

Introduction to Crime and Criminal Justice

Module Code:	SAC4007-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Sociology and Criminology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 4

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	32
Directed Study	168

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1 (Sep - Jan)

Module Aims

This module will provide you with an introductory knowledge of crime and criminal justice and the opportunity to analyse and interpret the same. The module will apply historical and contemporary approaches to provide introductory interpretations of crime and criminal justice issues which are of importance today.

Outline Syllabus

The syllabus will show some flexibility to enable discussion of any criminal events which may be particularly topical at a given time. Otherwise, a typical presentation of the module will introduce you to an array of issues including: an overview of the criminal justice system structure and function; sociological and psychological theories of crime; different perspectives on crime definitions; a discussion of the social construction of crime statistics;

different ideas of punishment; an opportunity to address up to the minute criminal justice themes.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1 a) define crime, drawing on knowledge of a range of conceptual perspectives;
 b) identify and analyse the main empirical and theoretical issues associated with historical and contemporary perspectives on crime and criminal justice.
- 2 a) identify key organisations and players in the structure and function of the criminal justice system;
 b) use academic sources and critical skills to support or criticise ideological or theoretical perspectives on crime and criminal justice.
- 3 a) demonstrate effective written communication skills;
 b) work collaboratively in mixed and new groups to identify, prepare and deliver a presentation on a criminological topic.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures will introduce topics, theoretical perspectives and empirical issues in understanding crime and the structure and function of the criminal justice system from historical and contemporary perspectives. They will support your understanding of what makes a good essay and presentation. The lectures will be interactive and involve group discussions to explore, clarify and critically appraise the main empirical and theoretical issues. Directed study requires you to carry out independent reading relevant to the topics covered.

All assessments require you to use academic sources and critical skills to support or criticise as appropriate (LO2b). The 'define crime' essay assesses your understanding of crime from a range of conceptual perspectives (LO1a) and develops written skills in summarising information (LO3a). The exam assesses your understanding of the structure and function of the criminal justice system (LO2a) and your ability to identify and analyse theoretical and empirical issues associated with perspectives on crime (LO1b). The presentation introduces you to working collaboratively in mixed and new groups and requires you to identify, prepare and deliver a group presentation on a criminological topic (LO3b). The presentation requires you to engage with empirical and theoretical issues associated with historical and contemporary perspectives on crime and criminal justice (LO1b) and think about the relationships between modern society and crime (LO2b). The summative assessment on defining crime, worth 20% of the total mark, comes early in the semester and the feedback for that assessment provides extensive guidance for later work, obviating the need for a formative assessment.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Presentation	Group presentation	20 minutes	30%	No
Summative	Examination - MCQ	Multiple choice and short answer exam	2 hours	50%	Yes
Summative	Coursework	700 word 'define crime' essay to be handed in early in the Semester	0-700 words	20%	No

Legacy Code (if applicable)

SJ-4007L

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).