

Overview

Programme Code	31599
Programme Title	Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Degree
Programme Leader	Rachael Steele
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Science - BS	Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.
Target Award	Bachelor of Science with Honours - BSH	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education - CHE	<p>Demonstrate progression in the transition to degree level study. Demonstrate progression in the transition to degree level study. Communicate effectively in written and verbal forms. Communicate effectively in written and verbal forms. Show ability to participate in group work discussion. Show ability to participate in group work discussion. Apply the skills required for research design and development. Apply the skills required for research design and development. Develop foundational knowledge for core psychology. Develop foundational knowledge for core psychology. Reflect on the psychological skills and literacies required for course mastery and employability. Reflect on the psychological skills and literacies required for course mastery and employability. Identify and reflect upon the following aspects of self-awareness in respect of personal development and career planning in relation to studying psychology and criminal justice: strengths and weaknesses, motivations and values, ability to work with others. Identify and reflect upon the following aspects of self-awareness in respect of personal development and career planning in relation to studying psychology and criminal justice: strengths and weaknesses, motivations and values, ability to work with others. Apply psychology to a range of human problems. Apply psychology to a range of human problems. Demonstrate an understanding of the social construction of crime, the nature of the criminal justice process, and the societal influences on criminal justice practice. Demonstrate an understanding of the social construction of crime, the nature of the criminal justice process, and the societal influences on criminal justice practice. Identify interactions between forensic psychology and criminal justice, and evaluate the contribution psychology has made to the understanding of crime. Identify interactions between forensic psychology and criminal justice, and evaluate the contribution psychology has made to the understanding of crime.</p>

Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education - DHE	Demonstrate increased knowledge and understanding of core psychology. Compare and contrast a range of psychological perspectives. Evidence competence and progress in understanding research methodologies. Demonstrate a critical approach to literature and research findings. Critically evaluate the applications of psychology to a range of human problems. Demonstrate the ability to recognise and understand decision-makers and decision-making processes in criminal justice. Critically evaluate the influence of psychology within criminal justice practice, and the benefits and limitations of psychological interventions within the criminal justice field. Evaluate the role of risk in criminal justice decision-making. Analyse the effectiveness of decision-making in criminal justice generally.
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Alternate Award Names	
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Criminology (2022)
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Accreditation

Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional Notes
British Psychological Society (BPS)	Accredited against the requirements for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).			

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September		3 Years
Full-Time, Face to Face	September		5 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice programme, in line with the two relevant subject benchmark statements, are to: Develop knowledge and critical understanding of a range of fundamental psychological theory. Produce a scientific understanding of mind, brain, behaviour, and experience, and of the complex interactions between them. Develop knowledge of, and the ability to critically evaluate, experimental methods and key research areas in psychology. Develop students' awareness of a range of real-life applications of psychological theory. Enable achievement of Graduate Membership (GM) and Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) from the British Psychological Society (BPS). GBC is a pre-requisite for entry to BPS-accredited postgraduate programmes in Psychology. Provide a rigorous interdisciplinary study of criminal justice drawing on disciplines including, criminology, law, socio-legal studies, sociology, social policy, history and related professional practice. Link theoretical analysis with empirical enquiry and the operation and impact of policies on practice; Identify and understand different value positions in the criminal justice system and processes; Investigate the legal context and principal legal features of the criminal justice system; Provide students with an understanding of policy and experience of practice in the criminal justice system and so improve their employability in criminal justice and allied areas; and Encourage students to engage with the development of employability skills by completing a self-awareness statement

