Programme Specification for BA (Hons) Criminology with Politics

This document applies to Academic Year 2022/23 onwards

Table 1 programme specification for BA (Hons) Criminology

1.	**Awarding institution/body**	University of Worcester
2.	**Teaching institution**	University of Worcester
3.	**Programme accredited by**	NA
4.	**Final award or awards**	BA (Hons)
5.	**Programme title**	Criminology with Politics
6.	**Pathways available**	Single honours
7.	**Mode and/or site of delivery**	Taught Programme at University of Worcester
8.	**Mode of attendance and duration**	Full time/ Part time (3 years full-time and up to 6 years part-time)
9.	**UCAS Code**	Criminology with Politics – L3L2
10.	**Subject Benchmark statement and/or professional body statement**	QAA Subject Benchmark Statement, Criminology. March 2022 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement, Politics and International Relations. December 2019.
11.	**Date of Programme Specification preparation/ revision**	Approved at ASQEC July 2022 August 2022– AQU amendments

12. **Educational aims of the programme**

As an academic subject, Criminology is both theoretical and empirical with a primary focus on contested social scientific explanations for crime, victimisation and deviance, and responses to those crimes, by societies, individuals and the state. The applied and inter-disciplinary nature of the subject is mirrored in the construction of the programme. The core discrete modules in Criminology are complemented by modules in Psychology, Law and Sociology, prompting shared learning with students from other disciplines.

Accordingly, alongside studying criminology the course will have a political edge, in that students' studies will be linked to a wider focus on Westminster, European, and global politics, political philosophy, and contemporary political challenges. As a result, it is a further educational aim of the programme to prepare students for the vast array of possible future careers they may go into. This is achieved by flexibility, creativity, and confidence, as well as by showing how criminology can impact beyond the classroom in relation to the contemporary political challenges we all face.

The Criminology with Politics graduate is able to engage with and draw upon a range of intellectual and critical processes in the decisions they make and ways they analyse and interpret the world, including the identification and significance of different value positions to everyday practice. This means that they make decisions which are not only rigorously analytical in scope, but also demonstrate active engagement with the different value positions representative of the groups, communities and institutions involved in crime and criminal justice. Ultimately, students will be able to contribute to policies and practices that better meet peoples' needs, in the criminal justice system and beyond.

More specifically the educational aims of the programme are:

1. To foster a capacity to critically assess evidence from a range of sources, intellectual traditions, and disciplines, and to appreciate how crime and our responses to crime are continuously reconstructed, political, and ever-changing in local, national, and international contexts.

2. To develop a critical understanding of key concepts and theoretical approaches in relation to crime, deviance, and victimisation in domestic and international contexts in a globalised world.

3. To critically assess the influence of representations on responses to crime and victims in official reports, the mass media and public opinion.

4. To develop a critical appreciation of the effects of different, cultural, social, and economic backgrounds and value positions in relation to the politics of criminal justice policy and practice.

5. To develop the capacity to apply the principles of human rights and civil liberties to policing, to the different stages of the criminal justice process, and to all official responses to crime and deviance and related social policy areas.

6. To foster rigor in linking theoretical analysis with empirical enquiry and promote a critical approach to problem solving, conducting, and interpreting research and the ethical principles governing subject specific research.

7. To develop professional and transferable skills relevant to employment, including autonomous learning, enjoyment, and commitment to lifelong learning and to academic and professional development.

8. To contextualise students' study of Criminology within contemporary Westminster, European, and global politics and international relations.

13.   **Intended learning outcomes and learning, teaching and assessment methods**
       This intended learning outcomes have been proposed in line with the University's
       Curriculum Design Policy, Assessment Policy and Guidance on writing learning
       outcomes and developing assessment criteria, as well as the QAA's Revised UK Quality
       Code (for FHEQ and subject/qualification benchmarks).

