

Programme Specification for
BA Criminology



1. Programme title	BA Criminology
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	BA (Honours)
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time/ Part-time/ Thick Sandwich Programme

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

The University's standard entry requirement is 240 to 280 UCAS tariff points; however, mature applicants with relevant experience and qualifications, including access course qualifications are also welcomed, provided they can show evidence of ability to benefit from the programme. International students who have not been taught in the English medium must show evidence of proven ability in English such as TOEFL grade 550 or IELTS grade 6.5. University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations 'Information for students with disabilities'.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- Support the acquisition of knowledge and skills in criminology.
- Encourage the development in students of a critical approach to their studies, evaluating theory and evidence accordingly.
- Prepare students to be participants in society through an awareness and understanding of crime and crime control in society.

- Equip students in effective written, oral and IT communications skills.
- Develop in students analytical, research and graduate skills relevant to a range of professions.
- Encourage students to develop as autonomous learners; and instil a culture of lifelong learning among students.
- Provide a thorough grounding in major areas of criminology that enables students to progress to postgraduate training and education.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

1. A range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology.
2. Social diversity and inequality and their effects in relation to crime and responses to crime and deviance.
3. The use of comparison in relation to crime and responses to crime and deviance.
4. Complex social problems by applying criminological theories of crime and responses to crime and deviance.
5. A range of perspectives to assess crime and victimisation.
6. Qualitative and quantitative research designs.
7. The value of criminological work on crime responses to crime and deviance, and representations of these in relation to policy questions at national, international and global levels.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- active participation in a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials;
- weekly assignments and practical exercises;
- e-mail support;
- independent self-directed study and/or experiential learning.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- various summative assessment methods ranging from seen and unseen examinations, coursework essays and portfolios;
- formative assessment methods are employed in a range of modules covering core knowledge and understanding to aid students' developmental progress.

<p>8. How the discipline of criminology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding.</p> <p>9. Human rights issues and efforts to prevent harm and ensure personal safety.</p> <p>10. Different institutional cultures, historical and contemporary trends in criminal justice work, and the implications of changes in the values governing such work and practice in a diverse society.</p> <p>11. The values and processes that underpin developments in criminal justice, criminal law and courts and prisons and the practices of agencies which administer sentencing and alternatives.</p>	
<p>B. Cognitive (thinking) skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draw on relevant evidence to evaluate competing perspectives. 2. Draw on materials from a range of sources and demonstrate an ability to synthesise them. 3. Evaluate the viability of competing explanations within criminology, and draw logical and appropriate conclusions. 4. Assess the values and practices of key agencies which administer responses to crime and deviance. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lectures, seminars and workshops; • exercises and presentations; • resource-based learning; • self-directed study with one-to-one tutorial assistance. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summatively by coursework and examinations; • formatively by the submission of reports and work in progress.
<p>C. Practical skills</p> <p>On completion of the programme the</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through:</p>

successful student will be able to:

1. Formulate and investigate criminological questions.
2. Design and use appropriate research strategies for specific research problems using quantitative and qualitative methods.
3. Summarise and explain empirical information and research findings about crime, victimisation and responses to crime and deviance; and assess the methodology used.
4. Distinguish between ethical and unethical research practice in criminology.
5. Recognise the ethical implications of research into criminological questions and identify appropriate solutions.
6. Discuss criminological topics with an appreciation of criminological theory, of evidence, and of relevance to current debates, and to present the conclusions in a variety of academic formats.
7. Gather appropriate qualitative or quantitative information to address criminological questions in relation to crime, victimisation, responses to crime and deviance, and representations of these using qualitative and quantitative methods.
8. Apply basic statistical techniques where appropriate.
9. Apply basic research tools appropriately in relation to theoretically driven, explanatory, or evaluation research in criminology.

- active participation in formal and informal learning environments that makes use of instructional lectures, workshops, seminars, student presentations and completion of exercises, tutorials, e-mail support and self-directed study;
- practical skill C5 is further developed by dissertation supervision at level 6.

Assessment methods

Students' practical skills are assessed by:

- seen and unseen examinations, coursework, portfolios and web-based assignments;
- formative assessment methodologies are also employed to assist students' development of these practical

<p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effective learning. 2. Communication. 3. Teamwork. 4. Information Technology. 5. Numeracy. 6. Career Development. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • practical work and structured opportunities for learning offered by assessment schemes. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • our core skills level 4 to 6 modules using a variety of assessment methodologies.
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)
12.1 Overall structure of the programme
<p>The BA (Hons) Criminology programme is studied over three years full-time, 4 years in sandwich (placement) mode, or between 4, 5, and 7 years part-time.</p> <p>The programme is arranged into year-long modules, comprising two teaching terms in each academic year.</p> <p>The programme is divided into study units called modules. Each module has a credit value of 30 credits. Placement years (sandwich mode) attract a 120 credit value for the year.</p> <p>Each 30 credit module represents approximately 300 hours of student learning, endeavour and assessment including formal teaching, for which hours vary across levels and modules.</p> <p>Each stage of the programme has an equivalent of 120 credits, with a total of 360 credits required to obtain the BA (Hons) Criminology degree.</p>

