curiosity, confidence, courage, ambition and aspiration in all students, in line with our widening participation values, and to prepare you for employment, enterprise or further study as follows: a) We use a variety of assessments to build your analytical, written and oral communication skills. b) The flexible nature of some of our assessment topics will allow you to tailor your student learning experience towards your current interests and areas relevant to future employment. c) We encourage learning outside of the classroom; you will be supported with further reading and online based resources which will promote independent learning. d) Formative learning activities will play a central role to building confidence and preparing you for your summative assessments.

15	**Course Requirements**
15a	**Level 4:**

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PSY4047	Doing Psychological Research 1	20
PSY4049	Perspectives within Psychology	20
CRI4045	Key Debates in Criminological Theory	20
PSY4050	Doing Psychological Research 2	20
PSY4051	Psychology in Practice	20
CRI4047	The Criminal Justice System	20

Level 5:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 0 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PSY5073	Social, Cultural and Community Psychology	20
PSY5074	Lifespan Psychology	20
PSY5075	The Human Brain: Biological and Cognitive Psychology	20
PSY5076	Research Methods and Analysis in Psychology	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5094	Substance Use, Crime and Deviance	20
CRI5093	Making Sense of Homicide	20
CRI5092	Race and Crime	20
CRI5089	Experiencing Harm	20
CRI5090	Crime in the City	20
CRI5102	Youth Crime and Justice	20

In order to qualify for the award of BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology with Professional Placement Year a student must successfully complete the following module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PPY5001	Professional Placement Year	120

Level 6:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 60 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value

PSY6120	Independent Psychology Project	40
PSY6121	Debates in Psychology	20

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete at least 60 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6110	Local to Global Organised Crime	20
CRI6115	Everyday Surveillance	20
CRI6114	Emotions in Crime and Criminal Justice	20
CRI6118	Hate Crime	20
CRI6117	Cybercrime	20
CRI6116	Gender and Crime	20
PSY6107	Counselling Psychology	20
PSY6122	Educational Psychology	20
PSY6123	Forensic Psychology	20
PSY6124	Health Psychology	20
PSY6125	Work and Organisational Psychology	20
PSY6126	Ageing, the Brain and Society	20
PSY6127	The Psychology of Addiction	20
PSY6128	The Psychology of Eating Behaviours and Body Image	20
PSY6129	Decolonising Psychology	20

15b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Your choices will not be guaranteed for optional modules, but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Full Time Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
PSY4047 Doing Psychological Research 1 (20 credits) PSY4049 Perspectives within Psychology (20 credits) CRI4045 Key Debates in Criminological Theory (20 credits)	PSY4050 Doing Psychological Research 2 (20 credits) PSY4051 Psychology in Practice (20 credits) CRI4047 The Criminal Justice System

Level 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO

PSY5073 Social, Cultural and Community Psychology (20 credits) PSY5074 Lifespan Psychology (20 credits) Optional Criminology module (20 credits)	PSY5075 The Human Brain: Biological and Cognitive Psychology (20 credits) PSY5076 Research Methods and Analysis in Psychology (20 credits) Optional Criminology module (20 credits)
Optional International Exchange (Semester 1)	
Optional PPY5001 Professional Placement Year (120 credits)	

Level 6

SEMESTER ONE	**SEMESTER TWO**
Core PSY6120: Independent Psychology Project (40 credits)	
Optional Psychology Module (20 credits) Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)	PSY6121 Debates in Psychology (20 credits) Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)

Part Time Course Structure

Year 1	Semester 1	PSY4047 Doing Psychological Research 1	PSY4049 Perspectives within Psychology (20 credits)
	Semester 2	PSY4050 Doing Psychological Research 2 (20 credits)	CRI4047 The Criminal Justice System
Year 2	Semester 1	CRI4045 Key Debates in Criminological Theory	PSY5073 Social, Cultural and Community Psychology (20 credits)
	Semester 2	PSY4051 Psychology in Practice (20 credits)	PSY5075 The Human Brain: Biological and Cognitive Psychology (20 credits)
Year 3	Semester 1	PSY5074 Lifespan Psychology (20 credits)	Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)
	Semester 2	PSY5076 Research Methods and Analysis in Psychology (20 credits)	Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)
Year 4	Semester 1	Optional Psychology Module (20 credits)	Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)
	Semester 2	Debates in Psychology (20 credits)	Optional Criminology Module (20 credits)

Year 5	Semester 1	PSY120 Independent Psychology Project (40 credits)
	Semester 2	

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 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time you 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 4

Workload

% Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	220
Directed Learning	310
Private Study	670
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	70%
Exam	25%
In-Person	5%

Level 5

Workload

% Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	194
Directed Learning	287
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	60%
Exam	25%
In-Person	15%

Level 6

Workload

% Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	139
Directed Learning	281
Private Study	780
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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