

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Criminology and Criminal Justice
Award	MSc
School	School of Policy & Global Affairs
Department or equivalent	Department of Sociology & Criminology
Programme code	PSCRIM
Type of study	Part Time / Full Time
Total UK credits	180
Total ECTS	90

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Few aspects of twenty-first century public policy are as important as how to reconcile demands for the rule of law, social order and community safety with protection of human rights, civil liberties and democratic values in an age of global insecurity. The complex social, economic, political and cultural issues which will affect crime causation in the new century require researchers and professionals who are able to think creatively and work across traditional disciplinary boundaries and subject areas.

The City MSc, which is taught by specialist researchers from across criminological disciplines, allows both for breadth of study and specialization. You will become actively involved in the work of the Criminology Research Group and allied research centres within the School of Policy & Global Affairs. The inclusive departmental ethos, which encourages staff-student interaction, facilitates your training in the production and evaluation of innovative criminological and sociological research.

The MSc in Criminology & Criminal Justice is designed for those who are already or wish to become involved with or have an interest in the increasingly important debates about how to reconcile crime control and policing strategies with respect for and protection of human rights. In addition, the programme is suitable for policy makers, non-governmental organisations and journalists. This innovative programme is designed to equip you with the criminological knowledge that will enable you to analyse and assess the conflicting demands for law, order and public safety and human rights and civil liberties.

The part time route of academic study is intended to provide those of you who have pressing family or work commitments, with more time to reach the required level of study. The content of the course is the same as the full-time route. The duration is different and you deliver your dissertations in December not September.

Part-time study occurs over two years. You receive support through the personal tutor and seminar system. Guided reading and study skills help is provided. You are encouraged to participate fully in the staff seminar and public lecture programme and, of course, in Departmental and School Social Events.

Aims

The programme aims:

1. To develop your ability to use criminological knowledge to conceptualize the problem of crime and crime control strategies.
2. To provide you with knowledge of national and transnational policy framework for crime control and policing and the protection and advancement of human rights.
3. To enable you to explore how contemporary demands for law, order and public safety are challenging orthodoxies regarding human rights and civil liberties.
4. To enable you to comprehend the political and practical difficulties of reconciling public security and individual rights.
5. To equip you with the advanced sociological and legal knowledge that will enable you to become employees in criminal justice, security and community safety organisations.
6. To provide an advanced specialist education in the areas of criminology and criminal justice.
7. To enable you to develop your analytical capacities and the ability to examine and critically evaluate complex issues and debates in the area of criminology and criminal justice.

Postgraduate Certificate

Following successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Criminology and Criminal Justice you will be able to examine theories related to the sociological conceptualisation and explanation of crime, crime control strategies and criminal justice and will be able to synthesis and apply these to contemporary crime and criminal justice debates in a national and global context. You will possess sufficient criminological knowledge to be able to engage in joint problem-solving discussions with professionals. You will have critical insight into problems related to crime and crime control, human security and notions of justice. You will also be able to identify and explain the critical issues and debates which illustrate the interface between local and global criminality and human rights and recognise the role and function of national and international policing and law enforcement agencies in controlling crime and protecting human rights. You will gather appropriate information to answer questions pertaining to criminology and will be capable of accurate exposition and critical analysis of research findings and complex texts in a variety of different contexts.

Postgraduate Diploma

Following successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Criminology and Criminal Justice in addition to the above you will gain a more advanced knowledge and in-depth understanding of these subjects and broaden your expertise and skills. You will have developed a sophisticated appreciation of current issues in criminology and the ability to evaluate a range of different approaches to them. You will also be able to evaluate critically complex arguments and their factual support, assess the value and relevance of the ideas of others and make reasoned judgements. You will have developed the ability to challenge received explanation of topics and controversies in criminal justice and have the capacity to analyse and evaluate the approaches used by criminologists to investigate crime and criminality, to construct clear arguments and present policy recommendations where appropriate and to understand and evaluate empirical research findings in crime and justice policy research

MSc

Following successful completion of the MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice in addition to the above you have the ability to plan and evaluate criminal justice interventions in a variety of contexts. You will have demonstrated the capacity undertake and present a piece of original, independent research in criminology (dissertation).

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Appreciate the complexity of the current criminal justice situation within a global context.
- Display a sensitivity to the role of cultural difference in the formation of this complexity.
- Possess sufficient criminological knowledge to be able to engage in joint problem-solving discussions with professionals.
- Recognise the impact of crime and crime control strategies on human rights.
- Identify and explain the critical issues and debates which illustrate the interface between local and global criminality and human rights
- Recognise the role and function of national and international policing and law enforcement agencies in controlling crime and protecting human rights.

Skills:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated appreciation of current issues in criminology and evaluate a range of different approaches to them.
- Produce an accurate exposition and critical analysis of research findings and complex texts in a variety of different contexts.
- Evaluate complex arguments and their factual support, assess the value and relevance of the ideas of others and make reasoned judgements.
- Analyse and interpret critically different kinds of research evidence.
- Gather appropriate information to answer questions pertaining to criminology.
- Challenge received explanation of topics and controversies in criminal justice.
- Undertake and present a piece of independent and original research in criminology.
- Plan and evaluate criminal justice interventions in a variety of contexts.
- Analyse and evaluate the approaches used by criminologists to investigate crime and criminality.
- Construct clear arguments and present policy recommendations where appropriate.
- Understand and evaluate empirical research findings in crime and justice policy research.

Values and attitudes

- Respect your peers, value their work and be conscious of the need to avoid plagiarism.
- Adhere to the rules and regulations of City.
- Show consideration for the ethical and political implications of criminological perspectives.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

The educational aims are achieved through a combination of lectures, interactive sessions, practical workshops and small group classes. You are encouraged to undertake extensive reading in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and classes and to broaden and deepen your knowledge of the subject.

The Department also runs a personal tutorial system that provides you with additional support for your learning. Your personal tutor is also your first point of contact should you encounter any problems affecting your studies.

The part time route of academic study is intended to provide you with more time to reach the required level of study should you be unable to commit to full-time study. The content of the part-time route is the same as the full-time route, but the duration is different. Taught modules are spread out over two academic years (one academic year for full-time study), and you will be given an extra term at the end of the two academic years to submit your dissertation. You will receive support through the personal tutor system. Guided reading and study skills help is provided. You will be encouraged to participate fully in the staff seminar and public lecture programme and, of course, in Departmental and School Social Events.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Assessment of the programme is via the submission of an essay for each 15 credit criminology module and two assignments for each 30 credit module, and a dissertation. Some of the elective modules offered by other programmes have different assessment criteria.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade- Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at:

https://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

The Pass mark for each module is 50%.

1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of 20 credits at first or resit attempt (15 for a Postgraduate Certificate), you may be allowed compensation if:

- Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
- It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme, and
- A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
- An aggregate mark of 50% has been achieved overall.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark shall be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:

http://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Master's Degree:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
Taught	7	120	67	With Distinction	70
Dissertation	7	60	33	With Merit	60
				Without classification	50

Postgraduate Diploma:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
Taught	7	120	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60
				Without classification	50

Postgraduate Certificate:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
Taught	7	60	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60

				Without classification	50	
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WHAT WILL I STUDY?*

Taught component

You will take 2 x 30 and 1x15 credit core modules, 1 x 15 credit core-elective and either 1 x 30 credit or 2 x 15 credit elective modules. Core modules are compulsory. You can choose the 2 x 15 credit elective modules from the below list of elective module options.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Analysing Crime	SGM301	30	C	N	7
Criminal Justice Policy & Practice	SGM303	30	C	N	7
Criminal Minds	SGM304	15	E	Y	7
Victims: Policy and Politics	SGM305	15	E	Y	7
Crime, News and Media Justice	SGM306	15	E	Y	7
Celebrity	SGM314	15	E	Y	7
Digital Data Politics	SGM315	15	E	Y	7
Research Design, Methods and Methodology	SAM001	15	C	N	7
Rationale and Philosophical Foundations of Social Research	SAM002	15	CE	Y	7
Introduction to Quantitative Inference	SAM003	15	CE	Y	7
Qualitative Research Methods	SAM004	15	CE	Y	7
Applied Qualitative Methods	SAM005	15	CE	Y	7
Survey Research Methods	SAM008	15	CE	Y	7
Multivariate Data Analysis	SAM009	15	CE	Y	7
Statistical Modelling	SAM011	15	CE	Y	7

Dissertation component

In order to be eligible for the MSc, you must complete a 60-credit dissertation.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Dissertation	SAM010	60	C	N	7

**Please note that this is an indicative list. These modules are subject to change depending on staff availability, student demand and some are offered on a biennial basis. There is no guarantee that every elective module listed above will run.*

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: <http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates>.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

You should have a first or second class honours degree in any subject but applications are also welcome from those with significant, relevant professional experience. An equivalent qualification from an overseas university will be considered.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

For students whose first language is not English, the following qualifications will meet the English language requirement for entry to a postgraduate course of study:

- A first degree from a UK university or from the CNA.
- A first degree from an overseas institution recognised by City as providing adequate evidence of proficiency in the English language, for example, from institutions in Australia or the USA.
- GCE O-level/GCSE English language or English literature, grade C minimum.
- Cambridge ESOL CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) at grade C or above.
- An overall score of 7.0 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum of 6.5 for each subtest.
- Satisfactory standard in the verbal section of the Princeton Test (GMAT).
- US SAT with 500 in verbal performance.
- Warwick English Language Test (WELT) with pass grades of BBC minimum.
- Other evidence of proficiency in the English language which satisfies the board of studies concerned.

OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS

Equivalent qualifications from an overseas university will be considered.

IT SKILLS

All students are expected to be computer literate.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Programme is committed to equal opportunities. The admissions decision will rest on the qualifications, needs and aspirations of the applicant.

RPL/RPEL Requirements

You may apply for RPL/RPEL for a minimum of one module and a maximum of 25% of the overall credits for the programme (taught modules only).

Exemptions are not awarded for programmes/qualifications that were awarded five years ago or longer, prior to the enrolment date for the intended programme of study at City. Programmes/qualifications which were awarded over five years ago may be considered towards RPL/RPEL requests if you can provide supporting evidence which gives an account of ways in which learning achieved through the programme/qualification has been applied actively and updated within the past five years.

Former students of City who have been withdrawn from a programme due to academic failure are not normally permitted to RPL/RPEL any awarded credits back onto the same programme within the School.

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