

## BSc (Hons) Sociology & Criminology

<b>Department</b>	The Department of Health and Human Sciences
<b>Awarding Body</b>	University of East Anglia
<b>Additional Accreditations</b>	None
<b>Full-time Duration</b>	3 years
<b>Part-time Duration</b>	6 years
<b>Full-time Annual Fee</b>	£8,500
<b>Part-time Annual Fee</b>	£4,250
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	UCAS Tariff: 96 points A Level: CCC Pearson BTEC L3 National Ext. Diploma: MMM
<b>Study Location</b>	University and Professional Development Centre, 73 Western Way, Bury St Edmunds UK
<b>Subject to Validation</b>	No
<b>Additional Potential Costs</b>	Expected expenses including books and study-related materials (pens, paper etc.) are approximately £200 per annum. There may be optional enrichment activities and visits that carry additional costs.  <b>*All costs are approximate and intended as a guideline only.</b>
<b>Narrative</b>	<p>Get to grips with the fascinating relationship between social behaviour and crime. You'll get to focus on the social aspects of criminology, taking an in-depth look at human behaviour, deviant behaviour and complex attitudes towards deviance over time. You will cover a range of themes from criminology including victimology, cybercrime, terrorism and extremism, sex crimes and the role of the media in portraying crime, terrorism and deviance in order to give you a deep critical understanding of how and why things go wrong in our world.</p> <p>This programme is highly flexible, allowing you to develop your own specialist research interests. You'll learn from expert tutors who provide links to government resources, criminal justice agencies and the media.</p> <p>A wide range of rewarding sociology and criminology-related careers await, including social and civil police work.</p>
<b>Key Course Features</b>	<p>The course is delivered on campus and typically requires students to attend two full days per week.</p> <p>Delivery of the course is through a range of methods including lectures, seminars, discussions, and workshops.</p> <p>The first year of the course is designed to ensure a foundational knowledge of core topics in sociology and criminology to be built upon during the remainder of the degree. In the third year, students will be</p>

	<p>provided the opportunity to explore a subject area in more depth and apply their understanding of research methods and data analysis as they complete a piece of empirical research.</p>
<p><b>Career Prospects</b></p>	<p>A sociology and criminology degree is applicable in many different careers as it equips you with a range of skills and knowledge relevant to a variety of roles. Some students on similar courses have pursued postgraduate education in a range of subjects, including teaching qualifications. Others have begun employment with a wide variety of organisations, including the NHS, Home Office, and HM Prison Service.</p>
<p><b>Module Summary</b></p>	<p>Year One:</p> <p><b>Introduction to Qualitative Methods</b></p> <p>This module is an introduction to the main sociological research methodologies with a principal focus on qualitative methods, though quantitative methods will also be outlined – their underpinning ideologies, techniques, ethics etc. Students will engage with some mathematical techniques used in quantitative research, such as regression analysis and other methods. Students will learn how to plan, conduct, and analyse sociological research. A major focus of this module will be upon interview techniques, equipping students with knowledge of how to conduct an interview and analyse it afterwards using thematic analysis. This module will review report writing and formatting, citation and referencing, methodological philosophies, and a variety of research methods.</p> <p><b>Introduction to the Sociological Imagination</b></p> <p>This module is an introduction to the key sociological theorists and thinkers such as Marx, Durkheim, Habermas, and de Beauvoir etc. Alongside learning a little about the biographies of the chief sociological thinkers they will grasp key principles of their major ideologies. Students will also learn about differing takes on various central themes that are popular areas of study within sociology, such as gender, employment, and crime. Differing views on the nature of epistemology within research and theory development will form a key topic. Distinctions between Left and Right Realist forms of sociology will be considered along with reference to the role politics plays within sociological research and writing. The concept of sociology as an activist discipline will be explored and critiqued.</p> <p><b>The Big Deal – the Sociology of Drugs, Dealing, and Addiction</b></p> <p>This module examines the ways in which the notion of drugs is constructed in British society (and comparisons to other cultures) and how these perceptions fuel social policy within the Criminal Justice System, the NHS, rehab and welfare charities, and other institutions. The triad of use-abuse-misuse will be considered, with a particular reference to public perceptions of differing substances and the self-perceptions of those who consume mind-altering substances. Varied models of drug usage will be examined, including the medical model, the social learning model, and the socio-cultural model. The functionalist understanding of criminalising drugs will be examined. The varieties and ethics of research within forensic sociology will also be considered. Students will examine</p>

