

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	BSc (Hons) Criminology
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BSc (Hons) Criminology
Named Exit Awards	DipHE Criminology
Entry Requirements ⁴	Typical Offer: 110 UCAS tariff points (or equivalent) Plus GCSE grade C or above in English and Mathematics (or equivalent)
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	L370

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BSc (Hons) Criminology course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2017-18 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

Criminology at the University of Suffolk draws on Sociology, Psychology, Law, Social Policy and Philosophy in order to expose students to a range of classical and contemporary theoretical and empirical debates concerning crime and responses to criminal behaviour. Students are actively encouraged to develop good analytical and reasoning skills as they engage with academic literature and evaluate research and evidence.

Criminology students at will be able to critically engage with national and international dimensions of crime and criminal justice policy, and develop well informed views on contested public issues. There is a strong emphasis on challenging “common-sense” notions of criminal and deviant behaviours by critically examining academic research and making informed decisions based on available evidence. To this end, students will be introduced to a variety of research methods and ethical considerations, so that they can challenge and

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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understand the limitations and ambiguities of empirical research, whilst assessing its value. This will provide an excellent theoretical and practical platform for the completion of a third year dissertation in an area of personal or career interest.

Course Aims

- To develop students' knowledge, critical understanding and skills in Criminology
- To cultivate a questioning and critical approach to the understanding of human behaviour and society
- To encourage cognitive development and autonomous learning
- To develop subject specific, cognitive and key transferable skills of value in employment, further study and personal development
- To provide opportunities that facilitate widening participation by local/non-standard entrants to study criminology studies at degree level

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BSc (Hons) Criminology course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

Knowledge and understanding

1. Demonstrate a depth of knowledge and critical understanding of a range of approaches, theories, concepts, research findings and applications in the relevant field of study
2. Critically analyse a range of key concepts and theoretical approaches in Criminology
3. Critically evaluate the values, practices and processes that underpin criminal justice
4. Critically evaluate the relationship between political ideology and social problems within Criminology

Intellectual skills

5. Show good critical thinking skills and a notable ability to critically evaluate and interpret a range of information, theories and evidence
6. Demonstrate an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
7. Critically analyse competing interpretations of crime and responses to it
8. Identify and critique the philosophical, political and ethical values that inform criminology
9. Identify and critique a range of criminological research and evidence

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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Practical skills

10. Manage their own learning effectively, and recognise, find and make good use of academic literature
11. Undertake and critically evaluate a research project
12. Demonstrate a high level of evaluative and analytical skills through summarising and analysing arguments, reports, documents and other written and verbal data
13. Autonomous learning using appropriate primary and secondary sources
14. Undertake and critically evaluate a research project

Key skills

15. Communicate relevant subject knowledge and evidence accurately and reliably with structured and coherent arguments
16. Show development of key transferable skills

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Criminology (2014)

Course Structure

The BSc (Hons) Criminology comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Social Science Research Skills	20	M
	Introduction to Criminology	20	M
	Law for Criminologists	20	O
	Politics, Crime and Policy	20	O
	Media, Crime & Deviance	20	O
	Principles of Psychology for Criminology	20	O
	Introduction to Sociology	20	O
Level 5			
	Questionnaire Design and Analysis	10	M

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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	Qualitative Research Design and Analysis	10	M
	Criminological Theory	20	M
	Youth Crime and Justice	20	O
	Policing	20	O
	Criminal Justice	20	O
	Child Law*	20	O
	Psychology and Crime*	20	O
	Social Theory	20	O
Level 6			
	Dissertation	40	M
	Penology	20	O
	Victimology	20	O
	Drugs, Crime and Society	20	O
	Human Rights*	20	O
	Forensic Psychology*	20	O

*modules will be offered subject to the availability of specialist staff.

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Criminology. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a DipHE Criminology on successful completion of 240 credits including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying full-time on the BSc (Hons) Criminology course are likely to have approximately 12 hours per week (288 hours per year) contact hours for level 4, 12 hours per week (288 hours per year) contact hours for level 5 and 8.5 hours per week (204 hours per year) contact hours for level 6. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars, practical activities, tutorials and workshops. Students will normally be expected to undertake 38 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be mostly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects) and up to 6 examinations.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

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Course Costs

Students undertaking the BSc (Hons) Criminology course will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£9,250 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£1,454 per 20 credit module
Full-time International	£10,080 per year
Part-time International	£1,680 per 20 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students are likely to incur other costs for essential reading materials amounting to approximately £240 per year.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).