Table 2 knowledge and understanding outcomes for module code/s

Knowledge and Understanding		
LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	**Module Code/s**
1.	Critically evaluate the history, theories and concepts of criminology and criminal justice	All Modules
2.	Demonstrate understanding of, and the ability to apply, interdisciplinary perspectives, drawing on subjects such as sociology, psychology, law, and philosophy	CRMN3601 POLP3107
3.	Critically analyse the individual, political and social factors relevant to influences on, responses to and prevention of harmful and criminal behaviours	COPS2505 CRMN3603 CRMN3604

Knowledge and Understanding		
4.	Demonstrate knowledge of UK and international policies, legislation, and practices of relevant political, criminal justice and third sector organisations.	POLP3107 CRMN3602 CRMN3605
5.	Understand the diversity of contemporary Westminster, European, and global politics and international relations	POLP2107 POLP3107
6.	Show knowledge and critical understanding of political research, skills in relation to data analysis, as well as political discourse analysis	POLP2107 POLP3107

Table 3 cognitive and intellectual skills outcomes for module code/s

Cognitive and Intellectual skills		
LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	**Module Code/s**
7.	Synthesise and effectively interpret a range of contemporary research, policy, and theory in specialised and/or applied areas of criminology to develop independent perspectives and arguments	All Modules
8.	Integrate consideration of diversity, culture, values, and ethics into decision making and problem solving in relation to crime and victimisation	CRMN3601 CRMN3602
9.	Apply a critical understanding of research design and methods to formulate and investigate a research question in criminology	CRMN2501 CRMN3601

Table 4 skills and capabilities related to employment outcomes for module code/s

Skills and capabilities related to employability		
LO no.	On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:	**Module Code/s**
10.	Demonstrate competent research skills through the appropriate and critical use of a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods	CRMN2501 CRMN3601
11.	Use information to present arguments to influence and persuade a range of audiences	All Modules
12.	Demonstrate digital citizenship in retrieving, managing, and analysing information effectively and appropriately	CRMN3602 CRMN3603 CRMN3605

Table 5 transferable/key skills outcomes for module code/s

Transferable/key skills		
LO no.	**On successful completion of the named award, students will be able to:**	**Module Code/s**
13.	Use written, oral and visual communication, individually and collaboratively, to effectively convey ideas and research findings within criminology to a range of audiences	CRMN3601 CRMN3604 POLP3107
14.	Critically reflect on learning, showing resilience and generating plans for future professional and intellectual development	CRMN3607
15.	Demonstrate team-working skills through respectfulness, awareness, and sensitivity to the contextual and interpersonal features of group work	CRMN3606 CRMN2505
16.	Employ organisational and time management skills through effective project management	CRMN2501 CRMN3601

Learning, teaching and assessment

The learning, teaching and assessment methods of the course provide students with a range of experiences to promote knowledge acquisition and skill development. These include lectures, seminars, practical classes, computer workshops, tutorials, problem-based learning, and directed study. Criminology is an applied subject, and therefore, those with lived experience or practical experience as professionals in the field will work closely with the teaching team to enhance the learning environment.

A particular focus will be placed on employability skills throughout the course and the teaching team will continue to build strong community relationships to ensure students have volunteering opportunities to enhance their understanding of the core areas in criminology. Throughout the course, students will be given the opportunity to hear from guest speakers in practice including course alumni.

In addition, a work-based learning module will explicitly encourage students to engage with an organisation to provide them with experience and confidence as well as developing skills and networks. Examples of organisations that we currently work with include Youth Support Service, Drug and Alcohol Services, Women's Aid and West Mercia Constabulary. Each module has a dedicated Blackboard page (the virtual learning environment), which gives access to a range of resources including self-directed learning and assessment tasks, discussion boards and other learning materials. Furthermore, a blend of traditional and innovative authentic assessment methods is used, with opportunities for student choice to give an opportunity for students to work towards learning outcomes in a personally meaningful way. Modes of assessment include essays, case studies and literature reviews, as well as presentations (including posters, videos, and PowerPoint presentations), vlogs and podcasts.

Teaching

Students are taught through a combination of learning and teaching methods. Lectures allow for the presentation and introduction of key topics, including both traditional and contemporary sources, which allow students to begin their learning. This is then supported by seminars that enable the discussion and development of understanding of topics covered in lectures. Subject specific skills are the focus of practical classes and workshops (for example, understanding application of theory).

