Programme Specification Document

Approved, 2022.03

Overview

Programme Code	36200
Programme Title	Criminology and Social Policy
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	William Jackson
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Arts - MA	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Certificate - PC	Demonstrate critical awareness of the current developments in the fields of criminology and social policy. Demonstrate a working understanding of the social, political and historical processes that affect the ways in which crimes and harms are perpetrated and responded to locally, nationally and internationally. Demonstrate preparation and planning skills suitable for employment or for Doctoral study in fields related to criminology and social policy.
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Demonstrate critical awareness of the current developments in the fields of criminology and social policy. Demonstrate critical awareness of the theoretical and empirical relationships between power, social divisions and (in)justice. Demonstrate a working understanding of the social, political and historical processes that affect the ways in which crimes and harms are perpetrated and responded to locally, nationally and internationally. Demonstrate an ability to work independently and with some originality. Demonstrate preparation and planning skills suitable for employment/further research in fields related to criminology and social policy.

Alternate Award Names	

External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Criminology (2022)

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September		1 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

To enable students to develop an advanced understanding of cutting-edge developments in the fields of criminology and social policy, with a particular focus upon their intersection through the processes of criminalization and the workings of institutions of (in)justice. To enable students to develop a critical awareness of the theoretical and empirical relationships between power and social divisions as they relate to the fields of criminology and social policy. To help students develop a critical understanding of the social, political and historical processes that affect the ways in which crimes and harms are perpetrated and responded to locally, nationally and internationally. To prepare students to develop critical discussion and analysis of complex concepts and to work independently and with some originality. To present students with the opportunity to engage in a sustained piece of in-depth research work which demonstrates an advanced understanding and application of methodology, method and analysis. To enhance the critical, analytic, research and employability skills of students working within or aspiring to work within Criminology and Social Policy related professions.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Display a critical awareness of political, historical and geographical dimensions of criminology and social policy as a field of study.
PLO2	Appreciate how diverse audiences and communities engage in the discussion of poverty, social exclusion and crime and how they are responded to at local, regional, national and transnational levels.
PLO3	Demonstrate self-direction and originality of thought in the tackling and solving of problems in creative and innovative ways.
PLO4	Deal with complex issues related to criminology and social policy both systematically and innovatively through sustained research, and communicate conclusions to specialist audiences.
PLO5	Present research findings in an appropriate format to varied and diverse non-specialist audiences.
PLO6	Identify the tensions that exist between the production of theory, research/knowledge and their relevance to policy and practice throughout the criminal justice and welfare systems.

Code	Description
PLO7	Demonstrate a reflexive self-awareness around the transferability of key skills developed through the programme.
PLO8	Self-manage and direct their learning, utilizing effective time-management and strategic planning skills.
PLO9	Work collaboratively and cooperatively as well as to work independently in a productive and effective way.
PLO10	Prioritize time with a view to meeting strict deadlines.
PLO11	Communicate effectively across the verbal, written, and digital realms, with a specific focus upon the needs of diverse audiences
PLO12	Demonstrate an advanced understanding of debates that inform contemporary criminology and social policy, as well as their national and international policy context(s).
PLO13	Use modern ICT to advance learning and research, as well as effectively communicate their results/findings through digital means.
PLO14	Demonstrate a detailed and critical understanding of the role and contribution of state and non-state actors in shaping national and international policy around crime and social control.
PLO15	Display an ability to reflect critically on the student's independent research study in relation to contemporary criminal justice and social policy practice and policy priorities.
PLO16	Engage critically with theories and concepts outside of, yet relating to, criminology and social policy and put them to productive use in this context.
PLO17	Consider and critically evaluate their own work in a reflexive manner with reference to academic and/or professional issues and debates.
PLO18	Develop substantive and detailed knowledge and understanding in one or more designated areas of the fields of criminology and social policy.
PLO19	Propose, design, conduct and present sustained independent research at an advanced level that will demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of issues related to crime, poverty and (in)justice.
PLO20	Understand the limits of the major research methods employed in the social sciences, and be able to apply this knowledge critically to their own work.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Students must achieve 180 credits to gain the award of MA in Criminology and Social Policy (60 credits for the Postgraduate Certificate, and 120 to be eligible for the Postgraduate Diploma). Credit will be achieved through undertaking either 7107CSP: Dissertation Module, or 7106CSP: Practice-Based Research Project (60 credits each) alongside both 7100CSP: Advanced Research Methods in Social Science and 7102CSP: Conceptualising Crime, Criminal Justice and Social Policy as core modules (30 credits each). The remaining credit will be achieved through completion of two optional 30 credit modules from a choice of four.

Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 60 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7100CSP Advanced Research Methods for Social Science Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7102CSP Conceptualising Crime, Criminal Justice and Social Policy Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
Level 7 Optional - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 7101CSP Globalisation and Comparative Social Policy: Crime, Harm and (in)justice Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7103CSP Criminological (Re)presentations Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7104CSP Social Divisions: Origins, Inequalities, Intersections Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7105CSP Critical Criminology and the State: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7106CSP Practice-Based Research Project Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
[MODULE] 7107CSP Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	

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

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme uses a range of techniques to teach and assess the outcomes listed above. This includes the use of a progressive workshop format that incorporates lectures and practical learning tasks designed to enable students to engage critically and directly with the core knowledge that underpins the fields of study they are working within. All modules have a strong interdisciplinary core, and students will be taught to look outside of traditional fields of study throughout the programme. Teaching reflects a strong belief in the value of student-directed learning to develop and enhance practical and professional skills. Structured choice is maintained throughout the programme to facilitate progression, with learning and the development of the practical skills being achieved through enabling students to direct their studies along the lines in which they see themselves progressing professionally and intellectually. Learning on the course is a collaborative and individual endeavour which contains a number of teaching and learning methods that requiring students to 'self-direct' and manage their learning effectively, but there are also elements of group work and research tasks built in to a number of the modules. This is to reflect the importance of working independently as well as collaboratively. Assessment is established by a range different and progressive techniques. This not only facilitates the assessment of the specified learning outcomes above but also those set for each module that the student's pathway through the programme includes. Through the employment of a diverse portfolio of assessment methods across the programme, individual learner needs will be met, and students will benefit from participatory assessment techniques that equip them with multiple practical and transferable skills upon their graduation such as the ability to present ideas/findings in diverse ways to diverse audiences.

Opportunities for work related learning

The programme contains a work placement pathway as part of its core learning provision. It is intended that students either undertake a master's dissertation, or they do a placement research project instead as their 60 credit module. In this way, the programme is able to cater to the needs of students who wish to pursue further studies but with a view to securing employment over and above going on to do a PhD. Placements will be paid or unpaid (so as to enable practitioners to use their current employment if they wish), and managed through the programme team in close collaboration with the school's employability team. For full details, please see the module proforma for 7106CSP: Practice-Based Research Project.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Alternative qualifications considered	A good first degree, usually at second class, first division honours level or above, in Criminology, Social Policy or a related subject A professional qualification recognised as equivalent to a degree; An award which the University has agreed to accept as equivalent to a degree; Where a candidate does not fulfil the standard entry qualification the Programme leader will interview the person to determine their suitability for the programme as a non-standard entry: Non-standard entry: For applicants not in possession of a good honours degree, the programme leader will take into account relevant professional background (e.g. criminal justice/social policy practitioner etc.) and the volume of professional experience. Any participant who does not have a first degree must satisfy the programme team of their ability to study at Master's level through presentation of a strong portfolio of skills to demonstrate appropriate knowledge and expertise gained from within their work place. For these applicants, individual assessments of their suitability will be conducted by the programme leader and team. RP(E)L and International Students The programme welcomes students with both prior certificated learning and or application for experiential learning credits. Prior learning will be mapped against the programme and/or module outcomes on a case by case basis in line with University policy around RP(E)L. International applicants are required to have achieved an IELTs score of a minimum 6.5 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or equivalent English language qualification.

Extra Entry Requirements