

### Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London				
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>				
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>MSc Criminology</b> Pathway 1: Criminology & Criminal Justice Pathway 2: Global Criminology Pathway 3: Gender, Sexuality & Criminal Justice Pathway 4: Race, Crime & Justice				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSCRIGY_C				
5	<b>UCAS code (if applicable)</b>	NA				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Criminology				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	PG Dip, PG Cert				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 year FT 2 years PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	7				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	Gender Studies Programme				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<b><a href="#">QAA Benchmark Group</a></b>	N/A				

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p>This programme offers a unique insight into crime and punishment in today's world. It explores both cutting-edge criminological theory and current real-world phenomena related to crime and punishment. The programme provides a multidisciplinary platform for students to engage with the complexity of contemporary criminology, understand and critically assess the complexity of political, economic, social and cultural forces that affect crime and its control</p> <p>Those enrolled will be introduced to the theoretical debates that underpin understanding of the relationship between global, national and local questions of crime and punishment as well as race, gender, sexuality and migration. The diversity of the pathway options available aims to encourage students to think broadly and innovatively about questions of crime, punishment and the criminal justice system. They will also learn about the range of research methods that are used to explore such questions.</p>

15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	2:2 honours degree in the humanities, social sciences or law. Degrees from overseas institutions must be equivalent to a second class honours degree. Other relevant qualifications and appropriate professional experience and training are welcome.

16	<p><b>Learning Outcomes</b></p>
	<p><b>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critically understand key thematic and methodological issues involved in criminological analysis;</li> <li>• Understand and critically assess the complexity of political, economic, social and cultural forces that affect crime and its control;</li> <li>• Be familiar with and be able to critically analyse the key contemporary theoretical approaches being used to design crime policy and criminal justice innovations</li> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to identify and assess the political dimensions of current debates and theories accounting for variation in trends in crime and punishment;</li> <li>• Demonstrable an ability to identify and assess the importance of different levels of analysis to explanations of trends in crime and punishment;</li> <li>• Demonstrate a nuanced understanding of the practical complexity of the relationship between national and international political, social and economic pressures on one hand, and crime and crime control, on the other;</li> <li>• Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to undertaking independent research and/or advanced scholarship in criminology</li> <li>• Be able to prepare a large, complex yet innovative Research Project submission of 8,000 to 10,000 words on a topic related to the chosen pathway of study</li> <li>• Possess advanced research and analytical skills, critical reading and discussion skills, appropriate referencing skills, clear and effective writing skills, and the ability to engage constructively with peers.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a systemic understanding of knowledge, and critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights at the forefront of the chosen subject pathway</li> </ul>
17	<p><b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b></p>
	<p><i>Learning and Teaching:</i></p> <p>Learning will be primarily through face-to-face learning contact hours in each Module (compulsory and Options), supported by digital materials and online learning resources.</p> <p>For the Research Project, students are supported via 3 Tutorials for Research Project issues; a meeting with the Pathway lead to help refine ideas for the Research Project Proposal, and a minimum of three one-to-one supervision meetings with Project Supervisors.</p> <p>Moodle’s online forum will also be used to provide students with appropriate materials and a space to share details of other pertinent publications and events.</p> <p>On the compulsory and optional modules, 1.5 hour seminars are used as the primary teaching format, though this will be supplemented with tutorials and supervision meetings throughout the year.</p> <p>Students are also able to attend the Criminology Seminar Series talks (3 to 4 events per term on Thursday evenings) and are encouraged to engage in a range of other School of Law events and workshops.</p>