The course also has a keen focus on experiential learning, as there is good evidence that this can greatly enhance the student learning experience. Therefore, methods will be used such as problem-based learning, whereby students will apply theory and content from criminology and politics to address real world, global issues (e.g., the role of policing in knife crime, tackling crime from different lenses of victimology and offending). The role of research in the learning and teaching methods of this course will be central to all areas. Such research-informed teaching and learning will include group activities, assessments, and problem-based learning. In addition, a specialised module that focuses on work-based learning will offer students an opportunity to build confidence through a portfolio of concrete experiences related to employability.

The University places emphasis on enabling students to develop the independent learning capabilities that will equip them for lifelong learning and future employment, as well as academic achievement. A mixture of independent study, teaching and academic support from Student Services and Library Services, and the Personal Academic Tutoring system enables students to reflect on progress and build up a profile of skills, achievements and experiences that will help them to flourish and be successful.

Criminology with Politics is an applied course that is sits in the heart of the community. As such, students will have the opportunity to attend careers focused activities such as a welcome week fair and an online annual careers fair. Support for such events is heavily supported by key stakeholders such as the Police Crime Commissioner/ Magistrates/ Local Detectives etc. Sitting alongside the course, extra-curricular Continued Professional Development (CPD) workshops will be offered to give students the opportunity to engage with professionals/ academics and support services in the field of criminology. Strong connections with the courts and local prisons have offered students unique learning experiences in a different environment.

Contact time

In a typical week, students will have around 10-12 contact hours of teaching. The precise contact hours will depend on the optional modules selected and in the final year there is normally slightly less contact time to do more independent study. In each semester, student will be studying four modules. Each module will have 2-3 hours of weekly classes on campus, typically including a lecture and a smaller seminar or workshop. The final year dissertation has more flexibility in terms of teaching as this consists of small group seminars and individual supervision tailored to the progress of each student. Typically, on campus classes will be structured around:

• Lectures
　　　First year lectures can be large (70-80 typically)
　　　Second and third year lectures are smaller (40-50 typically)
• Seminars and workshops
　　　Groups are smaller, groups range from 25-40
　　　Seminars encourage students to work in groups of 6-8
• Tutorials
　　　Staff have weekly 20 minute 1:1 tutorial slot's available to book
• Use of course Virtual Learning Environment (Blackboard) for online activities
　　　Each module will include a range of online activities including recorded talks, discussion boards, padlets, quizzes and directed reading.

Independent self-study

In addition to the contact time, students are expected to undertake around 24 hours of personal self-study per week. Typically, this will involve completing online activities, reading journal articles and books, working on individual and group projects, undertaking research in the library and online, and preparing coursework assignments and presentations. Independent learning is supported by a range of excellent learning facilities, including the Hive and library resources, the virtual learning environment, and extensive electronic learning resources (i.e., discussion boards).

Teaching staff

Students will be taught by a teaching team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the modules on the course, who come from both academic and professional backgrounds, and who represent the multi-disciplinary nature of the course. The course team draw on expertise from criminal law, politics, sociology, criminology, policing and forensic science. Teaching is informed by research, practice and consultancy, and many lecturers on the course have (or are currently working towards) a higher education teaching qualification or are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy.

The core teaching team are supported by Associate Lecturers who bring specialised practice experience to the module, and who, are practitioners in the field of criminology. The teaching team have strong connections with those who have lived experience who also have input into modules.

Assessment

A range of assessment methods are used to enable students to achieve and demonstrate the learning outcomes. Literacy and critical thinking around criminology is developed and assessed through assignments such as essays, literature reviews and critical reviews of journal papers. Such assessments aim to develop skills such as problem solving, research, organisation, planning, and effective communication. Effective and fluent written, oral, and visual communication is enhanced further through assessments that use posters and PowerPoint presentations, video, and webpage design; whilst the use of group work for assessment enables better team working and the development of leadership skills. Finally, several modules use weblogs, e-portfolios, and case studies to develop and assess a range of skills including reflection and independent learning.

Furthermore, the course provides opportunities to test understanding and learning informally through the completion of practice or 'formative' assignments. Each module has one or more formal or 'summative' assessments which are graded and count towards the overall module grade. Assessment methods will vary but could include Essay, Reflective Log, Personal Development Plan, Public Communication, Literature Review, Research Proposal, Presentation (group and individual), Research Project, Poster Presentation, Case Study, Portfolio, Policy Briefing, Extended Essay, and Vlog.

The precise assessment requirements for an individual student in an academic year will vary according to the mandatory and optional modules taken, but a typical formal summative assessment pattern for each year of the course is:

Year 1

3 case studies
2 reports

1 personal development plan
1 research methods report
1 document analysis
1 discussion paper

Year 2

2 reports
1 research proposal
1 risk evaluation
1 presentation
1 podcast
1 reflective journal
1 essay
1 political discourse analysis
1 case study

Year 3

1 dissertation
1 poster conference presentation
2 digital presentations
1 vlog
2 essays
1 political discourse analysis
1 research briefing

14. Assessment strategy

The assessment strategies adopted in the course reflect the aims of the course and the descriptors for undergraduate level study and make a significant contribution to learning. The assessment strategies are designed to develop skills and knowledge in criminology and provide evidence of the students' progress and achievement throughout the course, preparing the students for a range of careers. Both formal (summative) and informal, developmental (formative) approaches are used. To develop the skills of higher education study, students experience a variety of assessment strategies as previously described. The overall assessment strategy of the course is to provide a balance of innovative and traditional assessment methods allowing students to develop both subject specific and transferable skills and show progression of learning across the course. The opportunity for students to demonstrate independence in a sustained piece of work is provided in the completion of the criminology dissertation.

A key emphasis as part of this in the course is for 'Assessments for Life'. This involves providing opportunities through curriculum design for students to consider global issues facing society (e.g., environmental harm and sustainability). The use of experiential learning and assessments encourage an application of criminological awareness to global challenges. Furthermore, assessment of learning through modes that build employability confidence and reflect contemporary values to prepare criminology graduates for tomorrow's challenges is also crucial. Examples of such assessments in the course include a consultancy report and policy briefing (e.g., government policy).

Formative assessment is an important feature of the assessment methods of the course. These informal developmental assessments are used across the course to provide students with regular feedback on how they are progressing in their learning in a module. Criminology uses a mixture of self-directed, e-learning, and in-class formative assessment activities such as online quizzes used within lectures to allow students to self-assess levels of knowledge and areas for development. Seminars are used for

group discussion with peer and tutor formative feedback on progress. These assessments are designed to ensure that students can develop the key skills and understanding needed for studying criminology. The formative tasks are carefully designed for each module to give students the opportunity to practice core skills and consolidate both generic and subject specific learning. The need to provide opportunities to practice skills without penalty is one of the underpinning philosophies of the undergraduate criminology programmes at Worcester. In all our formative tasks the emphasis is clearly on assessment for learning as opposed to assessment of learning. This is especially important where new skills are being developed that student can do so in the safe and supportive learning environment provided by this approach.

Criminology uses the undergraduate generic grade descriptors adapted to the subject and level of study and, where necessary, made specific to the assessments they are used to evaluate. An example of these feedback grids is provided in the BA (Hons) Criminology Course Handbook. These assessment criteria along with a range of formative assessments are used widely in the programme at all points during semesters to provide students with timely feedback about their progress in preparation for summatively assessed work. Formative assessments are varied and reflect the variety of skills and, summative assessments, they relate to. A grid showing assessment methods and weightings mapped to modules at each level, together with an assessment calendar of submission dates is included in the Course Handbook The course is fully compliant with UW regulations for assessment, mitigation, appeals and complaints. For further details on any of these areas please follow this link to the Registry website or see the UW Student Handbook.

15.   Programme structures and requirements

Award map template for: Single Honours awards (BA) at Levels 4, 5 and 6

Course Title: BA (Hons) Criminology with Politics

Level 4

Table 6. Level 4

Module Code	Module Title	Credits (Number)	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	
			Single Hons	**Joint Hons**
CRMN1401	Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice	30	M	M
CRMN1402	Professional Skills, Practice and Research in Criminology	30	M	M
POLP1107	Westminster Politics	30	M	NA
CRMN1403	Introduction to criminal legislation policy	15	O	NA
CRMN1404	Introduction to Criminal Law	15	O	NA
LANGXXXX	Optional Modules offered by the Language Centre/School of Education (codes LANG or UGTU)	15/30	O	NA

Single Honours Requirements at Level 4:

Single Honours students must take 120 credits in total drawn from the table above to include all mandatory modules CRMN1401, CRMN1402 and POLP1107. Students have the option to take CRMN1403, CRMN1404 or up to 15/30 credits drawn from a range of Language Centre modules in: Academic English for native and non-native speakers of English; Modern Foreign Languages; Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) and modules in Tutoring. Details of the available modules can be found here https://www.worcester.ac.uk/life/help-and-support/language-centre/optional-modules.aspx

Level 5

Table 7. Level 5

Module Code	Module Title	Credits (Number)	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	Pre-requisites (Code of Module required)
			SH	
CRMN2501	Building on Theory and Research in Criminology	30	M	CRMN1401 & CRMN1402
POLP2107	European Politics	30	M	None
CRMN2503	Contemporary & Global Issues in Criminology	15	M	None
CRMN2504	Constructing Crime – Criminology and Media	15	O	None
CRMN2505	Victimology	15	O	None
COPS2105	Policing in England and Wales	15	O	
SOCG2109	"Race" and Ethnicity in Contemporary British Society	15	O	None
LANG xxxx	Optional modules offered by Language Centre/ School of Education (codes LANG or UGTU)	15/30	O	None

Single Honours Requirements at Level 5

Single Honours students must take 120 credits, 60 of which must be drawn from the table above to include CRMN2501 and POLP2107.

Optional modules must include 60 credits drawn from the table above, including CRMN2503, CRMN2504, CRMN2505, SOCG2109 and COPS2105 or a range of Language Centre modules in: Academic English for native and non-native speakers of English, and Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL); and modules in Tutoring. Details of the available modules can be found here https://www.worcester.ac.uk/life/help-and-support/language-centre/optional-modules.aspx

Level 6

Table 8. Level 6

Module Code	Module Title	Credits (Number)	Status (Mandatory (M) or Optional (O))	Pre-requisites (code of module required)
			SH	
CRMN3601	Criminology Dissertation	30	M	CRMN2501
POLP3107	Global Politics	30	M	None
CRMN3602	Youth Justice and Crime	15	O	None
CRMN3603	Intimate Partner Abuse: Impact and Response	15	O	None
CRMN3604	Organised Crime, Terrorism and Gangs	15	O	None
CRMN3605	Mental Health and Substance Use in the Context of the Criminal Justice System	15	O	None
CRMN3606	Cybercrime	15	O	None
CRMN3607	Work Based Learning	15	O	None

Single Honours Requirements at Level 6:

Single Honours students must take 120 credits from the table above to include the mandatory module CRMN3601 and POLP3107.

Credit requirements for awards involving two subjects

In determining whether an award derived from two subjects is Joint Honours (subject 1 and subject 2) or Major/Minor Honours (subject 1 with subject 2) credits taken in each subject at Levels 5 and 6 will count as follows

Table 9. Credit requirements for awards involving two subjects

Subject 1	Subject 2	Award
120	120	Joint Hons
135	105	Joint Hons
150	90	Major/Minor Hons
165	75	Major/Minor Hons
180	60	Major/Minor Hons

16. **QAA and professional academic standards and quality**
    This award is located at Level 6 of the *FHEQ qualification descriptor*. The QAA Subject Benchmark Statement, Criminology March 2022 has informed the learning outcomes and design of the course.

17. **Support for students**

    As part of the University's commitment to inclusion and diversity of staff and students, this course fully implements the University's Inclusion Toolkit, to fully support students' individual learner journeys and the course learning outcomes have been closely designed alongside the graduate attributes. Therefore, the course will:

    • Be designed inclusively
    • Be taught inclusively
    • Be assessed inclusively
    • Create inclusive environments

    To achieve this, the course and curriculum has been developed to be inclusive for all. The curriculum ensures where possible that diverse perspectives on content are represented. Assessments are also designed to be inclusive, with clear criteria and rationale for specific types of assessment. Where appropriate, a choice of assessment methods is offered to meet the needs of students. Feedback is positive and constructive, developing confidence and engagement for students of different backgrounds. Within individual modules, expectations of students are made clear and explicit with sensitivity to the needs and circumstances of students as well as providing inclusive learning materials that are accessible to all. Overall, the criminology course and the School of Psychology embed inclusive values, encouraging staff and students to develop and practice intercultural competence. Finally, we believe the practice of inclusion in the course is a continuing and evolving element, therefore the course team regularly review this, particularly in light of student outcomes, to ensure all students have the same experiences and opportunities to be successful in their degree.