official statistics around substance abuse and rehabilitation methods, learning to interpret these and understand the relationship between research and social policy to both police but also rehabilitate users.

### **Key Thinkers in Criminology**

This module aims to introduce students to the key, critical thinkers within criminology. The module will introduce concepts and frameworks through which the nature, extent and 'causes' of crime have been conceptualised. Through looking at the history of criminological understanding, focusing on the key researchers and schools of thought, students will begin to develop a foundation of criminological knowledge from which to progress as well as how it can often cross paths with other disciplines, such as psychology, sociology, and history. Students will examine how the assumptions underpinning the different schools of thought contribute to strategies for intervention and reducing repeat offending. Students will explore how the key thinkers and theories within criminology link to the criminal justice system, forming a foundation of knowledge for future modules and levels.

### **Online Crime**

This module aims to introduce students to the criminological field of cybercrime. The module looks at how new forms of online communication, information and technology can lead to deviant and criminal behaviour. The module will examine case studies into different types of online crime such as white collar, sexual exploitation, and the dark web, as well as looking at how cybercrime can be monitored and policed. Prevention of cybercrime will be discussed as well as the evolution of legislation to incorporate the ever-changing online landscape. Students to look at the characteristics of cybercrime offenders and the impact on victims of this type of crime.

### **Crime in the Media**

The module explores the representation of deviant and criminal behaviour within the media. Students will engage with multiple forms of media, including newspapers, television, film, and music and examine how this influences the public's perception of certain crimes. Students will explore whether media can glorify crime, and whether it increases the public's fear of becoming a victim of crime. Students will explore crime as a cultural construct and how the media embeds crime into our society. The module will enhance key employability skills within the students, including teamwork and presentations.

Year Two:

### **Conducting Sociological Research**

This module builds on the first-year research module, expanding to deepen the students' knowledge of methodologies and methods. Alongside a wider understanding of qualitative methods, this module will also address the quantitative techniques used within sociology such as

content analysis. Students will extend and develop their knowledge of mathematical techniques used in sociology. Students will learn the theory and practical application of documentary analysis, both written documents and visual ones with various in-class tasks such as creating their own and interpreting each other's visual documents. They will also deepen their knowledge of interviewing and keeping transcripts. Students will learn to use appropriate computer packages to conduct analysis of sociological data. Ethnography and various ways in which it can be comprehended and documented will form a key focus.

### **The Sociology of Crime**

This module builds upon The Big Deal module from L4, taking the students on different directions to explore sociological understandings of various crimes (including property crime, sex crime, terrorism, heresy, and blasphemy etc.) and the Criminal Justice System. Early lectures will take a primarily UK-based focus, whilst later lectures will look at issues of international crime. Left and Right Realism theories will be considered in the understandings of the causes and suitable responses to crime. This module will make use of real-life case studies to illustrate the theories developed. Students will also critically consider the role of the media in disseminating knowledge about crime and legal issues.

### **How Society Works**

This module builds on the first year Introduction to Sociological Imagination, deepening the students understanding of sociological ideas and introducing them to new theorists. A central theme to this module will be exploring the ways in which social groups form and structure, how they work with or against each other, and how conflicts are resolved or perpetuated. Attention will be given to understanding the social functioning of large scale social and political institutions. Students will learn how to conduct and analyse an observation, considering ethical as well as methodological issues. Journal keeping will be encouraged with extensive use of current themes in the news and how they relate to sociological theory. Understanding the role of the media and theories related to how mass and social media operate will also provide a key focus.

### **Penology – Understanding the Punitive System**

This module introduces the modern penal system within England and Wales. There will be a particular focus on prisons and community sentencing, alongside current debates within penology including what the future of punishment delivery may look like. The module will consider the effect prison has on a range of offenders from sentence and transition following release and engagement with probation services. Students will explore the values and practices, such as human rights, that underpin the treatment of lawbreakers within the criminal justice system of England and Wales. The module will explore punishment delivered in other countries and societies and the development of restorative justice.

### **Victimology**

This module aims to discuss whether the victim is often forgotten in the criminal justice system and too much focus is given to the offender. The module will look at the approaches within victimology, and the impact of victimisation on the individual. This will be considered from a financial, physical, behavioural, and psychological point of view. Consideration will be given to what social components play a part in victimisation – whether some people are more likely to be a victim of crime than others, and whether those who are most vulnerable in society are at an increased risk. Students to give focus to sociocultural factors, social diversity, and inequality and their effects in relation to victimisation. Students will explore the impact of crime upon the victim and whether this differs depending on the nature of the crime committed.

### **Understanding Violent Crime**

This module aims to explore severe and violent crimes including sexual offending and murder. The module will reflect upon previous study to consider psychological and sociological reasons for this type of offending. Students will examine punishments applied to the most serious offenders and questions whether the penal system should focus on rehabilitation as opposed to punishment.

Year Three:

### **Major Project**

The major project module requires students to conduct valid, independent, small-scale research, developing key skills in data and information gathering, evaluation, analysis, and communication, on a topic within psychology. The module develops and applies the techniques and principles of research learned in the research methods module(s).

### **Sociology of Law and Order**

This module builds on the groundwork laid in the L5 module Sociology of Crime. Students will recap certain key issues around the social construction of concepts like law, crime, and deviance and apply this knowledge to look at the history of both the police and judicial system in Britain, understanding their changing functions. Demographics will be examined for the police and legal professions, charting changes because of recruitment policies and the theoretical drivers behind such strategies. Police interactions with the wider community will be examined with consideration of various sociological frameworks including Marxism and symbolic interactionism. Comparisons will be drawn between the legal systems of different countries and historical periods to illustrate differing constructions of conceptions of fairness, legal power, who participates in processes of maintaining and enforcing law and who is excluded. Consensus policing will form a focal point for this exploration. International agencies of law enforcement (such as Interpol) will be studied as a means of understanding the way differing systems interact and how globalism begins to impact not only the tackling of crime but also the standardising of notions of fairness (principally looking at the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights as an expression of globalisation).

### **Contemporary Issues in Policing**

This module aims to explore the role of the police force in England and Wales. Students will examine policing and the legal and ethical frameworks that underpin the force and the recognition of equality and diversity. Students will compare and contrast the differing models and styles of policing, as well as the contemporary issues that come with policing crime on a UK, international and global scale. The module aims to examine police priorities and discuss whether there are differing views on how the police should work to keep England and Wales safe. Students will analyse the debates within modern policing, exploring the relationship the police have with minority groups, police use of force and police accountability, with key focus on the complexities of legal and ethical issues such as human rights.

### **Understanding Criminal Profiling**

This module aims to explore criminal offender profiling. Students will explore the notion of offender profiling and how it can be used within the criminal justice system. Students will look at methods of criminal profiling, exploring the FBI approach and using case studies to support learning. The module will look at offender typologies, including those of serial murder and rape, as well as profiling white collar crime, cybercrime, terrorism, and other violent crime. The module will also explore techniques surrounding psychological profiling, including statistical crime analysis and geographical profiling of an offender. Students will analyse the debates within criminal profiling and whether it can be effectively used within criminal investigation and the criminal justice sector. Finally, students will explore the legal and ethical issues within this topic.