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Demonstrate a range of knowledge in Conceptual and Historical Perspectives in Psychology.
PLO2	Appreciate the social construction of crime and victimisation.
PLO3	Understand the relationship of class, gender, age, race, ethnicity and other social demographic factors to crime, victimisation, and responses to these phenomena.
PLO4	Critically appreciate the social and historical development of criminal justice institutions; the changing values governing practice in these institutions, including human rights; the structure and culture of these institutions; and new and emergent issues facing criminal justice institutions in the 21st century.
PLO5	Understand the distinctive character of criminal justice as an academic discipline, and its relationship to other social science disciplines.
PLO6	Appreciate the relationship between criminological theory and empirical evidence in relation to the investigation of issues relating to crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
PLO7	Demonstrate competence in effective and professional oral and written communication skills, and the ability to develop critical and reasoned arguments in oral and written form.
PLO8	Investigate and understand complex problems relating to crime and criminal justice, using a range of primary and secondary methods of research to do so.
PLO9	Evidence effective comprehension skills and use of data.
PLO10	Provide evidence of evaluative and analytical skills.
PLO11	Understand how to design research appropriately in relation to a specific problem, how to gather, retrieve, and synthesise information, including comparative data; and an understanding of how to evaluate research data, including both quantitative and qualitative data.
PLO12	Explain the basic principles of Biological Psychology.

Code	Description
PLO13	Understand how to assess the ethical issues arising in particular research situations.
PLO14	Demonstrate versatility and understanding in the use a variety of psychological tools, including specialist software, laboratory equipment and psychometric instruments.
PLO15	Demonstrate project management skills in carrying out an extensive piece of independent empirical research, applying skills of choosing and applying appropriate advanced empirical methodologies and the treatment of resulting data with appropriate analytical methods.
PLO16	Analyse, assess methodologically, and communicate, information and empirical research findings about crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.
PLO17	Investigate criminological questions in relation to victimisation, crime, responses to crime and deviance, and representations of these.
PLO18	Identify the ethical issues and the range of ethical problems in research into criminological questions.
PLO19	Critically examine the relevance of criminological work on crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance including representations of these in relation to issues of social, public and civic policy at a national, international and global level.
PLO20	Demonstrate adaptability and versatility in computer literacy, both in use of standard software applications and use of internet to search for information.
PLO21	Adapt problem solving and reasoning skills to a range of challenges.
PLO22	Demonstrate versatility in the application of self-management of learning, utilising time-management skills and effective planning strategies.
PLO23	Demonstrate breadth of knowledge in basic Cognitive Psychology.
PLO24	Demonstrate collaboration and co-operation in working with others in varied situations.
PLO25	Prioritise time to work to strict deadlines.
PLO26	Evaluate personal and academic performance, and to recognise strengths and weaknesses in relation to these.
PLO27	Demonstrate breadth of knowledge in basic Developmental Psychology.
PLO28	Demonstrate breadth of knowledge in basic Social Psychology.
PLO29	Demonstrate breadth of knowledge in the basics of Personality and Individual Differences.
PLO30	Demonstrate breadth of knowledge in the basic principles and processes of Research Methods in Psychology.
PLO31	Demonstrate and explain the basics of other specialist areas of Psychology.
PLO32	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key concepts and theoretical approaches that have developed and are developing in relation to crime, victimisation, and responses to crime and deviance.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme is offered in full-time mode (3 years or 4 years). The BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice degree is accredited by the British Psychological Society and confers graduate eligibility for both Graduate Membership of the British Psychological Society and the Graduate Basis for Chartership, provided the minimum standard of a Second Class Honours degree is achieved. In addition, the student must achieve a mark of 40% or more in the Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Dissertation module (6022LAWCJ). Two 10-credit options can be chosen at level 6, but no more than two. The programme can be studied over three years (360 credits) or four years (480 credits) full time. On the three year model, study is undertaken at three levels, one for each year of study. 120 credits are required for the completion of each level and 360 credits for the completion of the full honours programme. In addition, under the four-year, 480 credit version of the programme, the programme will offer the opportunity of an additional study year abroad following Level 5 study at LJMU. Students who take this opportunity will be enrolled on a 480 credit honours with study abroad programme. Of those 480 credits, 120 will be taken via a Level 5 study abroad module (5026LAWCJ). The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The grade for this module will be determined by the Faculty Recognition Panel upon receipt of a transcript from the host institution. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 240 credits at Level 5. The programme is taught within the Academic Framework. Modules are two types: core and options. The programme is based on a two semester academic year with modules being delivered and assessed in either semester 1 or semester 2, apart from the year-long study skills-inclusive module at Level 4, Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice (4021LAWCJ) and the research-based Dissertation module at Level 6 (6022LAWCJ). All modules at Level 4 are core and must be taken (7 modules). At Level 5, there are 5 core modules (100 credits) and 1 optional module from an available range of three (20 credits each - 5019LAWCJ (Decision-Making in Criminal Justice), 5022LAWCJ (Penology), and 5028LAWCJ (Victimology)). There are two core modules at level 6, Forensic Psychology (6201PSYSCI) and the Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Dissertation (6022LAWCJ), leaving 60 optional credits to be completed. These programme rules apply for students who start at level 4 on the programme in 2021-22 and beyond. For students who started on the programme in September 2020, the following rules apply. All modules at Level 4 are core and must be taken (7 modules - 120 credits). At level 5, there are five core modules (5025LAWCJ, 5202PSYSCI, 5203PSYSCI, 5204PSYSCI, 5020LAWCJ) comprising 100 credits, and 20 credits of options to be selected, with students choosing one module from a list of three (5019LAWCJ, 5022LAWCJ, 5028LAWCJ). There are two core modules at Level 6, Forensic Psychology (6201PSYSCI) and the Dissertation (6016LAWCJ), leaving 60 optional credits to be completed. Optional modules are as follows: 6008LAWCJ; 6009LAWCJ; 6011LAWCJ; 6012LAWCJ; 6014LAWCJ; 6102LAWPL; 6020LAWCJ; 6021LAWCJ; 6018LAWCJ; 6210PSYSCI; 6202PSYSCI; 6203PSYSCI; 6207PSYSCI; 6208PSYSCI; 6209PSYSCI; 6204PSYSCI; 6212PSYSCI; 6206PSYSCI. For students who started on the programme prior to or in September 2019, the following rules apply. All modules at Level 4 are core and must be taken (7 modules - 120 credits). At Level 5, all modules are core and must be taken (6 modules - 120 credits). These core modules are as follows; 5019LAWCJ; 5022LAWCJ; 5025LAWCJ; 5202PSYSCI; 5203PSYSCI; 5204PSYSCI. There are two core modules at Level 6, Forensic Psychology (6201PSYSCI) and the Dissertation (6016LAWCJ), leaving 60 optional credits to be completed. Optional modules are as follows: 6008LAWCJ; 6009LAWCJ

