

Department of Law and Criminology

The Department of Law and Criminology has an excellent reputation for high quality research and teaching, and for its engagement in policy and practice, through active involvement with government bodies and voluntary and statutory agencies. Our inter-disciplinary department is nationally and internationally recognised for our expertise in issues associated with law, criminal justice, youth, health, multiculturalism, and identity. Students benefit from being taught by an internationally renowned, research-active staff team who are enthusiastic about their areas of expertise.

Entry requirements: The modules listed below are open to all Study Abroad, International and European Exchange students, subject to any required previous knowledge or qualifications. All second-year (modules with a code beginning CR2) and third-year modules (with a code beginning CR3) require some background in either criminology (for criminology modules) or sociology (for sociology modules). Specific pre-requisites are listed below or in the linked module specifications.

Each module is either 15 or 30 credits and starts in **either** the Autumn Term (September) **or** the Spring Term (January).

First term only students choosing September-start 15 credit modules should select the 'v' module specification. Full-year students choosing September-start 15 credit modules should select the non 'v' module specification.

The information contained in the module outlines on the following pages is correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change as part of our policy of continuous improvement and development.



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Module options for visiting students 2025-26

Module code	Module name	30 or 15 Credits	Run time	Module description/pre-requisites
CR1011 CR1011v	Introduction to Criminology	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	This module offers a general introduction to criminology and forensic psychology. Official, populist, sociological and psychological meanings of crime will be explored through the study of the development of criminology as a distinctive field of research and scholarship. Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)
CR1013 CR1013v	Criminal Justice System	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	The module provides students with an introduction to the criminal justice system in England and Wales, as well as introducing students to key debates on crime, justice, and punishment. Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)
CR1014 CR1014v	Introduction to Sociology	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	This module is concerned with introducing students to theories and concepts in sociology and their application. It is divided into two main parts. In term one students will be introduced to a range of classical and contemporary social theories. In term two they will explore how these theories can be used to understand social divisions and social change. Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)
CR1015 CR1015v	Social Problems and Social Policy	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	This module aims to provide students with an overview of key debates, perspectives and developments informed by social problems analysis and to introduce students to the nature of social policy and its application to social problems. Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)
CR2011 CR2011v	Research Methods for Social Scientists	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	This module aims to introduce students to the research process, the philosophical and ethical debates related to conducting research, and to equip students with the skills to conduct quantitative and qualitative forms of data Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)
CR2013 CR2013v	Key Perspectives and Debates in Criminology	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	This module develops deeper understandings of the major theories in current criminology, drawing upon sociological perspectives as a way of understanding criminal activity and criminal justice practices. Module Description (30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)

Module options for visiting students 2025-26

CR2014 CR2014v	Sociology of Contemporary Society	30 Credits 15 Credits	Full Year & Term 1 only	<p>This module explores the complex relationship between the economic and the cultural realms of society. This engages with the different ways that sociologists have sought to explain changes in modern capitalist societies: the rise of mass production; mass consumption; the consequences of economic crises; the cultural changes that have transformed the way people relate to each other in society, the significance of postmodernism and the technological changes that affect us in every aspect of our lives.</p> <p>Module Description(30 Credits) Module Description (15 Credits)</p>
CR2016 CR2016v	Crime and the Law	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This module gives an overview of the substantive rules of criminal law within a wider social debate as to the nature of crime and the responses of the State. In particular, the module covers the general principles of criminal liability by examining a range of offences against the person and offences against property as well as assessing the available defences that limit or negate criminal liability.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR2017 CR2017v	Youth and Crime	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This module examines the parameters of the youth crime 'problem', the function of the Youth Justice System, and introduces a range of theories that can help us to understand why young people engage in delinquent behaviours.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR2019 CR2019v	Sociology of the Family	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>This module aims to consider the role, function and nature of the family in contemporary society, critically explore the key sociological approaches to the family, and examine changing patterns of family life and the wider social changes impacting upon the family.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR2022	Criminologists in Action	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>The course aims to consider the current theoretical conceptualisations of issues such as group decision making, performance, collaborative learning and intergroup conflict. It will look at the ways in which psychological theories relating to groups can be used to better understand and address issues across a range of applied settings, including the workplace and roles criminology graduates may enter. Module Description</p>