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4 (1)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following: CRM1400 CRM1410 CRM1420 CRM 1600	N/A	The core CRM1410 and CRM1420 modules must be successfully completed to progress to Level 5 study.
Level 5 (2)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: CRM2500 CRM2510 CRM2540 SOC2500	N/A	The core CRM2540 , CRM2500 and SOC2500 modules must be successfully completed to progress to CRM3580 .
Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>CRM3580</p>	<p>Students must also choose at least three of the following:</p> <p>LAW 3330 or CRM3590</p> <p>CRM 3301</p> <p>CRM 3500</p> <p>CRM 3501</p> <p>CRM 3502</p> <p>CRM 3520</p> <p>CRM 3530</p> <p>CRM 3540</p> <p>CRM 3550</p> <p>CRM 3570</p>	
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12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code
Level 4	CRM 1410, CRM 1420
Level 5	CRM 2540, CRM 2500, SOC 2500
Level 6	CRM 3580

13. Curriculum map
See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations
The Department of Criminology and Sociology adheres to the Middlesex University Guide and Regulations on all assessment regulations.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

The Employability Service and Department of Criminology and Sociology have built up a wide range of placement opportunities for criminology students in, for example, prisons, the Home Office, local authorities and research institutions. We have also offer a Special Constabulary module which recognises the training undertaken by those who are seeking entry to the police service.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

A variety of careers are open to criminology graduates. These include Local Authorities, for example in Community Safety; Youth Services; Social Work; research; crime analysis; housing and environmental health; and drugs and alcohol case work. Opportunities exist in the National Offender Management System (NOMS) - formerly the prison service and the probation service.

Career openings include supervising offenders in the community. There are opportunities in the police, which take the form of police officer, police community support officer, or a member of civilian staff who support the police. Other investigative agencies also recruit from within this discipline i.e. The Border Agency; Of Com; Health and Safety Executive; Trading Standards Office.

Some opportunities are also within the legal system (with possibly some legal training) either as a support or case worker for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) or solicitors' offices as a legal representative or in private chambers.

Agencies also advertise for students who graduate in Criminology in areas relating to community based private projects, often with the young and the elderly. The voluntary sector as a Victim Support worker and Care Worker are also considerations.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Our students are encouraged to take full advantage of University-level and student union learning support schemes and facilities.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	L370
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Criminology

20. Reference points

QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Criminology (2007) and Sociology (2007)

QAA Institutional Audit, 2003 and 2005

The Learning Framework Programme Design Guide (2006)

Middlesex University and School of Law, Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy and Policies

Middlesex University and School of Law, Graduate Skills Strategy

The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (August 2008)

QAA Guidelines and Information

Student Feedback

External Examiner Feedback

21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

Curriculum map for BA Criminology

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	A range of key concepts and theoretical approaches within Criminology.	C1	Formulate and investigate criminological questions.
A2	Of social diversity and inequality and their effects in relation to crime, and responses to crime and deviance.	C2	Design and use appropriate research strategies for specific research problems using quantitative and qualitative methods.
A3	The use of comparison in relation to crime and responses to crime and deviance.	C3	Summarise and explain empirical information and research findings about crime and responses to crime and deviance; and assess the methodology used.
A4	Complex Social problems by applying criminological theories of crime and responses to crime and deviance.	C4	Distinguish between ethical and unethical research practice in criminology.
A5	A range of perspectives to assess crime and victimisation.	C5	Recognise the ethical implications of research into criminological questions and identify appropriate solutions.
A6	Qualitative and quantitative research.	C6	Discuss criminological topics with an appreciation of criminological theory, of evidence, and of relevance to current debates, and to present the conclusions in a variety of academic formats.
A7	The value of criminological work on crime, responses to crime and deviance, and representations of these in relation to policy questions at national, international and global levels.	C7	Gather appropriate qualitative or quantitative information to address criminological questions in relation to crime, responses to crime and deviance, and representations of these using qualitative and quantitative methods.
A8	How the discipline of criminology can be distinguished from other forms of understanding.	C8	Apply basic statistical techniques where appropriate.
A9	Human rights issues and efforts to prevent harm.	C9	Apply basic research tools appropriately in relation to theoretically driven, explanatory, or evaluation research in criminology.
A10	Different institutional cultures, historical and contemporary trends in criminal justice work, and the implications of changes in the values governing such work and practice in a diverse society.		

Institutions of Criminal Justice	CRM2540	X		X					X	X	X	X	X		X					X			X	X	X				X
Violent Crime	CRM3500	X			X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X		X				X			X	X				
Organised and White Collar Crime	CRM3501																												
Forensic Mental Health and Offending	CRM3502																												
Drugs, Crime and Criminal Justice	CRM3520	X			X	X		X	X			X	X		X						X			X	X	X			
Children as Victims and Offenders	CRM3530				X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X							X			X	X	X			
Gangs and Group Offending	CRM 3540	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X
Justice, Punishment and Human Rights	CRM3550	X	X				X		X		X	X	X	X			X				X			X	X	X			
Environmental Justice and Green Criminology	CRM3570	X				X						X	X								X	X							
Dissertation	CRM3580	X				X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X				X	X			X	X			
Special Constabulary	CRM3590		X		X	X			X	X	X		X		X				X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Integrated Learning and work Placement	LAW3330	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X			X		X			X	X	X	X		