

Course Information Sheet

BSc (Hons) Policing and Criminal Justice

Mode and course length – Full-Time (4 years)

Location – ARU Cambridge Campus

Awarding Body – Anglia Ruskin University. As a registered Higher Education provider Anglia Ruskin University is regulated by the Office for Students.

Overview

Location of study:

Level 3 – ARU Cambridge Campus

Level 4-6 – ARU Chelmsford Campus

Thinking of joining the police or working in the wider criminal justice sector? Get first-hand experience of the day-to-day life of a criminal justice professional before you join up.

Do you want to work for the police or a related criminal justice employer, such as the prison service, security industry or local government?

Our combination of real-life case studies, academic research and interactive learning will give you a deep understanding of the issues and policies involved in modern policing and rehabilitation.

Learn about and debate current issues such as sexual offence and fraud investigation, or counter-terrorism initiatives and cultural diversity. As you study, our modules will develop your skills in leadership, interpersonal communication and presentation, and give you opportunities for work-based learning, preparing you for a career in criminal justice when you graduate.

Our BSc (Hons) Policing and Criminal Justice degree is continually developed through our strong links with local police forces and criminal justice agencies. You'll not only have access to the latest information and case studies, but the chance to attend talks and workshops by serving professionals and to make contact with people already working in the police and criminal justice system.

You'll also take part in trips and activities such as visits to courts, while our own on-campus mock courtroom will allow you to examine the trial process and practice presenting evidence in front of a judge and jury.

Course Delivery

Our courses are delivered through teaching and learning methods which provide students with the widest possible exposure to a modern and innovative higher education experience.

These methods vary and could include attendance at lectures and seminars, undertaking laboratory exercises or work-based activities, practical work, performances, presentations, field trips, other relevant visits and e-learning through Canvas, our online learning management system.

Each course is divided into a number of 'modules' which focus on particular areas, each of which has a specific approach to its delivery. This information is published to students for each module they take via the Module Definition Form (MDF) and Canvas.

Assessment

You'll demonstrate your learning in various ways across our modules, ensuring that you develop the essential knowledge and

skills needed to complete the course. Our assessment methods include essays, presentations, case study reports, group work research and, finally, your major project.

Fees

Information about your course fee including any annual fee increases or deposits (if required) can be found in your offer letter.

Modules

Core Modules

Year 1: Foundation in Law and Policing

This module will provide students with the necessary skills to begin studying at level 4 in courses related to Law, Policing and Criminology.

Students will be introduced to the core skills necessary to succeed in higher education, including thinking critically, researching and referencing appropriately, demonstrating appropriate numeracy and ICT skills, and communicating effectively verbally and in writing.

Students will also be introduced to specific concepts related to their degree programmes including an introduction to the English legal system, business law, criminal law and the criminal justice system and ethics. Real-world examples of the law in action will be highlighted, and students will practice applying the law to case studies.

The module is made up of the following 8 constituent elements:

- Interactive Learning Skills and Communication (ILSC)
- Information Communication Technology (ICT)
- Critical Thinking
- Composition and Style
- Ethics
- Fundamentals of Law
- Business Law
- Criminal Law

Year 2: Introduction to Policing

This module supports your development of an understanding of the origins of the modern Police Service, and the nature of Police work in the broadest sense, including the social and political environment within which modern policing emerged and currently operates.

You will be able to reflect on your current role or potential roles as an officer, or within the wider police family. You will be able to understand how and why the Police Service developed, the cultural and political ethos behind the service, and the legal and ethical frameworks informing the sector. The module will help you to understand the demands placed on Police Forces and their officers, staff and volunteers, including potential developments in the future.

You will critically consider how the internet and digital media will effect changes to the policing landscape by facilitating the commission of existing crime types. You will also consider emerging types of new criminal activity, and responses that may be required from law enforcers to combat these.

This understanding will be academically grounded through a critical engagement with the debates and controversies surrounding policing. You will develop and maintain a reflective learning log to support this module and your continuing studies. The reflective log will be used as the basis of tutorial work and formative assessment.