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CR2034	Sociology of Religion	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>The aim of this module is to give an overview of the key arguments in the Sociology of Religion. Also an understanding of the social, cultural and political significance of Religion to the individual, social groups and society at a national and global level. The module begins by covering the classical sociological theorists on Religion (Durkheim, Weber & Marx) and examines the key debates around Secularisation and Post-Secularisation. We will then go on to consider the social and cultural significance of New Religious Movements and the rise of Spirituality and New Age movements in the West. Finally, we will consider the growth of Fundamentalism around the world and how religion is becoming globalised.</p> <p>Module Description</p>
CR3001	Sociology of Health and Illness	15 Credits	Tbc	<p>All societies have institutionalised ways of managing birth, death and suffering. From this viewpoint illness is a social as well as a biological phenomenon. Within societies, individuals' chances of good health vary according to social position and exposure to specific social factors. This course critically examines these issues with particular reference to socio-economic position, gender and ethnicity. The varying ways in which chronic conditions are experienced and managed by individuals on a daily basis will be examined alongside the social factors that shape these experiences.</p> <p>Module Description</p>
CR3009 CR3009v	Race, Ethnicity and Migration	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This module aims to critically engage with the theoretical, historical and contemporary debates around race, racism and ethnicity.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR3016 CR3016v	Policing Turning Points: Scandals and Reform	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>The module 'Police Turning Points: Scandals & Reform' would include two introductory lectures on the theoretical underpinnings of the police. Followed by 7 lectures on police scandals and a concluding lecture exploring the police attitude to change and what change has been achieved during this period.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR3018 CR3018v	Terrorism Studies (Part 1)	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This module provides students with an introduction to the study of global terrorism examining the different perspectives on the history and development of terrorism. The module also provides students with an analysis of global responses to terrorism enabling them to understand the differentiated impact of terrorism on a global scale.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>

Module options for visiting students 2025-26

CR3019	Terrorism Studies (Part 2)	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>The module explores the discourses of terrorism, radicalisation, extremism and counterterrorism and their parameters. It will explore the ideological motivations for terrorism and UK counterterrorism responses. It will scrutinise the legislative response to terrorism and consider the extent to which civil liberties and human rights have been preserved in the response to terrorism.</p> <p>Pre-requisites: CR3018 Terrorism Studies Part 1</p> <p>Module Description</p>
CR3023 CR3023v	Prisons	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>This module will cover the origins, history, and birth of the modern prison system through to the 'era of mass incarceration' in which we now find ourselves. The core aim will be to engage students in a critical assessment of those theories of punishment which underpin the use of imprisonment, with a heavy emphasis on the lived experience of incarceration. Key to this will be an examination of contemporary global issues and debates in relation to imprisonment.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR3028 CR3028v	Gender, Sexuality and Crime	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This unit aims to enhance students' understanding of key sociological, psychological, and criminal-legal approaches to gender and sexuality. It encourages students to think critically about how theories of gender and sexuality have informed the study of crime and shaped our understanding of sexual offences, and the relationship between gender, sexuality and criminal justice, from the 19th century to the present day.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR3031 CR3031v	Interpersonal (Violence and Harm)	15 Credits	Term 1 only	<p>This module will aim to provide students with a broad overview of violence and harm as committed by individuals or groups within society. Several forms of violence will be examined within the module including but not limited to intimate partner violence, stalking, sexual violence, and elder abuse. In addition to examining the nature and prevalence of violence and harm, the module will also examine the ways in which violence and harm are assessed, managed and communicated by professionals who work with perpetrators and victims of violence. Concepts related to violence or the prevalence and nature of violence such as psychopathy and gender will also be examined.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>



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CR3032 CR3032v	Crimes of the Powerful	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>This module aims to provide students with a knowledge and understanding of crimes of the powerful. It will include a wide range of crimes of the powerful with a broad focus on corporate crime and state crime. It will address the nature of corporate crime, white collar crime and state crime and conceptual discussions surrounding these concepts. It will then consider which criminological theories are most relevant when endeavouring to explain the crimes of the powerful.</p> <p>Module Description Module Description ('v' Module)</p>
CR3035	Cybercrime	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>Internet technologies are borderless and have enabled an increase in transnational crime and security threats. This module examines the variety of contemporary cybercrime and issues surrounding policing and enforcement. It also examines international powers of collecting intelligence and evidence (including surveillance) and computer, device and network forensics.</p> <p>Module Description</p>
CR3038	Sex Work: Debates and Dilemmas	15 Credits	Term 2 only	<p>On completion of the module students will be able to: a) Be familiar with contemporary debates on sex work, sexual and emotional labour, trafficking, sex tourism. b) Relate different approaches and debates of the sex industry to sociological questions concerning structure and agency, and the articulation of gender, race and class and globalisation. c) Demonstrate an ability to apply learning to critically comment on aspects of the sex industry. d) Develop clear writing and communication skills e) Experience of working with and evaluating different sources of information (such as media reports, research and reports from Non-Governmental Organisation, academic research) f) Work independently and be able to produce work with critical insights with a short time frame.</p> <p>Module Description</p>



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