

MSc. Criminology with Forensic Psychology

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	MSC Criminology with Forensic Psychology
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	N /A
5. Final qualification	MSc./PG Cert/PG Dip
6. Academic year	2021/22
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time, Part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

We welcome applications from graduates with a good first degree (2:2 or better), or equivalent qualification, in a relevant subject, plus where applicable an English Language qualification to the appropriate level

(ie. IELTS 6.5 or equivalent). We also consider candidates with other relevant qualifications and individuals with a minimum of three years' work experience. Those without formal qualifications need to demonstrate relevant work experience and the ability to study at post-graduate level.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

1. provide a high quality programme relevant to the needs of students preparing to enter, or already employed within the field of criminology, criminal justice and forensic psychology
2. provide an emphasis on contemporary understandings of theory, research, policy and practice relevant to criminology, criminal justice, and forensic psychology to educate students to work in a critically and analytically informed context
3. develop student appreciation of international research, policy and practice from the overlapping domain of criminology, criminal justice and forensic psychology and advance student skills in quantitative and textual dataset analysis
4. foster a critical appreciation of alternative approaches to researching and evaluating crime and offender behaviour interventions, treatment responses and rehabilitation and reintegration strategies

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and

<p>programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contemporary theories , concepts and debates relating to the cross-disciplinary study of criminology, criminal justice and forensic psychology 2. Alternative approaches to researching and analysing crime, criminal justice and related psychological practice 3. Policy and professional practice concerning criminal offending and offender rehabilitation and treatment 4. Core knowledge domains within criminology and psychology including a focus on crime victims, human rights, cognitive psychology and social and developmental psychology 5. The major criminal justice institutions, process and procedure involved in the prosecution, diversion, and management of young, vulnerable, and 'dangerous' offenders 	<p>understanding through lectures, student-led seminars, workshops, individual tutorials, specialist guest lectures, field visits relevant to criminal justice process and offender management, as well as through personal study. Learning is supported by the provision of handbooks, reading lists and web-based materials.</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by various summative assignments including coursework essays, legislation critique, policy and case study analysis, observation reports, research proposals, and quantitative and textual dataset analysis.</p> <p>Formative assessment methods are embedded within all modules covering core knowledge and understanding to aid students' developmental progress.</p>
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<p>6. Ethical underpinnings of research policy and practice</p> <p>7. The importance of a research evidence base for policy and professional practice and interventions</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. Critically assess and apply theoretical perspectives to specific areas of research, policy and practice 2. Critically assess recent research and scholarship from a range of disciplines relevant to the overlapping fields of criminology, criminal justice and forensic psychology 3. Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce significant findings and apply to professional practice contexts 4. Communicate conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences 5. Develop their own strategies for undertaking criminological, criminal justice and psychological research 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn cognitive skills through active participation in formal class teaching and learning sessions and through the presentation of ideas in verbal and written formats supported by staff expertise and pedagogical practice</p> <p>Students receive formative feedback on their skills through group feedback methods, in individual tutorials, as well as written feedback on assignments.</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed summatively by coursework and formatively by the submission of exercises and work in progress.</p>

<p>C. Practical skills On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formulate and present structured arguments and justify conclusions based on evidence 2. Manage their own time and resources in undertaking an MSc. level programme 3. Synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources and evidence 4. Communicate effectively to a range of target groups in various contexts 5. Carry out data analysis using computer aided tools 6. Design and conduct original research 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through active participation in assigned tasks specific to the field of criminology and forensic psychology. Practical skills such as interviewing and data analysis are an integral part of the core module on criminological theory and research, research design and ethics, and the dissertation.</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed summatively by written coursework including essays, the critique of legislation, policy and practice case study analysis, observation reports, research proposals, quantitative and textual dataset analysis, the research dissertation, and through oral presentation of their ideas and arguments in seminar paper presentations.</p>
<p>12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)</p>	

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The MSc. Criminology with Forensic Psychology is studied over one year full-time or two years part-time. All the work is at level 7, postgraduate level. The study period falls within the Middlesex University academic year. The programme is divided into study units called modules. Aside from the dissertation, all modules have a credit rating of 20 points at Level 7. Students who successfully complete 120 taught credits but who do not undertake a dissertation or placement project will be awarded a PG Diploma. Students who successfully complete 60 taught credits will be awarded a PG Certificate in Criminology with Forensic Psychology.

All students study the following **core** modules:

CRM4201 Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research (core) (20 credits)

CRM4202 Forensic and Investigative Psychology (core) (20 credits)

CRM4203 Psychological Interventions and Responses to Offending (core) (20 credits)

CRM4207 Research Strategies in Criminology and Psychology

CRM4970 Dissertation in Criminology with Forensic Psychology (60 Credits) (core)

Students choose **two** of the following 20 credit option modules

CRM4204 Critical Issues in Criminal Justice

CRM4607 Drugs and Crime (Distance Learning)

CRM4221 Human Rights and Justice

CRM4223 Cybercrime and Society

CRM4251 Global Criminology and Policing

CRM4209 Interpersonal Violence and Hate Crime

CRM4205 Community Safety and Public Protection

CRM4252 Political Violence and Terrorism
 CRM4229 Youth Offending, Disorder and Gangs

Term 3 options
 CRM4231 Placement
 CRM4241 Work Based Experience (term 3)

MSC Criminology with Forensic Psychology - Programme structure

Full Time		
Semester one	Semester two	Semester three
20 Credit CRM4201 Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research	20 Credit CRM4203 Psychological Interventions and Responses to Offending	60 Credit CRM4970 Dissertation
20 Credit CRM4202 Forensic and Investigative Psychology	20 Credit Option	
20 Credit CRM4207 Research Strategies in Criminology and Psychology	20 credit Option	

Part Time	
Year 1 80 credits	

Semester one	Semester two
20 Credit CRM4201 Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research	20 Credit CRM4203 Psychological Interventions and Responses to Offending
20 Credit CRM4202 Forensic and Investigative Psychology	20 Credit option

Year 2 40 credits plus 60 credit dissertation		
Semester one	Semester two	Semester three
20 Credit CRM4207 Research Strategies in Criminology and Psychology		CRM4970 Dissertation 15,000 words
Option can be taken semester 1 or 2	Option can be taken semester 1 or 2	

N.B. Students can nominate to study 60 or 80 credits in year one therefore completing 60 credits plus the 60 credit dissertation in year two or 40 credits plus the 60 credit dissertation in year two. If 60 credits are studied in year one these must include CRM4201 Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research and CRM4202 Forensic and Investigative Psychology.

12.2 Levels and modules		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take <u>all</u> of the following:</p> <p>CRM4201 Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research</p> <p>CRM4202 Forensic and Investigative Psychology</p> <p>CRM4203 Psychological Interventions and Responses to Offending</p> <p>CRM4207 Research Strategies in Criminology and Psychology</p> <p>CRM4970 Dissertation in Criminology with Forensic Psychology (60 Credits)</p>	<p>Students must take two option modules</p> <p>(see option modules above)</p>	<p>Students must complete 120 credits before they can progress to the Masters dissertation</p>
12.3 Non-compensatable modules		
All Level 7	Core modules	
	No core module is compensatable	

13. Curriculum map
14. Information about assessment regulations
Regulations follow those set out in the Middlesex University Guide and Regulations
15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
Students may elect/apply to undertake Work Based Experience (20 credits) in an area that is relevant to their career pathway or aspirations. University staff on the Programme Team have links with professionals and practitioners working in the police service, youth justice organisations, prison and community-based rehabilitation teams, drugs/alcohol agencies, forensic mental health and offender management, among others, which would be willing to offer placement opportunities.
16. Future careers (if applicable)
There are a wide range of career options available to graduates of this course. The course equips students for employment in posts working directly with offenders in prison and in community-based settings. There are in prison administrative posts working on prisoner rehabilitation plans and prisoner health and well-being, roles within various charitable organisations, and offender rehabilitation and therapeutic projects applying cognitive-thinking techniques. Students are also equipped for office-based positions engaging in research, data analysis, and programme evaluation offered by research organisations, the charitable and voluntary sector, in Ministry of Justice Departments such as HM Prisons and Probation Service (HMPPS), policing organisations, and the government's high-level crime fighting agency the National Crime Agency (NCA). The opportunity to continue studies at PhD level is also an option.
17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)
A wide range of academic and learning support services are available to

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<p>students on the MSc. Criminology with Forensic Psychology. An introduction to the library, on-line resource collections and the on-line learning blackboard are provided at induction. An academic skills and writing workshop is held at week 3 of your programme, covering use of the library catalogues, searching databases and developing good practice in academic writing. Ongoing advice, information and support are available from the Learner Enhancement Team (LET) and students are encouraged to take full advantage of these university-level support schemes and facilities during their studies.</p> <p>The library holds copies of core texts and most of the recommended reading on MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology. Material not in stock but required for individual research/dissertations can be obtained via the British Library on completion of a request form. The UK Libraries Plus Scheme also provides access to local participating libraries. Students can apply to join this scheme at the library enquiries desk. Additional workshops can be organised within the Criminology and Sociology Department for students working on computer aided data analysis.</p>	
18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	L371
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Criminology Benchmark Statement 2014 QAA Benchmark Statement for Psychology (2007)
20. Reference Points	
<p>The following reference points were used in designing the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middlesex University Regulations 2014-15 	

- QAA framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland August 2008
- SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education 2010
- QAA Benchmark Statement for Psychology (2007)
- QAA Sociology Benchmark Statement (2007)
- QAA Criminology Benchmark Statement (2014)
- University and School of Law Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy QAA Descriptors

21. Other information

The Department of Criminology at Middlesex University is part of the Common Studies Programme in Critical Criminology along with universities across Europe including Athens, Barcelona, Ghent, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Kent and John Jay College in New York. Students are encouraged to attend this student focused academic exchange. Middlesex University has international partnerships with European universities such as the Vrije University in Amsterdam.