    Before starting the course, applicants are offered the opportunity to visit the University and experience the styles of learning and teaching to help them prepare for university life. Upon joining the course, an initial one-week induction programme is provided for all new entrants, which is designed and delivered in conjunction with students to promote the ethos of academic partnership under which the course operates. Activities include general University information as well as a subject-specific study session, a social session, and an informal session where new students can meet their Personal Academic Tutor. Library and information staff are available to provide support during induction and throughout the course.

    Whilst at the University, students will be allocated a Personal Academic Tutor (PAT) who will work with them to support their academic development, learning and progression. Our aim is to help students make the transition from one level to another as they progress through higher education, from their entry to the course from school/FE college and right through the different level of the course to their graduation and beyond. Therefore, we aim to ensure that students have the same PAT throughout their time studying with us, although this may be subject to change if there are changes within the course team. Students will be supported to develop as they become self-reflective learners, recognise the knowledge and skills achieved, identify gaps in knowledge and think about how to address these gaps. The defining questions about this journey are therefore 'Where have you been?' 'Where are you going?' and 'How will you get there?'

In addition to supporting academic development, tutors are able to advise and guide students on any issues or problems arising whilst they are at the University and signpost them to the broader range of services provided by the University. Tutors also aim to help students make the most of the learning resources and other forms of learning support available to them, including the University wide student services. Students with additional needs may also wish to take advantage of the Disability and Dyslexia Service within Student Services, which provides specialist support on a one-to-one basis to any student requiring such services. Please see links, below:

https://www2.worc.ac.uk/firstpoint/
https://www.worcester.ac.uk/life/help-and-support/services-for-students/home.aspx
https://www2.worc.ac.uk/disabilityanddyslexia/

A Course Handbook is available and is updated annually. An initial 'welcome week' programme is provided for all new entrants, which is designed and delivered in conjunction with students to promote the ethos of academic partnership under which the course operates. Activities include general university information as well as subject specific study, research skills and relationship building sessions. Library induction and information skills packages are available at induction and throughout the course with a strong focus, during Level 4, to support students' transition to higher education. A general criminology Blackboard page contains many resources to support skills development. Study skills sessions are also provided by the subject team and additional support is provided and learning support services (Library Services, ICT and Media and Print). There are also opportunities for students to study abroad.

Finally, the course will emphasise to students the need and value of gaining extra skills, knowledge, and experience alongside the course. Therefore, students will be given the opportunity to be involved in opportunities such as acting as peer mentors, developing their personal resilience, further methods of data analysis and relevant transferable skills. Students will be encouraged to tailor the extra-curricular skills they gain and add them to their own personalised learning journey which develops as their own personal aspirations do with regards to their careers and future selves. This can also include any voluntary or paid work experience and can be formally recognised in student references and/or in final degree awards (perhaps in combination with the Worcester Award).

18.   **Admissions**

Admissions policy

The course team seeks to admit students who have the capacity to benefit from study at higher education level, and Admissions Tutors seek to identify applicants who can demonstrate their potential to succeed at this level. We are committed to widening participation, equality, diversity and inclusion. Thus, we encourage students from all backgrounds to apply for example mature students (i.e., over the age of 21) are very welcome and if they fulfil the standard entry requirements as detailed below, they should apply through UCAS.

Entry requirements

The normal minimum entry requirement for undergraduate degree courses is the possession of 4 GCSE's (Grade C/4 or above) that must include Maths and English, and a minimum of 2 A Levels (or equivalent Level 3 qualifications). The current UCAS Tariff requirements for entry to this course are published in the prospectus and on the UW website Criminology with Politics (BA) Hons. Students with few or no formal qualifications should contact the Registry Admissions Office with details of their age, any

work undertaken, including caring or organised voluntary work, and any other relevant experience gained since leaving school.