Programme Structure - 360 credit points	
Level 4 - 120 credit points	
Level 4 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 4017LAWCJ Criminal Justice System Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4019LAWCJ Criminological Theory Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4021LAWCJ Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4202PSYSCI Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology 1: Relationships and Associations Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 4203PSYSCI Introduction to Developmental Psychology and Individual Differences Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4205PSYSCI Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology 2: Testing for Differences Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	

[MODULE] 4206PSYSCI Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Core - 100 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 5020LAWCJ Professional Development in Criminal Justice Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5025LAWCJ Exploring Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5202PSYSCI Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology 4: Advanced Quantitative Research Methods Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5203PSYSCI Cognitive and Biological Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5204PSYSCI Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology, and Individual Differences Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 Optional - 20 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5019LAWCJ Decision Making in Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5022LAWCJ An Introduction to Penology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5028LAWCJ Victimology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Optional placement - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
Study Abroad - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5026LAWCJ Study Year Abroad - Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 Core - 60 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 6022LAWCJ Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 40 credit points	
[MODULE] 6201PSYSCI Forensic and Investigative Psychology Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6008LAWCJ Contemporary Issues in Prisons and Probation Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6009LAWCJ Policing Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6012LAWCJ Youth Justice Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6014LAWCJ Substance Use, Society and Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6018LAWCJ Regulation, Harm and Victimisation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6020LAWCJ Comparative Criminal Justice Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6026LAWCJ Green Criminology and Environmental Crime Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6027LAWCJ Cybercrime and the AI World Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6028LAWCJ Violence and Society Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6107PS Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6202PSYSCI Health Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6203PSYSCI Cognitive Neuroscience Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6204PSYSCI Positive Psychology Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6206PSYSCI Psychopharmacology and Addictive Behaviour Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 6207PSYSCI Face Perception: Processes and Disorders Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 6208PSYSCI Social Cognition Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points	

