

Module Details	
Module Title	Introduction to Crime and Criminal Justice
Module Code	SAC4007-B
Academic Year	2021/2
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 4

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	24
Tutorials	6
Directed Study	166

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

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.

Learning Outcomes	
Outcome Number	Description
01	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.
02	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.
03	a) Demonstrate effective written communication skills; b) Work collaboratively in mixed and new groups.

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). This summative assessment on defining crime, worth 50% of the total mark is submitted earlier in the semester and the feedback for that assessment provides extensive guidance for later work. The examination 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).

Mode of Assessment			
Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework	1000 word 'define crime' essay to be handed in during Semester 1 (1000 words)	50%
Summative	Examination - Open Book	Short essay answers (2 Hrs)	50%

Reading List
To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.