### **Community and Public Involvement in Crime and Criminal Justice\***

This module aims to explore the interaction the community and public have with crime and criminal justice. Students will recognise how the public contribute to crime management and how they can help to reduce crime levels within the community. The module will explore crime and crime management as a complex social problem, involving political and social processes. Students will be asked to examine the contribution to the criminal justice system of lay persons, including magistrates, jurors, and police informants. Students will look at real life case studies to examine how the public's perceptions of crime, and fear of offenders, contributes to the criminal justice system's stance on these types of crimes. Students will use their analytical skills to look at this within England and Wales, as well as other societies including, comparing the approaches. Students will need to use a range of sources in their work, including textbooks, journal articles, media reports and statistics. Overall, this module aims to show students that every individual is involved in the criminal justice system to some extent.

### **Politics, Propaganda, and International Relations\***

This module invites students to examine political ideologies (such as capitalism, communism, socialism etc.), the historical development, variations, and practical implications for those countries that adhere to them. Systems of power will also be examined (such as democracy, totalitarianism etc.), with a view to their interaction with ideologies. Voting demographics will be examined to assess the appeal of ideologies, policies, and politicians. Noam Chomsky's arguments around the power of propaganda and the collusion of mass media will be explored and critiqued. The theory will be applied in left, right, and centrist contexts to the politics of Britain, America, and other countries with further consideration given to the involvement of social media as a route for the dissemination of political views and propaganda. Furthering the exploration of social media, students will consider the ways in which political polarisation is fostered by echo chambers online, group dynamics and the ways in which the political component of social identity is reinforced. Building on arguments from Kriesi, Wheatley and others, the relevance of the left-right divide will be contemplated along with the suggestion that new ideological camps are forming (such as cosmopolitan vs communitarian). The move away from party politics to single-issue political campaigning will also be considered.

**\*You will only complete ONE of these two modules, dependent on the subject choice for your Major Project.**

#### Staff Team

Lecturing staff are all educated to at least undergraduate degree level in sociology, criminology, or associated subjects. Some are members of the British Psychological Society and/or further qualified to masters and doctoral level in psychology or associated subjects.

#### Assessment Methods

A variety of assessment methods are used which include essays, exams, presentations, research reports, critical reviews, case studies, scenarios, and portfolios.

Modules have between one and three summative assessments. The number of summative assessments for each module is made clear in the assessment schedule and module handbook.

Modules are assessed by the module leader and internally verified by another member of staff.

#### Typical Module Diet

All modules are 20 credits unless stated

Year 1 (L4)	Year 2 (L5)	Year 3 (L6)
Introduction to Qualitative Methods	Conducting Sociological Research	Major Project (40 Credits)
Introduction to the Sociological Imagination	The Sociology of Crime	Sociology of Law and Order
The Big Deal – Sociology of Drugs, Dealing, and Addiction	How Society Works	Contemporary Issues in Policing

	<p>Key Thinkers in Criminology</p> <p>Online Crime</p> <p>Crime in the Media</p>	<p>Penology – Understanding the Punitive System</p> <p>Victimology</p> <p>Understanding Violent Crime</p>	<p>Understanding Criminal Profiling</p> <p>Community and Public Involvement on Crime and Criminal Justice*</p> <p>Politics, Propaganda, and International Relations*</p>
<p><b>Study Hours</b></p>	<p><b>*You will only complete ONE of these two modules, dependent on the subject choice for your Major Project.</b></p> <p><b>Study Hours per 20 credit Module: 200 hours</b></p> <p>Lectures and Seminars: 36 – 48 hours</p> <p>Assessments: 30 hours</p> <p>Preparation and Independent study: 122 – 134 hours</p> <p>*Typically, three 20 credit modules will be studied per semester. There are two semesters a year.</p>		

*This programme is regulated by the Office for Students under the Quality Assurance Agency framework for UK Higher Education. Where studying may incur additional incidental or optional costs these are listed on the relevant course page on our website. Our Terms and Conditions, Admissions Policy (including baseline English language requirements) can be accessed via the University Studies website at <https://www.universitystudies.wsc.ac.uk/policies>*