The module will be taught by weekly lecture and seminar.

Year 2: Criminology: Theory and Concepts

This module examines explanations for crime and deviance since the 19th century. It explores key questions at the core of

criminology, such as whether offenders choose to commit crime, or whether they are driven into crime by structural forces outside their individual control. It examines whether social, biological or psychological factors can help explain crime, and whether offenders can be regarded as 'rational' in their approach to offending. It also explores sociological approaches to crime and considers whether some individuals, groups or offences are more likely to be called criminal than others. The module will analyse the major contentions of and disagreements between each of these approaches, and you will learn to use these theories to illuminate contemporary debates and social problems. During the course of the module, you will gain a sense of the historical development of criminology as a discipline, and the relevance of each of these theoretical approaches to practical considerations of social policy, effective and legitimate policing, and the operation of the criminal justice system. The module will be taught by a 2 hour workshop.

Year 2: Basic Criminalistics

Criminalistics is the core discipline of forensic science; indeed, in many uses, especially in North America, it is synonymous with forensic science. The study is built upon one basic premise, that every contact or action leaves some trace (Locard's Principle). As scientific methodologies have improved over the years, so the nature of what constitutes a trace has changed considerably. This module introduces the student to the main categories of trace evidence (finger and other body prints, fibres, hairs, glass and paint fragments, impressions of tools, gun discharge residues, and body fluids) and will emphasise the importance of rigorous crime scene management and proper methods of evidence recovery. Recent developments in enhanced evidence recovery will also be presented. The relative evidential value of the various kinds of recovered trace material will be evaluated, and this will lead on to a brief introduction to the statistical interpretation of such evidence.

Year 2: Policing Practice

This module has been designed to give you a basic introduction to the skills used in police work. It will give you a real insight into the day to day work of policing and the skills and knowledge required, and will also directly address employability and joining the police force. The module will introduce you to practical 'real world' issues for the Police Service and individual officers within it. It builds on issues and material studied in the module 'Introduction to Policing', which focused on the more general evolutionary, developmental and cultural issues that set the scene for modern policing. This module will cover the work environment for a warranted officer, including; eligibility, entry requirements, initial training, conditions of service, restrictions on private life and professional standards. It will also provide an awareness of possible career development opportunities. You will then move on to examine practical policing skills and issues, from attending incidents, scene management and crime scene awareness, to arrest, interviewing and detention; public order policing; managing and using intelligence; and the practical and legal issues around stop, search and entry; dealing with major incidents; the principles of investigation; and a specific focus on public protection, violence, abuse and neglect. The module will also explore preparing for prosecution and court.

Weekly lectures will be supplemented by smaller group seminars, where you may be asked to prepare material in order to contribute to effective learning. There will also be a number of practical exercises and regular contributions from serving officers as guest lecturers.

Year 2: Policing Ethics

This module introduces you to the ethical issues you may encounter within the field of policing and the wider criminal justice system. You will examine key principles including accountability, fairness, integrity and respect, and you will look at the corresponding standards of professional behaviour, and their development and application within the UK police force, with particular reference to ethical issues with specific importance for policing, such as procedural justice, police conduct, confidentiality, corruption, and the use of force. You will explore the foundational ethical questions, including accountability; ideas of democratic policing; the 'Peelian' principles; and the ongoing debates about the purpose of policing and who is being policed. You will also look at ideas of professionalism and explore police culture. This module will also examine the causes and effects of prejudice, the social problems that can arise from discrimination within and without the police service and criminal justice system itself, and the theoretical and legislative responses that have been developed in response to these issues. This will be done through an examination of actual practice and the drivers behind change. How do general social and academic ideas and legal frameworks impact upon the work of the police and public services, and how have such services responded with initiatives of their own?

