

**DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD**

Course Title	<b>FdA Youth Justice</b>
Awarding Bodies	<b>University of Suffolk</b>
Level of Award <sup>1</sup>	<b>FHEQ Level 5</b>
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	<b>None</b>
Credit Structure <sup>2</sup>	<b>240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits</b>
Mode of Attendance	<b>Full-time</b>
Standard Length of Course <sup>3</sup>	<b>2 years full-time</b>
Intended Award	<b>FdA Youth Justice</b>
Named Exit Awards	<b>None</b>
Entry Requirements <sup>4</sup>	<p><b>In order to satisfy the minimum general requirements for admission candidates should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be currently employed/volunteering with a YOI or Secure Training Centre in England and Wales for a minimum of 1 day per week or equivalent and supported by their employer/setting</li> <li>• Be currently employed/volunteering within a community based Youth Offending Service or equivalent for a minimum of 1 day per week or equivalent and supported by their employer/setting</li> <li>• An applicant whose first language is not English will be required to produce evidence of their competence in the English language</li> <li>• Currently hold an enhanced DBS certificate which will need to be verified by your sponsor/employer prior to commencing the course.</li> </ul> <p><b>In considering individual applications evidence will be sought from employer or voluntary agency that provides an indication of the ability to meet the demands of the programme.</b></p>
Delivering Institution	<b>Unitas</b>
UCAS Code	<b>N/A</b>

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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](#).

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

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This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the FdA Youth Justice course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2018-19 academic year.<sup>5</sup>

### **Course Summary**

Youth Justice as an academic discipline has strong with strong roots in Criminology, Sociology, Psychology, Social Policy and Philosophy. It is a discipline with a number of robust theoretical and empirical debates. This considerable theoretical and empirical debate allows students to gain the very important undergraduate skill of critical understanding; furthermore, this multi-disciplinary approach enables a robust approach to be applied to the study of factors that impact upon youth crime and deviance.

You will critically examine academic research and making informed decisions based on the available evidence applying this, where appropriate, to your own practice To this end, students will be introduced to a variety of research methods and ethical considerations, so that they can challenge and understand the limitations and ambiguities of empirical research, whilst assessing its value. This will provide students with valuable skills relating directly to their own professional practice and will also provide a practical platform if they wish to progress onto a top-up degree in Youth Justice or another relevant discipline.

### **Course Aims**

1. To develop students' knowledge, critical understanding and skills in Youth Justice
2. To cultivate a questioning and critical approach to the understanding of human behaviour and society.
3. To encourage cognitive development and autonomous learning.
4. To develop subject specific, cognitive and key transferable skills of value in employment, further study and personal development.
5. To develop enhanced reflective professional practice skills.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

The following statements define what students graduating from the FdA Youth Justice 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 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)<sup>6</sup>.

The descriptor provided is used as a reference point for other qualifications aligned with level 4 of the QAA framework for higher education qualifications (FHEQ).

1. Knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with Youth Justice and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study
2. An ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic

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

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

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theories and concepts used within Youth Justice

3. Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to Youth Justice
4. Communicate the results of their study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent argument
5. Develop qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.

### **Descriptor for a higher education qualification at level 5 on the FHEQ:**

#### **Foundation degrees are awarded to students who have demonstrated:**

6. Knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles within Youth Justice and of the way in which those principles have developed
7. Ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context
8. Knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study
9. An understanding of the limits of their knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.
10. The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making.

### **Course Design**

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

- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement The framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2008
- YJB National Standards for Youth Justice Services April 2013
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Criminology March 2014
- QAA Foundation Degree Characteristics Statement September 2015

### **Course Structure**

The FdA Youth Justice comprises modules at levels 4 and 5.

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

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	Module	Credits	Module Type <sup>7</sup>
Level 4			
	Exploring Youth Justice	60	M
	Developing Practice Skills 1	60	M
Level 5			
	Effective Practice in Youth Justice	60	M
	Developing Practice Skills 2	60	M

### Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded an FdA Youth Justice.

### Course Delivery

The FdA Youth Justice is delivered online by Unitas, a charity that provides distance-learning courses to youth justice practitioners. You will be expected to complete 600 learning hours for each module (including the online activities classes). The online activities to support your learning will take up 50% of this time with the remainder being independent study by you (reading, critically thinking and analysis papers and even preparing assignments). Using the module Exploring Youth Justice as an example, this equates to approx. 3 hours per day of both tutor led course activities and independent learning activities. There is a range of support from tutors through the provision of tutorials via telephone or skype. Tutors will monitor your progress through each module to ensure that you are keeping on track with activities and your learning to provide you with supportive learning environment that ensures you do not feel isolated.

### 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 100% coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals and research projects).

### 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.

### Course Costs

Students undertaking FdA Youth Justice will be funded as part of the Unitas programme.

### 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 Unitas Learning Platform which is available to staff and students.

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<sup>7</sup> Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards