

# MSc Criminology (THSP-AFM33)

## Course and Award Details

<b>Course title</b>	MSc Criminology
<b>Route(s)</b>	MSc Criminology
<b>Awarding body</b>	University of Bath
<b>Award</b>	Masters Degree not mainly by Research
<b>Award name</b>	Masters - Postgraduate Taught
<b>Course mode of delivery</b>	Full time
<b>Course length</b>	1 years
<b>Entry point</b>	September 2023
<b>Main location of study</b>	University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down
<b>Course-owning school/department</b>	Social & Policy Sciences

## Course Description

<b>Course Summary</b>	Enhance your criminal justice knowledge and develop your criminological imagination. You'll focus on global contemporary crime and justice-related challenges.
<b>Course Description</b>	<p>This is a master's degree with a strong global focus. You'll critically analyse some of the biggest crime, deviance and criminal justice issues affecting society right now. By doing this, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by policymakers and law enforcement organisations, and the mechanisms that prevent and manage these.</p> <p>Throughout the course, you'll learn to enhance your research skills. This will allow you to assess topical issues and develop convincing arguments for change.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of the degree, you'll be equipped with the skills to progress or begin your career in the criminal justice sector in the UK or further afield.</p> <p>You will study topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- international criminal justice and law</li><li>- contemporary criminological theory</li><li>- criminological ethnography</li><li>- technological developments in criminal justice</li><li>- state crime, human rights, and transitional justice</li><li>- violent crime</li></ul> <p>This course is suited to both recent graduates of undergraduate criminology degrees and people with social science or humanities undergraduate degrees.</p> <p>Watch our webinar about this course (<a href="https://vimeo.com/821235080">https://vimeo.com/821235080</a>)</p> <p>Through a mixture of field trips and guest speakers, you'll gain important first-hand insights into how criminal justice agencies function, how criminal justice policy is created, and how modern challenges are being addressed.</p> <p>The Department of Social and Policy Sciences (/departments/department-of-social-policy-sciences/) has a proven track record of delivering high-ranking courses in</p>

criminology. Our BSc Criminology(/courses/undergraduate-2024/criminology/) degree has been named No.1 in the UK two years in a row in The Times & The Sunday Times Good University Guide (<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/good-university-guide-in-full-tp6dzs7wn>).

This new master's course builds on our proven record in this subject to further utilise the expertise and knowledge of our teaching staff.

You will leave the course with:

- a critical understanding of some of the most pressing, urgent criminological issues and challenges in the 21st century
- practical skills in research, analysis and communication, and an understanding of how these can be applied in working within the fields of criminal justice and practice
- rich experience gained from working with people from a wide range of disciplinary, professional and national backgrounds

This course will prepare you for a variety of roles with organisations in the following areas:

- prison and probation services
- victim support
- offender management
- rehabilitation
- drug taking and drug policy reform
- young offenders and youth justice reform

#### **Learning and teaching**

There will be six hours of scheduled contact hours each week (made up of lectures, seminars, and workshops) during the Taught Stage. The exception to this is the Independent Research Essay (see further info on contact hours and mode of delivery for this unit below).

As noted above in the Course Approach, teaching is delivered in three-week long blocks, and this translates into 18 hours of contact per unit in the Taught Stage (with the exception of the Independent Research Essay – if students take this as an option in S1 or S2, they will receive a total of 12 contact hours, made up of six hours of 1-1 supervision across the three week period, as well as two hours per week for a group tutorial/drop-in session with the IRE coordinator).

During the Research Stage, students will be offered a minimum of 4 hours of 1-1 meetings with their allocated supervisor, as well as group tutorials organised by the Dissertation Coordinator.

#### **Delivery methods**

The following list provides an indication of some of the learning and teaching methods used on the course:

Lectures  
Online resources  
Seminars  
Tutorials  
Workshops

#### **Assessment methods**

The following list provides an indication of some of the assessment methods used on the course:

Set exercises  
Dissertation  
Reflective assessment  
Examinations  
Essay

#### **Specialist Facilities**

N/A

#### **Budgeting statement**

You will need to budget at least £100 for the cost of photocopying, printing and binding. You will also need to budget for the cost of textbooks. Some courses involve visits away from campus and you may be required to pay some or all of the costs of travel, accommodation and food and drink. If you're on a placement, you're responsible for your own travel, accommodation and living costs. You should also consider the financial implications if you go on an unpaid or overseas placement.

**Additional Costs:**

If you receive an offer, you will need to pay a non-refundable deposit of £1,000 when you accept to secure your place. This will be deducted from your tuition fee when you register.

**Careers and professional development**

Students taking PGT Criminology courses tend to go on to work for a range of criminal justice organisations, including the prison and probation service, and local and Metropolitan police. The skills and knowledge acquired on the MSc Criminology would also be relevant to future careers working for the Home Office and Ministry of Justice. Students may alternatively seek a career in a third sector organisation with a particular focus on criminal justice, rehabilitation, and/or victim support.