The module will be taught via a one hour lecture and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 2: The Criminal Justice System

The Criminal Justice System module introduces you to key components of the criminal justice process. You will explore and analyse sections of the Criminal Justice System, paying particular attention to how it fits together (under the National Offender Management System – NOMS) within five main sub-systems: Law Enforcement, Courts, Youth Justice, Prison and Probation. Each week, you will examine and develop a portfolio relating to the following issues within the Criminal Justice System: freedom, human rights, net-widening, retribution, rehabilitation, politics and prevention of crime. The portfolio will provide an opportunity for you to recognise and begin to critically evaluate the effectiveness of the criminal justice process, based on contested evidence and research. As a result, you will be able to demonstrate a critical appreciation of the complicated position and treatment of offenders and victims in England and Wales, as well as the challenges faced by policy-makers and criminal justice staff.

The module will be taught via a one hour lecture/workshop and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 3: Working in Criminal Justice

This module is designed to provide you with the opportunity to experience working life in the Criminal Justice sector which will enable you to prepare for the transition from education to work in a number of ways: through identifying your skills and aptitudes in relation to employment; to give you an insight into the working cultures and practices of organisations within the Criminal Justice sector and to allow you to explore potential careers that would be relevant with a degree in Policing and Criminal Justice. The module will explore how work and learning interact, will encourage self-managed learning and will also increase your employability by improving your knowledge of the sector, your self-reliance and confidence.

There will be two models of work placement in this module. Firstly, if you already have a role with the CJS, whether this is paid or unpaid, you will be able to use this as your placement. For example, you may be a Special Constable, PSCO or volunteer for a charity working in this sector. Secondly, you may organise an opportunity for yourself, if you have a particular interest or contacts in an organisation. You will be provided with support to arrange this by the module tutor.

You will be required to undertake 70 hours of activity in an appropriate placement and, along with your allocated supervisor and/or module tutor you will draw up a placement proposal outlining your expected duties, hours of work and expected outcomes. You will keep a reflective diary outlining your activities and learning from the experience. You will be supported throughout this by weekly workshops and lectures.

Year 3: Researching Policing

Evidence-based policing relies on 'strong' evidence; but what is evidence and how do we decide how strong it is? How is it created? What are the different types? Is it ethical? This is a 'hands-on' module that will provide you with an opportunity to develop practical skills and knowledge to not only understand evidence-based policing but also to conduct and evaluate research in a wide range of social and criminal justice settings. You will be required to carry out and present a piece of qualitative research and to critically evaluate a study using quantitative methods of analysis. The module focuses on the development of evaluative skills and practical competence in both qualitative and quantitative methods, providing the kind of understanding which can only be acquired by personal experience. It will enhance your ability to critically assess published research findings and allow you to develop the ability to select and apply appropriate methods in dissertations or projects as well as in your future employment.

The module will be taught by weekly lecture and seminar.

Year 3: Evidence Based Policing

Evidence-Based policing (EBP) as a concept is not new; it draws on the same principles as the medical profession where doctors make decisions on how to treat patients based on the most up to date evidence. However, it is widely accepted that policing and police practices as a whole are not based on rigorous evidence. Due to growing demand and financial pressures

EBP has become an attractive option for police agencies with its promise of using limited resources more efficiently and effectively by focusing on those strategies and tactics that reduce crime.

This module will give an overview on the 'rise' of evidence-based policing. It will provide a theoretical understanding of EBP by exploring its three key principles; 'Targeting, tracking, and testing'. The module will outline what 'evidence' is by providing an in depth discussion and analysis on recent experiments on 'hotspots' policing and the use of body worn video. It will also explore the steps agencies can take to embed EBP in organisations and the challenges they will face.

The module is taught by weekly lectures and seminars.

Year 4: Politics and Public Services

An important aim of this module is for students to be able to take a critical stance on what constitutes an 'effective and efficient' public service, and to understand how these important matters are filtered through the political process. This module will also seek to address the ideas that lie behind political approaches to public services and to explore the relationship between these ideas and policy. The development of ideological approaches to public services will be examined, focusing on some broad approaches, namely, Welfarism, Neoliberalism and 'modernisation'. Each of these approaches results in the eventual application of political ideology to public service policy although the relationship between these two things is not linear. Students will be encouraged to develop an understanding of how a consideration of political issues can support and enhance the delivery of high quality public services. The module will be taught by weekly lectures, seminars and workshops throughout the trimester.

Year 4: Policing Policy

The module will concentrate on how national, local and internal politics operate in the organisation of the police service in England and Wales. The police service exhibits a wide range of groups that represent competing ways of seeing the development of this service. This module seeks to identify these groups, to identify their roles and to assess their relative importance in relation to the internal and external political environment of the public services. In this respect, conflicts in public services will be a theme of the module. In particular the focus is on up-to-date reporting on the police service by government, interested parties, key stake holders and representative bodies and how these reports follow a pattern that leads to public service development. The module will be taught by lectures, seminars and workshops throughout the trimester.

Year 4: Undergraduate Major Project

The individual Major Project module allows students to engage in a substantial piece of individual research and/or product development work, focused on a topic relevant to their specific discipline. The topic may be drawn from a variety of sources including: Anglia Ruskin research groups, previous/current work experience, the company in which they are currently employed, an Anglia Ruskin lecturer suggested topic or a professional subject of their specific interest (if suitable supervision is available). The project topic will be assessed for suitability to ensure sufficient academic challenge and satisfactory supervision by an academic member of staff. The chosen topic will require the student to identify/formulate problems and issues, conduct literature reviews, evaluate information, investigate and adopt suitable development methodologies, determine solutions, develop hardware, software and/or media artefacts as appropriate, process data, critically appraise and present their findings using a variety of media. Regular meetings with the project supervisor should take place, so that the project is closely monitored and steered in the right direction. Included in the major project will be the final element of the student's personal development plan (PDP) consisting of an overview of significant elements of the degree and establishing links with the major project.

Optional Modules

(Subject to availability)

Year 3: A Module from the Anglia Language Programme

Year 3: Understanding Crime Through the Media

Media representations of crime, law and order have always been a matter of public interest, as well as debate amongst people involved in the criminal justice system. Most people have limited experience of the criminal justice system, and the way the media treats crime has important implications for the public perception of crime and its management. Should crime always be newsworthy? How objective is the media presentation of crime? Is crime reporting concerned only with issues of good and bad, justice and the law?

You will explore the ways in which media shapes our perception of crime and policing, and will explore in depth the theoretical perspectives that shed a light on the role of the media within criminology. In addition, you will explore the construction of crime news and the role of politics and ideology, and will look at the concept of "moral panics". You will also examine how the police are represented in the media, and examine ways of analysing available statistics on criminal activity, the fear of crime and its relationship to the media representation of crime. The discussion of contemporary surveillance culture will also be included, and you will evaluate how the fear of crime in the United Kingdom has been shaped by media reports. You will also explore the way

that the police in particular have adapted to and adopted the changing structure of the media in the 21st century, including the demands of the 24 hour news cycle and of social media, and will examine in depth the topic of crisis communications and how information can be managed when its sources have become so democratised.

You will examine these issues through the use of case studies, reports, and theory. You will be expected to select one or more case studies in order to develop analytical and presentation skills during the seminars. The selected case study can build a foundation for the essay. In the essay, you will build on theoretical perspectives to evaluate the debates about the relations between media, crime and policing, as well as public perceptions of crime.

The module will be taught by lectures and seminars.

Year 3: Resilience and Emergency Management

Bringing together all the skills that the student has learnt on the Public Service Foundation Degree, this module involves students working to identify and understand how the emergency services prepare for and operate at major disasters. Delivery will involve looking at the ways that government and emergency services prepare for and react to major disasters, and will consider the advantages and difficulties of the multi-agency approach. Students will be involved in team working to solve problems and be innovative in their preparation for and taking part in major disaster exercises. Students will be required to take a reflexive and critical view on the work of government and the emergency services to identify strengths and weaknesses in the current preparation for disasters.

Year 3: Law for Police Officers

The module will introduce you to the principal law governing the procedures used by the police in England and Wales; the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) (which has been amended since 2005 by the Serious Organised Crime and Policing Act 2005). The module will consider the main functions of police officers, and the legal parameters within which they should work, under the 1984 Act and its Codes of Practice.

