

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Fnd) in Criminology and Sociology

Awarding institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Teaching institution	LJMU
UCAS Code	L311
JACS Code	L300, L311
Programme Duration	Full-Time: 4 Years
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Subject benchmark statement	Sociology (2016) Criminology (2016)
Programme accredited by	N/A
Description of accreditation	N/A
Validated target and alternative exit awards	Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Fnd) in Criminology and Sociology Diploma of Higher Education (Fnd) in Criminology and Sociology Certificate of Higher Education (Fnd) in Criminology and Sociology
Programme Leader	David Chalcraft

Educational aims of the programme

1. To provide students with a stimulating, research informed, academic programme, including both core and optional modules, with clear progression through the degree, and with clear learning outcomes.
2. To provide a dynamic and contemporary programme which stimulates the sociological and criminological imagination and engages students with the history of the discipline, and its central theoretical, methodological and substantive aspects.
3. To provide an environment which facilitates and encourages student centred learning, that is inclusive and accessible to all students, and supports them as they begin to independently research the social world using appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative techniques.
4. To encourage students to acquire a critical understanding of criminology topics which demonstrates an appreciation of criminological theory, of evidence, and of the relevance to current debates, and present the conclusion in a variety of appropriate academic formats.
5. To encourage students to critically evaluate responses to deviance, crime, harm, victimisation, punishment and justice and presentations of these are national, international and global levels.
6. To invite students to consider the continuities and discontinues, similarities and differences between the disciplines of sociology and criminology and dialogue between them.
7. To provide an introduction to sociology and sociological ways of thinking, with special emphasis upon sociological research methods, both quantitative and qualitative, and the opportunities to apply their sociological imaginations to the analysis of a number of substantive areas in sociology.
8. To provide graduates with the appropriate subject knowledge and attributes, together with a range of transferable skills, and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning, to pursue a career related to the subject area, in general employment, or further study.
9. To encourage students to engage with the development of employability skills, including their completion of a self-awareness statement.
10. To provide a programme that enables students to recognise their citizenship in local, national and global communities and societies, and to appreciate their role in addressing social conditions, resisting prejudice, and improving social justice for all utilising the theoretical insights and evidence based findings of sociology and criminology.

11. To appreciate the importance of ethical issues in all forms of sociological and criminological data collection, analysis and argumentation and the contested nature of social life and social order, to develop a reflexive sociological understanding of world views alternative to their own.

12. To provide opportunities to sociologically investigate societies other than the UK and to facilitate exchange and study/field work educational visits to those countries to further understanding, analysis and knowledge.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Certificate of Higher Education (Fnd)

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

Demonstrate the transition from A-level, Access or other previous study to degree level study in Sociology.

Be able to identify and explain key issues, themes and substantive areas in Sociology.

Have developed key study skills for further study in Higher Education generally and Sociology in particular.

Be familiar with Social Science research methods; identify and explain some of the methodological techniques in Sociology.

Recognise a variety of interpretations of crime and control Understand aspects of the criminal justice system in the UK.

Participate actively in group work and presentation.

Have understood and begun PDP.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Diploma of Higher Education (Fnd)

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

Have developed an understanding of core areas of criminological theory.

Be competent in the theory and practice of Sociological research methods.

Evaluate a variety of competing interpretations of crime and crime control.

Appreciate the local and global dimensions of social and criminological issues and their interpretation.

Have applied sociological knowledge to at least one substantive area.

Have acquired critical skills.

Have developed transferable skills.

Experienced WRL and career-based opportunities.

Target award Learning Outcomes - Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Fnd)

A student successfully completing the programme of study will have acquired the following subject knowledge and understanding as well as skills and other attributes.

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

1. Describe and examine a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches from the history and contemporary practice of Sociology and Criminology.

2. Provide an analytical account of social diversity and various inequalities addressing the social processes shaping individuals, groups, social practices, social institutions and social structures.

3. Use specialist knowledge of one or more sub-topics within Sociology to construct a sociological argument (selecting from a range of available options reflecting the diversity of the discipline) and thereby evaluating the relationship between sociological arguments and evidence.

4. Examine a range of data sources, research strategies and quantitative and qualitative methods and assess the appropriateness of their use (through practical application and experience) to generate empirical knowledge about a substantive sociological concern.

5. Show understanding of the use of sociology in historical, cross-cultural and transnational comparative studies of global societies.

6. Demonstrate knowledge of the contingent and contextual nature of all forms of social knowledge knowing including sociological and criminological knowledge, so as to be reflexive about their own knowledge of the social world.

7. Synthesise insights from a range of disciplines pertaining to the relationships between crime, harm, power and the state.

8. Appreciate the role of worldviews, values and beliefs and their consequences for social action in ethically

plural societies.

9. Evaluate critically the origins, trajectories and impacts of international, national and local state responses to criminological concerns, as well as the co-opted roles of actors and institutions beyond the state sector.