**Course accreditation(s)****Course Assessment Regulations****Applicable Assessment Regulations**

NFAAR-PGT - <https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/nfaar-pgt-and-appendices/>

**Exemptions from Regulations**

This course is exempt from an aspect of the Assessment Regulations. For further info refer to <https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/nfaar-pgt-and-appendices/attachments/nfaar-pgt.pdf>

**Course Progression Requirements**

NA

**Course Structure****Year 1**

Period of study	Module code	Module title	Module status	Level	Credits	Option choice rules
AY	SP00000	Academic integrity training & test	Extra	Foundation (FHEQ level 3)	0	
DIS	SP52089	Criminology dissertation	PGT Project/Dis Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	30	
S1	SP52080	Doing criminological research	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S1	SP52081	Contemporary criminological theory	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S1	SP52084	Independent research essay	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	SP52085	Core issues in crime and criminal justice	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	SP52086	Criminological ethnography	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
S2	SP52090	Independent research essay	Part 4 Taught Compulsory	Masters UG & PG (FHEQ level 7)	10	
Additional rules for module selection						
None						

### Year 1

No units found

### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to

	Knowledge and Understanding	Intellectual Skills	Professional and Transferable Skills	Study Year Placement	Study Year Abroad
Demonstrate an understanding of core theories, concepts, and	✓				

contemporary debates in Criminology		
Demonstrate and apply knowledge of core methodological and analytical approaches in Criminology	✓	
Demonstrate an understanding of both research integrity and what constitutes ethical research, including researcher and participant wellbeing	✓	
Identify criminological problems, formulate appropriate research questions, and investigate them		✓
Draw on and synthesise evidence from a range of sources to critically assess and advance criminological arguments		✓
Demonstrate the ability to conduct and present independent research		✓
Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills		✓
Critically evaluate criminal justice policy and practice		✓
Identify a criminological research problem and apply criminological concepts and methods to investigate it, through generating relevant data/observations and critically analysing it in relation to previously published work in the area		✓
Produce well-structured, coherent written accounts (in essays and other forms) of criminological theories and concepts		✓
Marshal evidence and theory to support or challenge a criminological argument in such a way as to demonstrate a critical		✓

awareness of the origin and bases of knowledge		
Identify criminological research problems and (with support) independently devise and implement a research strategy to tackle those problems		✓
Demonstrate an understanding of core theories, concepts, and contemporary debates in Criminology	✓	
Demonstrate and apply knowledge of core methodological and analytical approaches in Criminology	✓	
Demonstrate an understanding of both research integrity and what constitutes ethical research, including researcher and participant wellbeing	✓	
Identify criminological problems, formulate appropriate research questions, and investigate them		✓
Draw on and synthesise evidence from a range of sources to critically assess and advance criminological arguments		✓
Demonstrate the ability to conduct and present independent research		✓
Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills		✓
Critically evaluate criminal justice policy and practice		✓
Identify a criminological research problem and apply criminological concepts and methods to investigate it, through generating relevant data/observations and critically analysing it in		✓

critically analysing their  
relation to previously  
published work in the area

Produce well-structured,  
coherent written accounts  
(in essays and other forms)  
of criminological theories  
and concepts

✓

Marshal evidence and  
theory to support or  
challenge a criminological  
argument in such a way as  
to demonstrate a critical  
awareness of the origin and  
bases of knowledge

✓

Identify criminological  
research problems and  
(with support)  
independently devise and  
implement a research  
strategy to tackle those  
problems

✓

## Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

### Designated Alternative Courses (DAC)

Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Certificate

### Exit Awards

A Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) and Certificate (PGCert) in Criminology can also be awarded depending on the following criteria being fulfilled:

To receive the award of Postgraduate Certificate (PG certificate) students must successfully complete 30 ECTS credits worth of study (the equivalent of 60 CATS credits), through passing the three taught units 'Contemporary Criminological Theory', 'Doing Criminological Research', and one optional unit. Students must demonstrate satisfactory completion of course level learning outcomes pertinent to PG Certificate.

Students leaving the programme prematurely may be eligible for a PG Certificate or a PG Diploma.

To receive the award of Postgraduate Diploma (PG Diploma) students must successfully complete 60 ECTS credits worth of study (the equivalent of 120 CATS credits), through passing all six taught units. Students must demonstrate satisfactory completion of course level learning outcomes pertinent to PG Diploma.

To receive the award of MSc students must successfully complete 90 ECTS credits worth of study (the equivalent of 180 CATS credits), which must include the research stage (that is, the dissertation, worth 30 ECTS credits).

Please refer to your Director of Studies for further information

### Requirements for named exit awards