See Admissions Policy for other acceptable qualifications.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Details of acceptable Level 3 qualifications, policy in relation to mature students or applicants with few or no formal qualifications can be found in the prospectus or on the University webpages. Information on eligibility for recognition of prior learning for the purposes of entry or advanced standing is also available from the University webpages or from the Registry Admissions Office (01905 855111).

Further information on Recognition of Prior Learning can be found at http://www.worcester.ac.uk/registryservices/941.htm

Admissions procedures

Full-time applicants apply through UCAS *(L311)*
Part-time applicants apply directly to University of Worcester (UW)

Admissions/selection criteria

Places are offered to all students who fulfil the University entry requirements and who demonstrate that they have the potential to benefit from the study of criminology at degree level.

Please contact the Registry Admissions Office for further information or guidance on 01905 855111.

19. **Regulation of assessment**
     The course operates under the University's Taught Courses Regulatory Framework

     Requirements to pass modules
     - Modules are assessed using a variety of assessment activities which are detailed in module specifications.
     - The minimum pass mark is D- for each module.
     - A student is required to submit all items of assessment to pass a module, and in some modules, a pass mark in each item of assessment may be required.
     - Full details of the assessment requirements for a module, including the assessment criteria, are published in the module outline.

     Submission of assessment items
     - A student who submits course work late but within 7 days (one week) of the due date will have work marked, but the grade will be capped at D- unless an application for mitigating circumstances is accepted.
     - A student who submits work later than 7 days (one week) will not have work marked unless they have submitted a valid claim of mitigating circumstances.
     - For full details of submission regulations please see the Taught Courses Regulatory Framework.

     Retrieval of failure
     - A student is entitled to resit failed assessment items for any module that is awarded a fail grade.
     - Reassessment items that are passed are capped at D-.

- If a student is unsuccessful in the reassessment, they have the right to retake the module (or, in some circumstances, take an alternative module); the module grade for a re-taken module is capped at D-.
- A student will be notified of the reassessment opportunities in the results notification issued via the secure student portal (SOLE). It is the student's responsibility to be aware of and comply with any reassessments.

Requirements for Progression

- A student will be permitted to progress from Level 4 to Level 5 if, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, they have passed at least 90 credits at Level 4. Outstanding Level 4 credits must normally be studied in the following academic year.
- A student will be permitted to progress from Level 5 to Level 6 if, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, they have passed at least 210 credits, including 90 credits at Level 5. Outstanding Level 5 credits must normally be studied in the following academic year.
- A student who, by the time of the reassessment Board of Examiners, has failed 90 credits or more (after exhausting all reassessment opportunities) during the academic year, will have their registration with the University terminated
- If a student has not passed at least 90 credits by the reassessment Board of Examiners, the student is not permitted to progress to the next level and will be required to either complete outstanding reassessment or retake the failed modules the following academic year. Students will be able to carry forward any passed modules.

Requirements for Awards

Table 10. Requirements for Awards

Award	Requirement
Certificate of Higher Education Cert HE Criminology	To be eligible for the exit award of Certificate in Higher Education in the named subject/area of study, a student must have passed at least 120 credits in total including the mandatory modules for Level 4 of the award as specified on the award map.
Diploma of Higher Education DipHE Criminology	To be eligible for the exit award of Diploma in Higher Education in the named subject/area of study, a student must have passed at least 240 credits in total including the mandatory modules for Level 4 and Level 5 of the award as specified on the award map.

Degree (non-honours)	Passed a minimum of 300 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 5 or higher and a minimum of 60 credits at Level 6, including the mandatory modules for Level 5 and Level 6 of the award (not the Dissertation/Project module) as specified on the award map.
Degree with honours	Passed a minimum of 360 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 5 or higher and a minimum of 120 credits at Level 6, as specified on the award map.

Classification

The honours classification will be determined by whichever of the following two methods results in the higher classification.

- Classification determined on the profile of the 120 credits attained at Level 5 and 120 credits at Level 6. Level 5 and Level 6 grades are weighted on a ratio of 1:2. OR
- Classification determined on the profile of the 120 credits attained at Level 6 only.

