Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BSc (Hons) Criminology
2	**Course Code**	US1585
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**
	Make sense of the world of criminal justice by getting the big picture perspective on crime, punishment, and victimisation on our BSc (Hons) Criminology course. Supported by close links with local criminal justice organisations in the voluntary, public, and private sectors. Our degree course addresses the six core schools of criminological thought, equipping you with knowledge and understanding that covers their social and historical foundations, and how they can be applied in practice. This course aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the core schools of criminological thought, their historical and political foundations and practical application. **What's covered in this course?** During your first year you will gain a firm grounding in criminological theory, the criminal justice system and applied research methods, which will provide a basis on which you can build your knowledge, Our curriculum offers you a variety of subjects, which will allow you to explore and develop your interests before focusing on specialised fields within criminology, ranging from homicide to crimes of the powerful. You will also have the option to take a placement module during your second year of study. This is an exciting and dynamic course that explores real-world problems, focusing on cutting edge and topical issues relating to crime and social justice. We use research-informed teaching and learning to ensure you develop a range of transferable academic and practical skills which will be attractive to employers. The course also uses external visits, as well as a range of assessments to enhance your understanding of the discipline. We have close links with local and national agencies, including police forces, charities, criminal justice agencies, probation service and prisons, through which you can discover and experience how your learning is applied in the real world across a variety of organisations. You will have opportunities to gain work experience with relevant organisations, and there is an option for you to undertake international study. You will be taught by expert staff in the fields of criminology, policing, and security, as well as enjoying regular guest lectures from highly influential voices in the discipline.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Criminology Bachelor of Science with Honours Criminology with Professional Placement Year	Level 6 Level 6	360 480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Criminology Diploma of Higher Education Criminology Bachelor of Science Criminology Bachelor of Science Criminology with Professional Placement Year Nb. Where core learning outcomes for the award have not been achieved, students will be awarded the relevant exit qualification with the title 'Social Studies' rather than 'Criminology'	Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 Level 6	120 240 300 420

8	Variations 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	3 years	US1585
Full Time with Professional Placement Year	City Centre (and placement provider)	4 years	US1587
Part Time	City Centre	5 years	US1586

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
	• Explore real-world problems focusing on topical and often controversial issues relating to crime and social justice • Deliver an inclusive and innovative curriculum informed by cutting edge scholarship, sector knowledge, and international perspectives • Provide an excellent learning experience, designed to develop a range of transferable skills directly relevant to careers within the Criminal Justice System and other organisations concerned with crime and social justice • Offer a variety of assessments throughout the course, including coursework, exams, and in-person assessments, to enable you to demonstrate your full range of abilities and skills

	• Enable you to strengthen your analytic, interpretative, and communication skills and - by graduation - to demonstrate the problem-solving, evaluative, and reflective skills intrinsic to the subject and the attributes needed for self-managed, lifelong learning
12	**Course Learning Outcomes**
	Upon completion of the course, 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	Summarise and explain empirical data about crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
3	Draw on relevant evidence to evaluate the viability of competing explanations within criminology and form logical conclusions.
4	Critically reflect on the values and practices of various agencies within the Criminal Justice System.
5	Apply key theories, debates, and concepts in the field of criminology to real-world issues.
6	Evaluate a range of research methods and assess the appropriateness of their use.
7	Communicate information, ideas, and arguments in a variety of academic formats.
8	Design and use an appropriate strategy to investigate a specific research problem.
9	Critically discuss ethical issues such as social justice, equality, and human rights, that require an awareness of global trends.
10	Present well-articulated critical thinking skills in an appropriate academic style.

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	Summarise and explain empirical data about crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
3	Draw on relevant evidence to evaluate the viability of competing explanations within criminology and form logical conclusions.
	Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, you will be able to:
4	Critically reflect on the values and practices of various agencies within the Criminal Justice System.
5	Apply key theories, debates, and concepts in the field of criminology to real-world issues.
6	Evaluate a range of research methods and assess the appropriateness of their use.
7	Communicate information, ideas, and arguments in a variety of academic formats.
	Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, you will be able to:
8	Design and use an appropriate strategy to investigate a specific research problem.
9	Critically discuss ethical issues such as social justice, equality, and human rights, that require an awareness of global trends.
10	Present well-articulated critical thinking skills in an appropriate academic style.

14	**Course Learning, Teaching, and Assessment Strategy**
	Our Learning, Teaching, and Assessment Strategy delivers excellence by providing the framework for: • High quality teaching • An engaging and inclusive approach to learning, assessment, and achievement A clear structure through which you progress in your academic studies, your personal development and towards graduate-level employment or further study We recognise that our students come from diverse backgrounds and bring a wealth of different experiences to their

	time with us at university. Our strategy aims to inspire, support, and empower you in your chosen field of study: • Teaching and learning will take place in several different contexts, including lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, independent study, external trips, placements, and our virtual learning environment • You will be supported with excellent in-person and online learning and teaching methods and materials • A variety of authentic assessments will be offered to build your communication, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills, such as media reviews, debates, and case studies • The flexible nature of some of our assessment topics will allow you to tailor your learning towards your interests and areas relevant to future employment • Formative learning activities will play a central role in building confidence and preparing you for your final assessments • You will receive individual feedback on your work to support your development on the course • Work experience opportunities will be promoted that allow you to engage with the applied nature of criminology, as well as enhancing your employability and transferable skills • We will work in partnership with you and other students to bring about enhancements to learning practices

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
CRIXXX	Introduction to Criminological Theory	20
CRI4044	Crime and the Media	20
CRI4046	Crime, Punishment and Society	20
CRI4047	The Criminal Justice System	20
CRI4XXX	Applied Research Methods in Criminology	20
CRI4XXX	Patterns and Trends in Crime	20