A key aspect of the module will be critical debate about the ethical considerations of police officers which surround the day-to-day application of powers. In particular, we will critically evaluate the issues surrounding some of the more controversial elements of policing, including stop and search and bail. You will therefore gain an understanding of the ethical and procedural difficulties faced by officers in front-line policing, and will be better prepared for future roles in the police or the wider criminal justice system.

We will examine stop and search, search of premises and vehicles, arrest with and without warrant, detention and treatment of suspects, an introduction to interviewing suspects (which may introduce an interactive or mock/role play element), and evidence, including identification procedures. There will also be consideration of the IPCC and its role in investigating complaints against the police for breaches of PACE.

The module will be taught through a series of lectures and seminars (12 lectures and 12 seminars).

Year 3: Victims and Violence

There are many forms and conceptions of violence, as well as a variety of motivations and meanings for it, yet it is often conceived as a single phenomenon. In addition, what constitutes victimhood and victimisation is contested at every stage of our legal system. In this module you will approach the study of violence and violent victimisation through a variety of theoretical explanations, including cultural, theoretical, criminal and legal, psychological, medical and biological. You will explore a range of expressions of violence, and the measures that are employed through the criminal justice system to define, criminalise and regulate them.

You will examine situations in which aggressive behaviours arise - from everyday assaults to homicide, including harassment, street-fighting, stalking, racially-motivated violence and hate, gang activity, domestic violence, and murder. These deeds will be examined from a range of situational contexts, such as vengeance, mass media, alcohol and drugs, loss of control, psychopathy, cultural settings, social context and gender stereotypes.

You will also have an opportunity to evaluate the impact that the effects of aggression and violence can have on victims, witnesses and society. Through the study of victimology, you will explore how we have come to recognise the relationships between victims and offenders as well as interactions between victims and the criminal justice process. You will contrast

offender motives with concepts such as victim-precipitation, victim-blaming, victim reliability, and 'ideal' victim stereotypes.

The module will be taught via a one hour lecture and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 3: Digital Policing

The module will provide you with a solid foundation in a broad range of current digital issues across policing, for example the growing threat of terrorism and organised crime, and issues of cyber security and online fraud. It will help you to understand the key elements of these issues in terms of digital intelligence and investigation, and will provide both context and knowledge. In particular the module will focus on Big Data and the implications and opportunities for intelligence and investigation as well as consideration of concepts of ethics, privacy and consent. The module will concentrate on academic theory and wider reading across other sectors helping you to adapt the application and practice to law enforcement. Through the combined elements of the module you will gain an insight into some of the 'art of the possible' for future police practice, as well as the changing nature of the threat, harm and risk, and the impact of technological change on the society being policed. The early insights will be invaluable as you begin your career and start to move into leadership roles. The module will be taught by lectures and seminars. Due to the fast pace of change in this area the module will be regularly updated and refreshed in line with developments.

Year 3: Leadership and Management

This module is designed to develop your critical view of the Criminal Justice Sector in a broad sense, through an understanding of current perspectives on leadership and management in the public sector more generally, and how these perspectives relate to the ever-changing political, social and economic contexts within which they operate. You will discuss the importance of effective management and leadership, and the impact of these on an organisation. You will start by investigating leadership and management as concepts and tracking their history and development before considering how they currently impact on the public sector as a whole and on individual organisations such as the police more specifically, and how this is related to contemporary issues and debates. Debates about equality and diversity relevant to leadership will also be considered.

The module will be taught through weekly lectures and seminars.

Year 4: Investigating Sexual Offences

Sex offending has become a major concern for governments, academics, policy analysts and pressure groups around the world, yet in the British criminal justice system, the issues remain poorly understood, unsatisfactorily recognised and the offences inadequately condemned.

In this module you will examine the way certain sexual activities have come to be defined and categorised as sex crimes and how particular definitions generate specific legal responses and treatments. You will learn to recognise specific types of sexual offending, and study theories about motivations and consequences, as well as examining the issues from the perspectives of offenders, victims, society and the law. Rape 'myths' and 'stereotypes' will be discussed, and juxtaposed against case attrition throughout the criminal justice process. You will examine the potential impact of the media, and how advances in internet technologies contribute to the increasingly problematic policing of sexually explicit materials. Aspects of the international sex trade will be examined, in particular the problem of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. In tying together the themes of the module, you will examine legal barriers to justice as well as the growing call for action to recognise all forms of sexual violence in order to prioritise the prevention of further victimisation.