10. Critically assess competing interpretations of crime and crime control.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated are as follows:

The programme incorporates staff-led and student-centred strategies with a progressive emphasis on the latter as students develop as independent learners.

The former includes both formal and interactive lectures, and seminars, which provide opportunities to present ideas, discuss and reflect. The latter involve small group activities, tutorials, workshops and enquiry-based learning.

These are designed to:

Foster student progression

Stimulate interest and encourage participation

Provide equal opportunities to develop learning skills, at all levels

Encourage critical analysis and the application of theory

Utilise ICT and Canvas

The Sociology Assessment strategy is guided by School, University and QAA guidelines and ensures that:

Assessment, as part of the learning process, involves feedback (diagnostic, formative or summative) that is timely and constructive.

Criteria of attainment are given in handbooks and module assignments.

Assessment across the programme is planned, and designed to be coherent, balanced and to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes.

Assessment meets the criteria (QAA and School) of validity, reliability and consistency.

Assessment takes account of students with particular needs.

The programme utilises a wide range of assessments including essays, exams, reports, portfolios, projects, self-reflective diaries, biography, leaflet, book reviews, enquiry-based learning, presentations (written and oral) and, at level 6, an optional dissertation, and opportunities for work placement.

Intellectual skills are strongly linked to the development of knowledge and understanding. Lectures provide the foundations of and models for students to develop and consolidate their intellectual skills, whole workshops, seminars, tutorials and independent learning provides opportunities for students to practice and apply these intellectual skills.

The assessment of intellectual skills is closely linked with subject knowledge and assessment, however the focus is upon the student's ability to recognise, construct and defend arguments, to undertake critical analysis and to identify and resolve intellectual problems. A variety of written coursework and exam based assessments focus directly on the student's ability to construct rigorous arguments and analysis. While the more applied nature of some assessments (briefing papers, blogs, case studies, reports), particularly those requiring students to understand and undertake Sociological research encourages students to creatively develop their intellectual skills.

All teaching and learning activities focus on developing and improving communication skills: lectures enable students to become effective listeners who can assimilate ideas and information; discussions in workshops and small group settings develop spoken communication skills, collaboration and interpersonal skills. Students are also encouraged and supported, via tutor guidance and the VLE, to undertake independent learning which, in turn, promotes planning, organisational and time-management skills.

All assessment utilized on the programme encourages students to develop their communication skills and to present arguments and ideas with precision and clarity. Achievement of good time management and organizational skills is demonstrated by students completing work on time to a satisfactory standard.

These skills are introduced in the Sociology Tutorial module, at level four. Thereafter, core and option modules at levels 5 and 6 involve a combination of student-centred learning in both collective (seminars/workshops, group project work etc) and individual contexts (independent learning, tutorials, dissertations). Teaching is block time-tabled into 2 hour sessions.

The variety of learning experiences and assessment tasks is designed to stimulate interest and encourage participation, and to provide opportunities for students with differing capabilities and aptitudes to develop

transferable skills.

The variety of assessment on the programme ensures that these transferable key skills are assessed at various points throughout the degree.

Programme structure - programme rules and modules

The programme is taught within the University Academic Framework. Students must take 120 credits at each level of the programme (Levels 3, 4, 5 and 6), with a balance between sociology modules and criminological modules: hence 60 credits from sociology and 60 credits from criminology per level in levels 4, 5 and 6. Each Level of the programme should normally be completed in one academic year. Modules are of two types: core and options. Modules are all 20 credits aside from the 40 credit Dissertation Module at level 6 and the 120 credit Study Abroad module at level 5 (which can be taken in either criminology or sociology). At L6, students must take at least 40 credits in both Sociology and Criminology.

At Levels 3 and 4 students will take a core programme of 120 credits, Level 4 made up of 60 credits from criminology and 60 credits from sociology. At level 5 80 credits are from core modules from criminology and sociology whilst the remaining 40 credits are from optional modules from criminology and sociology (20 credits from each).

At level 6 there are no core modules. Students who choose to take the Dissertation cannot also take the Work Placement in Sociology module/s or vice versa. The Dissertation can be taken with the International Field Work module, and the Work Placement module/s module can be taken with the International Field Work module. It is optional whether any of these modules are taken. 6100SOC, 6103SOC, 6106SOC, 6112SOC and 6113SOC can count towards Sociology or Criminology to balance programme.

The programme will offer the opportunity for 60 credits of study abroad at L5. Students will be enrolled on a 480 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credit Level 5 study abroad module 5111CRIMSO will normally replace the second semester modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5.

The programme will offer the opportunity of an additional year of study abroad following Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 600 credit honours with study abroad programme. Of the 600 credits, 120 will be taken via 5110CRIMSO Study Year Abroad or from the equivalent in Criminology. The modules to be studied at the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated upon the 240 credits at Level 5.