	<p>Students also have access to a range of study skills workshops, online research and writing resources, and one-to-one sessions offered by the School of Law's two subject-specific Learning Development Tutors.</p> <p><i>Assessment:</i></p> <p>Students on the programme will engage with an array of assessment methods including theoretically focused critical reviews, longer essays focusing in particular optional subjects, an essay on research methodologies in criminology, a Criminology Research Project Proposal, as well as an 8,000 to 10,000 word Masters Research Project. The assessments in the compulsory modules are designed to help students work toward their final Research Projects.</p>
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18	<p><b>Programme Description</b></p> <p>This MSc programme is for students who wish to pursue advanced criminological study. The programme provides a multidisciplinary platform from which students will engage with the complexity of contemporary criminology, understand and critically assess the complexity of political, economic, social and cultural forces that affect crime and its control. The pathway structure enables students to specialise in criminology and criminal justice; global criminology; gender, sexuality and criminal justice; or race, crime and justice.</p> <p>All students are required to take the following compulsory modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Research Methods in Criminology (30 credits)</li> <li>(b) Masters Research Project (Criminology) (30 credits)</li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Students are required to undertake a research project that reflects their chosen pathway.</p> <p>All students are also be required to take:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) A compulsory theoretical module designated for their chosen pathway (30 credits)</li> <li>(d) One pathway-specific option (from a list of designated options) (30 credits)</li> <li>(e) Two options (any option offered in law and criminology) (60 credits)</li> </ul> <p>There is an extensive list of optional modules to choose from. Indicative subjects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LADD026S7 Crime and Control</li> <li>▪ LACN008S7 Security, Risk and Governance</li> <li>▪ LALA139S7 Drugs, Crime and Culture</li> <li>▪ LALA087S7 Psychology of Law and Crime</li> <li>▪ LACN013S7 Influencing Public Policy</li> <li>▪ LADD027S7 Gender, Sexuality and Criminal Justice</li> <li>▪ LACN014S7 Race, Crime and Justice</li> <li>▪ LALW015S7 Surveillance Society</li> <li>▪ LALA078S7 Youth Justice</li> <li>▪ LALA149S7 Global Perspectives on Crime and Crime Control</li> <li>▪ LALA171S7 International Criminological Theory</li> </ul>
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Students apply to the MSc Criminology, and then depending on their choice of options as outlined on the pathways below are awarded **MSc Criminology (Criminology & Criminal Justice)**, **MSc Criminology (Global Criminology)**, **MSc Criminology (Gender, Sexuality & Criminal Justice)** or **MSc Criminology (Race, Crime & Justice)** on successful completion of their programme.

The course will appeal to those with a keen interest in crime and criminal behaviour, as well as those seeking to develop a deeper appreciation and critical understanding of the key issues that currently play a major role in influencing criminal justice. It will also appeal to those who are seeking advanced knowledge and understanding of contemporary criminological theory and cutting edge research methods, as well as those who wish to pursue a substantial research project in an area that is of interest to them.

Details of the theoretical core module and pathway specific options for each pathway are as follows:

#### **Pathway 1: Criminology & Criminal Justice**

Theoretical Core: Contemporary Criminological Theory (LACN021S7)

Pathway specific options are:

- Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice (LADD059S7)
- Security, Risk and Governance (LACN008S7)
- Global Perspectives on Crime Control (LALA149S7)

#### **Pathway 2: Global Criminology**

Theoretical Core: International Criminological Theory (LALA17AS7)

Pathway specific options are:

- Global Perspectives on Crime Control (LALA149S7)
- Southern Perspectives on Constitutional and Political Transformation (LADD037S7)
- Issues in International Law and Human Rights (LADD028S7)

#### **Pathway 3: Gender, Sexuality & Criminal Justice**

Theoretical Core: Gender, Sexuality & Criminal Justice (LADD027S7)

Pathway specific options are:

- Regulating Sex and Sexuality (LACN019S7)
- Intersectionality & Criminal Justice (LACN026S7)
- Influencing Public Policy (LACN013S7)
- Selected modules from the MSc in Gender Sexuality and Culture, such as Theorising Gender (To be confirmed in consultation with the gender studies programmes)

#### **Pathway 4: Race, Crime & Justice**

Theoretical Core: Race, Crime and Justice (LACN014S7)

Pathway specific options are:

- Global Migration, Border Controls and Criminal Justice (LACN009S7)
- Intersectionality & Criminal Justice (LACN026S7)
- Policing, Race & Ethnicity (LACN025S7)

19	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LACN021S7 LALA171S7 LADD027S7 LACN014S7	Contemporary Criminological Theory (Pathway 1) International Criminological Theory (Pathway 2) Gender, Sexuality and Criminal Justice (Pathway 3) Race, Crime and Criminal Justice (Pathway 4)	30	Compulsory
7	LALA173S7	Research Methods in Criminology	30	Compulsory
7	LACN022S7	Masters Research Project	30	Compulsory
7		Option1: Pathway specific option (see list above)	30	Compulsory
7		Option 2: Any option	30	Optional
7		Option 3: Any option	30	Optional
<b>Part Time programme</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LACN021S7 LALA171S7 LADD027S7 LACN014S7	Contemporary Criminological Theory (Pathway 1) International Criminological Theory (Pathway 2) Gender, Sexuality and Criminal Justice (Pathway 3) Race, Crime and Criminal Justice (Pathway 4)	30	Compulsory
7	LALA173S7	Research Methods in Criminology	30	Compulsory
7		Option 1: Pathway specific option (see list above)	30	Option (from specific list)
<b>Year 2</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	LACN022S7	Masters Research Project	30	Compulsory
7		Option 2: Any option	30	Optional
7		Option 3: Any option	30	Optional

**Status\***

*CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module*

20	<b>Programme Director</b>	Dr Tanya Serisier
21	<b>Start Date</b> ( <i>term/year</i> )	Autumn 2018
22	<b>Date approved by TQEC</b>	Spring 2018
23	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Summer 2018
24	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	December 2019 (for 2020/21 entry)