The module will be taught via a one hour lecture and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 4: Race, Racism and Cultural Identity

This module provides an in-depth exploration of the sociology of 'race', racism and ethnic divisions. It considers three related themes: the social origins and significance of racial and ethnic divisions; the (varied) causes, contexts and consequences of racism and antiracism; and the cultural consequences of migration. Each theme will be developed using a combination of theory, research findings and case study material. Although the primary substantive focus of the module will be on race relations in contemporary Britain, insights will be drawn from historical and international comparisons. For the bulk of the module teaching will be by lectures and seminars. Students are required to engage in preparatory reading prior to each seminar. There will also be a series of student-led workshops that will apply sociological knowledge and understanding to current questions of 'race' politics and policy. Workshop topics will vary but will relate to key module themes - the collection and use of racialised data in the criminal justice system (the significance of 'race' categories); debates about the usefulness of the concept of institutional racism

(sociology of racism); and globalised Islam (migration and identity). Students will be required to read material collected on a module web site a briefing pack prior to each workshop and deliver a short presentation in one of the workshops.

Year 4: Police and Counter-Terrorism

Perceptions of rising extremism and growing insecurity have increased the opportunities for tighter and arguably more invidious forms of social control in western societies in the rhetorical 'war on terror'. In this module you will identify and critically examine terror-related issues through criminal justice, criminological and legal perspectives. You will investigate the shift from 'old' terrorism to 'new' terrorism, and you will apply a range of theoretical perspectives to selected cases of twenty first century domestic and international terrorism. You will contrast various typologies of terrorist, such as the 'home-grown', the 'lone-wolf', religious extremist, animal rights activist or neo-nazi, and consider the various types of media coverage that each category attracts. Counter-terrorist measures will be evaluated in relation to a number of factors, such as prejudice, propaganda, nationalism, xenophobia and religion. You will critically evaluate concepts such as universal human rights, freedom of speech, radicalisation, axis of evil and war on terror, and apply them to examples of strategies that have been utilised and justified in the international 'war against terror'.

The module will be taught via a one hour lecture and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 4: Investigating Serious Fraud

The cost of fraud for the UK is substantial. Fraud is believed to be responsible for almost half the estimated value of all criminal activity investigated by the police, "but the police devote less than 3 percent of their staff to its investigations" (Doig, 2006). In order to understand what fraud is and the scope of the problem, it is important to understand two overlapping categories of crime: organised crime and white-collar crime. This module begins with the discussion of organised crime and 'white-collar crime' in order to establish an informed framework for understanding the issue of fraud. The module will discuss the organisation of organised crime policing at the international and national level, and response to fraud in the UK. The module will discuss how different agencies in the UK cooperate to prosecute fraud. The module will draw on the experience of a number of the UK professional and public sector groups involved in fraud advice, prosecution and regulation.

The module will be taught via one hour lecture and one hour seminar each week for the whole trimester.

Year 4: Presenting Evidence

This module is designed to introduce you to the principles of gathering evidence and conducting interviews; case building and management; and presenting evidence in Court. You will gain an insight into how crimes are investigated, including when and how investigations are discontinued. The module will focus on the theories of effective interviewing using the PEACE model as it applies to both suspects and witnesses and you will develop their knowledge of Court procedures and types of evidence. You will be required to learn the principles of the PEACE model and apply it by conducting mock interview, produce an evidential document and then present evidence in a mock Court setting (based on your own investigation).

This module builds on your prior learning from Year 1 (The Criminal Justice System); and Year 2 (CJ placement and Law for Police Officers). This material is essential for those aspiring to become Police Officers and valuable to those seeking employment as Police Staff or elsewhere in the wider Criminal Justice System.

This module is taught by a weekly lecture and weekly seminar.