Level 6	Potential Awards on completion	Bachelor of Arts with Honours (Fnd)
Core	Option	Award Requirements
	6100SOC Dissertation in Sociology (40 credits) 6101SOC Interchange in Sociology: Working with Communities (20 credits) 6102SOC Interchange in Sociology: Community-based learning (20 credits) 6103SOC International Fieldwork in Sociology (20 credits) 6104CRIM Eco-Global Crime and Harm (20 credits) 6104SOC Radical Planet: Protest, Resistance and Alternatives to Urban Capitalism (20 credits) 6105CRIM Victims and Justice (20 credits) 6105SOC The Aesthetics and Politics of Fear (20 credits) 6106SOC Sport, Crime and Politics: Critical Sociological Analyses (20 credits) 6107CRIM Police, Power and Social Order (20 credits) 6108SOC Body Politics: Gender, Sexuality and Society (20 credits) 6109SOC Cultural Sociology of	0 core credits at level 6 120 option credits at level 6

	Music (20 credits) 6111CRIM Human Rights (20 credits) 6112CRIM Crime, Media, Culture (20 credits) 6112SOC Sociology Work Placement 1 (20 credits) 6113SOC Sociology Work Placement 2 (20 credits) 6114CRIM Children and Young People in Conflict with the Law (20 credits)	
Level 5	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
5100CRIM Advanced Criminological Theory (20 credits) 5100SOC Researching British Society (20 credits) 5102SOC Research in Action (20 credits) 5103CRIM Imagining Crime: Progressive Criminological Theory (20 credits)	5102CRIM The Politics of Social Control (20 credits) 5104CRIM Local and Global Criminology (20 credits) 5106SOC Society and Environment in Conflict (20 credits) 5107SOC The Medicalised Body: The Sociology of Health and Illness (20 credits)	80 core credits at level 5 40 option credits at level 5
Level 4	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
4100CRIM Introduction to Criminological Theory (20 credits) 4100SOC Identities and Studying Sociology (20 credits) 4102CRIM Inside the Criminal Justice System (20 credits) 4103SOC Researching the Everyday (20 credits) 4105CRIM Media, Crime and Victimisation (20 credits) 4105SOC Global Issues and Society (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 4 0 option credits at level 4
Level 3	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
3101FNDLCP Preparing for Success: Academic Skills (20 credits) 3102FNDLCP Investigating Liverpool (20 credits) 3103FNDLAW Contemporary Issues in Law (20 credits) 3104FNDHSS Understanding Contemporary Social Issues (20 credits) 3107FNDLCP Contemporary Issues in Security and Policing (20 credits) 3108FNDLAW Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 3 0 option credits at level 3

Information about assessment regulations

All programmes leading to LJMU awards operate within the University's Academic Framework.
<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-quality-and-regulations/academic-framework>

Opportunities for work-related learning (location and nature of

activities)

Personal development planning is integrated into the personal tutor arrangements at Levels 4, 5 and 6. Work related learning is embedded at Level 6 in the Work Placement in Sociology 1 and 2 modules of 20 credits each (proposal and placement / report) 6112SOC Sociology Work Placement 1 (20 credits) and 6113SOC Sociology Work Placement 2 (20 credits).

All LJMU undergraduate programs are required to incorporate into a L4 module an assessment item of the submission of a personal Self Awareness Statement. Students have the opportunity to choose from work-based/related/transferrable skills modules at L5 and L6, while the programme's PDP system provides opportunities for students to reflect on and document their achievements inside and outside of university and think about future employability paths.

Criteria for admission

A/AS Level

72 UCAS tariff points from a minimum of 2 A Levels. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted.

BTEC National Diploma

72 UCAS tariff points

Irish Leaving Certificate

72 UCAS tariff points with a maximum 20 UCAS Tariff points from Ordinary Level

Scottish Higher

72 UCAS points to include Advanced Higher

International Baccalaureate

24 IB Diploma points

Access

At least 24 Merits and 21 Passes or any other combination which equates to 72 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject

Other

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

Mature entry

Applications are welcomed from mature and non-standard applicants, who will be considered on an individual basis. These applicants may be required to submit an essay and/or attend an interview, and should demonstrate potential and motivation and/or have relevant experience.

Overseas qualifications

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)

External Quality Benchmarks

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable.

The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Published review reports are available on the QAA website at www.qaa.ac.uk

Programmes which are professionally accredited are reviewed by professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) and such programmes must meet the competencies/standards of those PSRBs.

Support for students and their learning

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Students are able to access a range of professional services including:

- Advice on practical aspects of study and how to use these opportunities to support and enhance their personal and academic development. This includes support for placements and careers guidance.
- Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of: student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.
- Students studying for an LJMU award at a partner organisation will have access to local support services

Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Student Feedback and Evaluation

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys (such as module evaluations, the NSS and PTES), module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes.

Staff development

The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

Internal Review

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make improvements to programmes.

External Examining

External examiners are appointed to programmes to assess whether:

- the University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements
- the assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations
- the academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience
- the achievement of students are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which the external examiners have experience

and to provide informative comment and recommendations on:

- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment observed by external examiners
- opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students

Please note:

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme guides.