Level 5:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5	Prisons and Punishment	20
CRI5089	Experiencing Harm	20
CRI5XXX	Criminology Careers	20
CRI5095	Research Proposal	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI5XXX	Dark Alliances: Inside the Global Crime-Terror Nexus	20
CRI5090	Crime in the City	20
CRI5102	Youth Crime and Justice	20
CRI5091	Issues in Criminal Investigation	20
CRI5092	Race and Crime	20
CRI5093	Making Sense of Homicide	20
CRI5094	Substance Use, Crime and Deviance	20
SOC	Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport	20
SOC	Citizenship, Empire and Race	20
CRI	Criminology Placement	20
SOC	Crime, Community and the Built Environment	20
CRI	Environmental Sociology and Social Justice	20

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PPY5007	Professional Placement Year (Criminology and Sociology)	120

Level 6:

In order to complete this course, you must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6107	Human Rights: Theory and Practice	20
CRI6XXX	Criminal Behaviour and Desistance across the Lifecourse	20
CRI6XXX	Criminology/ Policing Dissertation	40

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

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CRI6XXX	Emotions in Crime and Justice	20
CRI6115	Everyday Surveillance	20
CRI6110	Local to Global Organised Crime	20

CRI6111	Deviant Leisure	20
CRI6116	Gender and Crime	20
CRI6117	Cybercrime	20
CRI6118	Hate Crime	20
CRI6112	Harms of the Powerful	20
CRI6XXX	Advanced Criminological Theory	20
SOC	Fascism, Extremism and Genocide	20
SOC	Activism, Social Movements and Social Change	20
CRI6XXX	Crimes of the Powerful: Capitalism, Harm and the Contemporary Condition	20
CRI6XXX	Reimagining Justice	20
SOC	Intimacies, Communities and Belonging	20
SOC	Music and Society	20

15b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Your choice 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
Core Introduction to Criminological Theory The Criminal Justice System Patterns and Trends in Crime	**Core** Crime, Punishment and Society Crime and the Media Applied Research Methods in Criminology

Level 5

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Experiencing Harm Criminology Careers	**Core** Prisons and Punishment Research Proposal
Optional (choose 1) • Crime in the City • Youth Crime and Justice • Issues in Criminal Investigation • Dark Alliances: Inside the Global Crime-Terror Nexus • Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport • Citizenship, Empire and Race	**Optional (choose 1)** • Race and Crime • Making Sense of Homicide • Substance Use, Crime and Deviance • Criminology Placement • Crime, Community and the Built Environment • Environmental Sociology and Social Justice

Level 6

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Human Rights: Theory and Practice	**Core** Criminal Behaviour and Desistance across the Lifecourse
Core Criminology/ Policing Dissertation	

Optional (choose 1) • Advanced Criminological Theory • Emotions in Crime and Justice • Everyday Surveillance • Local to Global Organised Crime • Deviant Leisure • Fascism, Extremism and Genocide • Activism, Social Movements and Social Change	**Optional (choose 1)** • Gender and Crime • Cybercrime • Hate Crime • Crimes of the Powerful: Capitalism, Harm and the Contemporary Condition • Reimagining Justice • Intimacies, Communities and Belonging • Music and Society

Full Time with Professional Placement Year Course Structure

Level 4

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Introduction to Criminological Theory The Criminal Justice System Patterns and Trends in Crime	**Core** Crime, Punishment and Society Crime and the Media Applied Research Methods in Criminology

Level 5

In addition to the below students will complete a yearlong professional placement, which will carry 120 academic credits

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core Experiencing Harm Criminology Careers	**Core** Prisons and Punishment Research Proposal
Optional (choose 1) • Crime in the City • Youth Crime and Justice • Issues in Criminal Investigation • Dark Alliances: Inside the Global Crime-Terror Nexus • Foul Play: Crime, Drugs and Corruption in Sport	**Optional (choose 1)** • Race and Crime • Making Sense of Homicide • Substance Use, Crime and Deviance • Criminology Placement • Crime, Community and the Built Environment

• Citizenship, Empire and Race	• Environmental Sociology and Social Justice

Level 6

SEMESTER ONE	**SEMESTER TWO**
Core Human Rights: Theory and Practice	**Core** Criminal Behaviour and Desistance across the Lifecourse
Core Criminology/ Policing Dissertation	
Optional (choose 1) • Advanced Criminological Theory • Emotions in Crime and Justice • Everyday Surveillance • Local to Global Organised Crime • Deviant Leisure • Fascism, Extremism and Genocide • Activism, Social Movements and Social Change	**Optional (choose 1)** • Gender and Crime • Cybercrime • Hate Crime • Crimes of the Powerful: Capitalism, Harm and the Contemporary Condition • Reimagining Justice • Intimacies, Communities and Belonging • Music and Society

Part Time Course Structure

Standard Duration is 5 years. All core modules must be taken.

Level 4 - Part time students will complete 80 level 4 academic credits in year one and 40 level 4 academic credits in year two. These can be taken in any order as no module carries pre-requisite study, students will be expected to complete 40 credits per semester.

Level 5 - Part time students will complete a further 40 level 5 academic credits in year two and 80 level 5 academic credits in year three. These can be taken in any order as no module carries pre-requisite study

Level 6 - Part time students will complete 80 level 6 academic credits in year four. This does not include the dissertation/ final credit which is weighted at 40 credits, and which must be taken in year 5, which is the final year of study.

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

17% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	204
Directed Learning	276
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Level 5

Workload

17% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	204
Directed Learning	276
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	50%
Exam	17%
In-Person	33%

Level 6

Workload

12% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	145
Directed Learning	335
Private Study	720
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	67%
Exam	0%
In-Person	33%