# Course Specification

| Course Summary Information | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Course Title** | BSc Professional Policing |
| 2 | **Course Code** | US0928 |
| 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) | College of Policing |

| 6 | Course Description |
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This course is a national pre-join degree course licensed by the Policing Professional Body, the College of Policing and will be delivered by subject matter experts and experienced practitioners (including retired police officers) with a wealth of subject expertise to prepare you with key transferable skills required for the role of Police Constable.

This course has been developed through consultation with a range of police service areas and the College of Policing, to give you the opportunity to examine the fundamental concepts of policing whilst also developing the practical and transferable skills you need for a career in law enforcement.

Applicants must contact the universities admissions team for full guidance. If potential candidates have Mathematics and English at L2 (GCSE grade "C" or equivalent) and do not have the Level 3 (A Level or equivalent qualification = 112 UCAS tariff points) but have industry experience, we may consider them as eligible for a place on the course. This would be considered on a person-to-person basis and would require passing both an interview and assessment conducted by the course director and teaching team.

The course will help to develop your critical thinking about policing, policy and practice through complementary modules encompassing the theory and principles of operational policing, legislation and police powers, structured interviewing skills and much more. To develop these skills, you will be involved in practical activities, events and will be exposed to a range of guest speakers. These speakers will be from a range of criminal justice and public sector agencies as well as police officers of all operational levels. The course will utilise a range of exciting and innovative forms of assessment which match the working practices within policing. You will also be supported in applications for job roles within policing and will have opportunities to take part in mock assessment centres, fitness and team building exercises.

You will take part in mock criminal investigations and be required to create relevant paperwork and understand current legislation and police powers in practice.

You will also benefit from our unique working arrangement between BCU and West Midlands Police. WMP has agreed to support with the training of twenty five special constables both within the service settings and on campus. WMP will provide support and guidance through both the assessment and training stages so as to ensure students feel capable and

equipment to face a variety of incidents and issues.

The course will use a range of authentic assessment methods in order to reflect current working practices within policing. In all group activities, you will be assessed individually as well as a group so that fairness is applied throughout. This will ensure that everyone can contribute equally to their groups overall grade.

This course will combine all of these elements together whist offering you the opportunity to take part in a work placement which could be within a variety of areas in the field community safety and criminal justice. You will be encouraged to take part in to visit courts, police training establishments and prisons. The course material will help develop a professional focus and real world experience, ensuring that upon graduation, you are equipped to make an impact in your chosen career. The course teaching team will also provide additional support sessions to refresh you on academic and research skills so as to ensure you are fully prepared to carry out independent research projects throughout the course.

Successful attainment of the BSc in Professional Policing does not in itself provide any guarantee of recruitment as a trainee Police Constable. Each police force within England and Wales sets out its own recruitment process and selection policy and entry requirements vary from force to force. You are therefore strongly advised to check the specific requirements of their chosen force prior to undertaking study. It is also important to contact local force areas and the college of policing to ensure that you are fully familiar with the eligibility criteria and any barriers which may inhibit you becoming a police officer.

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

| 8 | Derogation from the University Regulations |
|---|---|
| | 1. Compensation of marginally failed modules is not permitted<br>2. Condonement of failed modules is not permitted |

| 9 | Delivery Patterns | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Mode(s) of Study** | **Location(s) of Study** | **Duration of Study** | **Code(s)** |
| Full Time | City Centre | 3 years | US0928 |

| Professional Placement | City Centre | 4 years | US1399 |
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| 10 | Entry Requirements |
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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 |
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This programme aims to:

- Provide an undergraduate programme in Professional Policing 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 frame these within contemporary practice.
- Provide you with the opportunity to engage in an optional module, 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 |
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| | *Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:* |
| 1 | Review the role of the police service and the responsibilities of those charged with delivering a professional service. |
| 2 | Explain the criminal justice system and the legislation and processes that support it. |
| 3 | Evaluate alternative policing models and strategies in light of different approaches to criminology. |
| 4 | Present coherent arguments both orally and written to a high professional standard. |
| 5 | Evaluate the different approaches to support or manage vulnerable people or those at risk of harm. |
| 6 | Explain the importance of information, intelligence and evidence-based policing and identify best practice. |
| 7 | Undertake and evaluate police investigation techniques and practices, including interviewing techniques. |
| 8 | Apply effective problem-solving techniques and risk assessment to inform professional judgement and decision making within diverse police contexts. |

| 9 | Apply team-working skills that are sensitive to contextual and interpersonal factors considerations to produce outcomes. |
|---|---|
| 10 | Critically review policing incidents in which ethical considerations have been crucial to the decision-making process. |
| 11 | Critically assess key issues relating to the complexity and challenges of operational policing in diverse police contexts, such as public protection, community policing, digital policing, response policing, policing the roads and counter terrorism. |
| 12 | Apply either quantitative or qualitative research techniques to analyse an emerging issue or problem in a specific policing area and formulate an evidence-based intervention to tackle the identified issue/problem. |