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.

Curriculum map for MSC Criminology with Forensic Psychology

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.

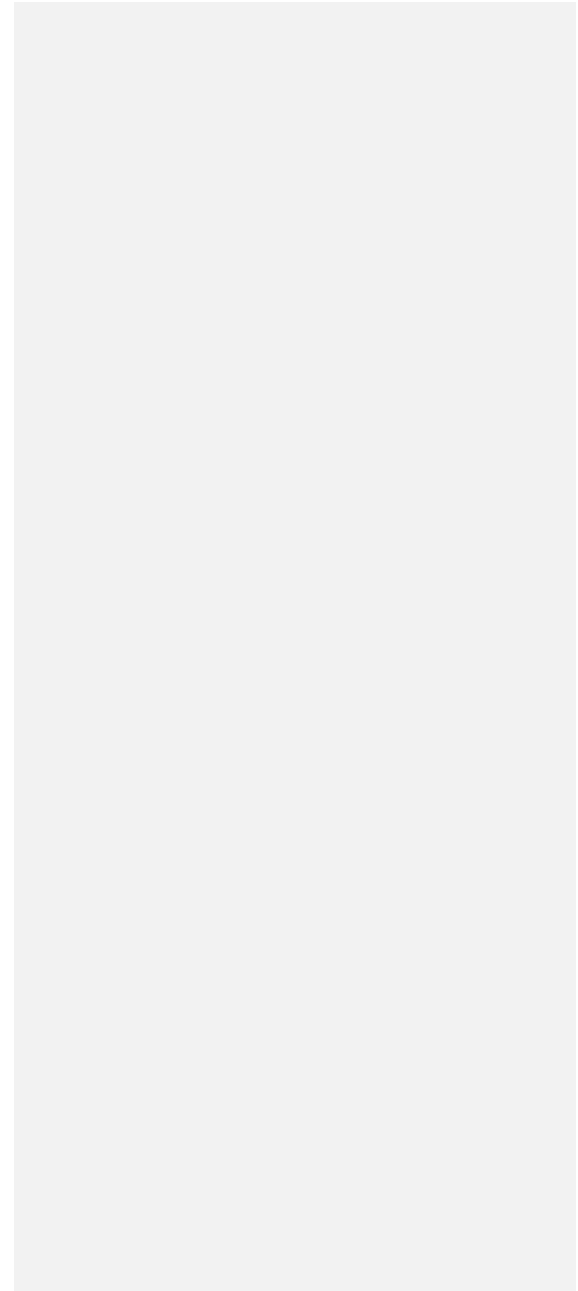
Programme learning outcomes

Curriculum map for MSc. Criminology with Forensic Psychology

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	Theories, concepts and debates relating to crime, offender behaviour, and psychological practice	C1	Formulate and present structured arguments and justify conclusions drawn based on evidence
A2	Alternative approaches to researching and analysing policy and practice issues	C2	Manage their own time and resources in undertaking a distance education programme
A3	Policy and professional practice issues connected to criminal offending and psychology	C3	Synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources and evidence
A4	Core knowledge domains within criminology and psychology	C4	Communicate effectively to a range of target groups in various contexts
A5	Criminal justice institutions, process and procedure	C5	Carry out data analysis using computer aided tools
A6	Ethical underpinnings of research, policy and practice	C6	Design and conduct original research
A7	The importance of a research evidence base for policy and practice		
Cognitive skills			
B1	Critically assess and apply theoretical perspectives to research, policy and practice		
B2	Critically evaluate research and scholarship from different disciplines		
B3	Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data		
B4	Communicate conclusions to targeted audiences		
B5	Developing own strategies for undertaking cross-disciplinary research		



Programme outcomes																		
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
Highest level achieved by all graduates																		

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																	
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
Contemporary Criminological Theory and Research	CRM4201	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Forensic and Investigative Psychology	CRM4202	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			
Psychological Interventions and Responses to Offending	CRM4203	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Research Strategies in Criminology and Psychology	CRM4xxx		x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Dissertation in Criminology with Forensic Psychology	CRM4970	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