- Classification will be based on the weighted average grade together with a requirement for at least half of the Level 6 grades to be in the higher class.

For further information on honours degree classification, see the Taught Courses Regulatory Framework.

Note that the above methods apply to students entering Level 4 of three or four year degree programmes who commence Level 4 from September 2022 onwards.

The Bachelor of Science (BSc) award will only be used for joint courses comprising two subjects for which the award of BSc was agreed, in all other cases the award will be Bachelor of Arts (BA). Therefore, graduates of all joint courses with Criminology will receive a Bachelor of Arts (BA).

20. **Graduate destinations, employability, and links with employers**

Graduate destinations

This programme has been designed with employability in mind. It has been introduced to better suit the needs of the market and students, with a more focused attitude towards skills and employment opportunities in Criminology and Politics related careers. The degree is designed for those with both an interest in the application of Criminological theory to practice and for those wishing to contribute their knowledge and skills to other general and/or specific settings, in particular in politics. This programme hopes to attract those who wish to develop their career in Criminology whilst furthering their interest in Politics.

Students are encouraged to consider their potential career pathways at the earliest opportunity through progress reviews with their PATs and in their choice of modules. Criminology with Politics liaises with the University's Careers and Employability Service to keep it informed of changes within professional areas of the disciplines, and to communicate to potential employers the knowledge and skills acquired by students taking Criminology with Politics. The Careers and Employability Service runs a series of workshops especially for Criminology with Politics students. The course prepares students for careers in many areas such as:

- Probation
- Prison service
- Third sector organisations
- Intervention facilitators
- Police Force
- Higher Education
- Research

Graduates also have a range of opportunities available to them that are associated with studies in Politics. The majority of graduates in this field go to work in public services, management, pressure groups, voluntary organisations, charities, community work and

consultancy, media, journalism, publishing, librarianship, advice work, research, and business (e.g., self-employment, management, administration, and marketing/public relations).

Student employability

The criminology with politics course design has been informed by the University's graduate attributes and as a result we provide learning opportunities within and around the course for students to become graduates who can:

1.	Act ethically with global and social responsibility, being culturally aware
2.	Be curious, reflective, and resilient lifelong learners
3.	Use their analytical, creative, and evaluative skills to problem solve
4.	Be effective communicators and team workers, and
5.	Use their digital capability to engage in the modern world of work by actively and responsibly working, communicating, and collaborating online.

This is reflected in the course in a range of ways. Firstly, taught content is frequently updated to reflect contemporary themes of research and practice in the real world. This is enhanced with a dedicated module at Level 5 focusing on global and contemporary issues in criminology. Secondly, the range of assessments methods across the course promote the learning of both academic and highly valuable employable skills such as presentations, group working and development of online content. Furthermore, there is also guidance for students on the course on how to gain relevant work and voluntary experience in order to develop relevant practical skills and employability. This is through a variety of such as the Level 4 professional skills module focusing on career exploration, a dedicated Level 6 work-based learning module encouraging students to gain real world experience with an organisation, and the annual careers day where students can attend subject-specific talks and workshops from the course team, employer organisations and the University's careers service. In addition, students are directed to the student-led Criminology Society resources on careers in criminology if they wish to pursue this route further. Extracurricular events such as networking days, volunteering fairs and professional development sessions are offered throughout the year that students can sign up to. By learning and refining the qualities and skills through the development of these graduate attributes, our criminology graduates are afforded many opportunities to leave the university well equipped to succeed in their future study, careers and throughout their lives.

Links with employers

For those interested in a career in or related to criminology, the course team develop links with local organisations and projects, to support students in gaining relevant experience. These local organisations typically offer sessions and opportunities within the aforementioned volunteering fair, careers day, guest speaker sessions within modules and opportunities to host dissertation projects. Examples of organisations that work in partnership with the course team in these ways include:

- Cranstoun drugs and alcohol service
- Victim support
- West Mercia Constabulary
- Women's Aid
- Youth Support Service
- Witness Services

Additionally, the Politics team enjoys links with local councillors, MPs, and parties; in the past, students have gained valuable work experience across a range of political parties and campaigns, as well as working in local constituencies and Parliament

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in associated course documentation e.g., course handbooks, module outlines and module specifications.