| 13 | **Level Learning Outcomes** |
|---|---|
| | ***Upon completion of 120 credits/the Certificate of Higher Education, students will be able to:*** |
| 1 | Review the role of the police service and the responsibilities of those charged with delivering a professional service. |
| 2 | Explain the criminal justice system and the legislation and processes that support it. |
| 3 | Evaluate alternative policing models and strategies in light of different approaches to criminology. |
| 4 | Present coherent arguments both verbally and written to a high professional standard. |
| | ***Upon completion of 240 credits / the Diploma of Higher Education, students will be able to:*** |
| 5 | Evaluate the different approaches to support or manage vulnerable people or those at risk of harm. |
| 6 | Explain the importance of information, intelligence and evidence-based policing and identify best practice. |
| 7 | Undertake and evaluate police investigation techniques and practices, including interviewing techniques. |
| 8 | Apply effective problem-solving techniques and risk assessment to inform professional judgement and decision making within diverse police contexts. |
| | ***Upon completion of 60 credits at 300 credits / the Bachelors Degree, students will be able to:*** |
| 9 | Apply team-working skills that are sensitive to contextual and interpersonal factors considerations to produce outcomes. |
| 10 | Critically review policing incidents in which ethical considerations have been crucial to the decision-making process. |
| 11 | Critically assess key issues relating to the complexity and challenges of operational policing in diverse police contexts, such as public protection, community policing, digital policing, response policing, policing the roads and counter terrorism. |
| | **Upon completion of 360 credits / BSc (Hons) Professional Policing** |
| 12 | Apply either quantitative or qualitative research techniques to analyse an emerging issue or problem in a specific policing area and formulate an evidence-based intervention to tackle the identified issue/problem. |

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| 14 | **Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy** |
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| | *Teaching and Learning Strategy*<br>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:<br><br>Lectures<br>Seminars<br>Workshops<br>Group Discussions<br>Independent Learning (including reading and researching) |
| | Online Activities (including quizzes, group discussion forums, online videos)<br><br>*Assessment strategy*<br>Whilst we do not assess you with exams, you will be required to complete a range of coursework assessments (e.g., essays, professional reports, research proposals) and in-person assessments (e.g., individual and/or group poster presentations, video presentations, debates). We offer opportunities throughout the academic year to receive informal feedback on assessments that enable students to develop their assessments throughout the academic year.<br><br><br>Feedback is therefore provided informally throughout modules. Individual feedback is also provided when assessments are returned to students. The focus of feedback is to help students develop their academic skills. |

| 15 | **Course Requirements** |
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| 15a | **Level 4:** |
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**In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):**

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|---|---|---|
| CRI4037 | Policing in England and Wales | 20 |
| CRI4042 | Models of Policing and Intelligence | 20 |
| CRI4039 | The Criminal Justice System in England and Wales | 20 |
| CRI4040 | Criminal Investigation and Forensics | 20 |
| CRI4038 | Introduction to Evidence Based Policing | 20 |
| CRI4041 | Equality Diversity and Inclusion | 20 |

**Level 5:**

**In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):**

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|---|---|---|
| CRI5082 | Criminal Law and Police Powers | 20 |
| CRI5083 | Policing and Ethics | 20 |
| CRI5084 | Investigative Interviewing Skills | 20 |
| CRI5085 | Career Development and Employability | 20 |
| CRI5086 | Public Protection and Managing Vulnerability | 20 |
| CRIXXXX | Applied Policing Skills | 20 |

### Additional Research Guidance (Level 5)

In addition to curriculum content a range of support workshops will be provided throughout level five in order to ensure that you are equipped to tackle an independent research project at level 6. These will be non-credit bearing and will be delivered through workshops, lectures and independent tasks which will be accessible through the VLE. You will also be allocated a support mentor, who will guide you in discussing potential research topics for your Independent Research Project at level six.

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

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|---|---|---|
| PLA5XXX | Professional Placement Year | 120 |

**Level 6:**

*In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):*

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|---|---|---|
| CRI6100 | Organisation and Leadership within Policing | 20 |
| CRI6101 | Independent Research Project | 40 |
| CRI6102 | Policing Futures | 20 |
| CRI6103 | Tackling Terrorism | 20 |

*In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.*

| Module Code | Module Name | Credit Value |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| CRI6105 | Community Safety Placement | 20 |
| CRI6016 | Community Policing & Engagement | 20 |
| CRI6XXX | Human Policing | 20 |

| 15b | Structure Diagram |
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*Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.*

| Level 4 | Level 4 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | Semester 1 | Policing in England and Wales | Introduction to Evidence-Based Policing | The Criminal Justice System in England and Wales |
|  | Semester 2 | Criminal Investigation and Forensics | Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | Models of Policing and Intelligence |

| Level 5 | Level 5 | | | |
|---------|---------|--|--|--|
| | Semester 1 | Criminal Law and Police Powers | Policing and Ethics | Public Protection and Managing Vulnerability |
| | Semester 2 | Investigative Interviewing Skills | Career Development & Employability | Applied Policing Skills |
| | (Optional) Professional Placement Year | | | |

| Level 6 | Level 6 | | | |
|---------|---------|--|--|--|
| | **Semester 1** | Organisation and Leadership within Policing | Independent Research Project | Optional Module |
| | **Semester 2** | Tackling Terrorism | | Policing Futures |

## 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 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 4**

**Workload**

**19% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

| Activity | Number of Hours |
|----------|-----------------|
| Scheduled Learning | 222 |
| Directed Learning | 258 |
| Private Study | 720 |
| **Total Hours** | 1200 |

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**Balance of Assessment**

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Coursework | 50% |
| Exam | 0% |
| In-Person | 50% |

**Level 5**

**Workload**

**19% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

| Activity | Number of Hours |
|---|---|
| Scheduled Learning | 222 |
| Directed Learning | 254 |
| Private Study | 724 |
| **Total Hours** | 1200 |

**Balance of Assessment**

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Coursework | 40% |
| Exam | 20% |
| In-Person | 40% |

**Level 6**

**Workload**

**14% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

| Activity | Number of Hours |
|---|---|
| Scheduled Learning | 163 |
| Directed Learning | 317 |
| Private Study | 720 |
| **Total Hours** | 12000 |

**Balance of Assessment**

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|---|---|
| Coursework | 90% |
| Exam | 0% |
| In-Person | 10% |