[MODULE] 6210PSYSCI Work Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points
[MODULE] 6212PSYSCI Psychology of Sexual Violence Approved 2022.02 - 10 credit points

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Lectures and directed independent reading are used to introduce core knowledge. Lectures are supplemented by seminar and workshop activities in which students can explore ideas in more depth and contribute to, and benefit from, peer learning. In addition, students are expected to cover substantive course content through their own directed reading. These approaches are consistent with the learning outcomes of each specific module. In formulating the assessment strategy, the programme team aims to achieve an appropriate match between teaching and learning methods and assessment tasks, including the provision of formative feedback, an appropriate balance of assessment tasks over the programme, and inclusivity of a range of student approaches to learning. A variety of assessment methods is therefore utilised across the programme. Lectures are supported by appropriate learning resources and learning activities to provide practice in applying declarative knowledge to applied problems, with feedback from tutors and peers. Workshop activities similarly provide a forum for skill development through practice with feedback. Individual supervision meetings support students in developing, conducting and reporting an empirical investigation in psychology. Students are provided the opportunity for reflection and achievement in developing their own understanding in acquiring skills. A variety of assessment methods is used, including examination, essay, projects, portfolios and presentations, as specified in each module's guide. Lectures are used to introduce core knowledge and principles. Practical skills are prioritised within all level 4 modules, but particularly in the Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice module (4021LAWCJ). Workshops provide opportunities for students to develop skills underpinned by this knowledge through practice with feedback (from peers and tutor) and through critical reflection. Individual supervision sessions are used to support students in the development and completion of their final year Dissertation (6022LAWCJ) project. Practical skills are the central focus of core module assessments across the programme, where information gathering, written and spoken communication, and group work are prioritised. A variety of assessment methods is used, including examination, essay, projects, portfolios and presentations. Lectures are used to introduce transferable skills including computer literacy, problem-solving and reasoning skills, self-management of learning along with time management, effective planning strategies and collaboration and cooperation in working with others. Workshops and group tutorials provide opportunities for students to develop skills underpinned by this knowledge through practice with feedback (from peers and tutor) and through critical reflection. Individual supervision is provided to guide the student through the development and completion of a final year project and dissertation. The main focus of these skills is introduced in level 4 through the Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice module (4021LAWCJ). Transferable skills are an essential part of the activities throughout the programme, being further developed especially at level 6, and particularly in the Dissertation (6022LAWCJ) module. All of the transferable skills are assessed in the various assessment processes, exams, coursework, projects and portfolios across the three levels of the programme. Assessment methods addressing these skills include written assignments and examinations, together with practical skills assessment. All programme students seeking BPS accreditation complete a dissertation in their final year, which in itself covers all transferable skills listed in this document.

Opportunities for work related learning

Aside from the self-awareness assessment contained within the teaching and assessment of the core Introduction to Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice module (4021LAWCJ), Work Related Learning will also be delivered in the Level 6 core module, Forensic Psychology (6201PSYSCI). Students have direct contact with the prison psychology service and other agencies as part of teaching delivery on this module. Also, in the Level 6 core module 6022LAWCJ (Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice Dissertation), students will study independently and will be able to have contact with a range of psychology and criminal justice-based agencies as part of planning and producing the research necessary to complete the module assessment.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Alternative qualifications considered	Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained grade 4 or grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics GCSE or an approved alternative qualification: • Key Skills Level 2 in English/ Maths • NVQ Level 2 Functional skills in Maths and English Writing and or Reading • Skills for Life Level 2 in Numeracy/English • Higher Diploma in Maths/ English • Functional skills Level 2 in Maths/ English • Northern Ireland Essential Skills Level 2 in communication or Application of Number • Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number
A levels	128 UCAS points from a minimum of 2 A Levels. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted.
BTECs	128 UCAS points
Other international requirements	International applications will be considered in line with UK qualifications. Any Applicant whose first language is not English will be required to have IELTS 6.0 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or acceptable equivalent.
International Baccalaureate	30 IB points