

- **Overview**

If you have previously completed a criminal justice related foundation level degree (or equivalent), this course provides a route on to a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice.

Our Criminal Justice (Top-up) degree is designed to equip you with a broad-based and thorough understanding of the rapidly changing environment and operations of the current criminal justice system.

By completing this route, you will be able to top-up your existing qualification to a degree-level qualification. It is ideal if you are looking to progress your career and can also provide a stepping stone to future postgraduate studies.

- **Course structure**

The Bachelors degree in criminal justice (Top-up) is made up of the following modules and, upon completion, is equal to a total of 120 credits.

- **Level 6 modules:**

Criminal Behavior and Deviance (15 credits) *
Criminal Justice in the Information Age: Cyber Crime and Security (15 credits) *
Policing (15 credits) *
Research Methods for Criminal Justice (15 credits) *
The Economics of Crime (15 credits) *
Victimology and Criminal Victimization (15 credits) *
Criminal Justice Research Project (30 credits) *

*** These modules are core and must be passed in order to achieve the award.**

- **Course Duration:** 16 Months
- **Mode:** Online

- **Entry requirements**

In order to start the BA (Hons) Criminal Justice (Top-up) course, you must have completed one of the following within the last five years:

- A relevant Foundation degree from University of Essex Online or another recognised institution
- Two years of a relevant BA (Hons) degree from a recognised institution
- A relevant Higher National Diploma (HND) from a recognised institution

If English is not your first language, your English ability should be equivalent to IELTS (Academic) 6.0. If you do not hold an IELTS or equivalent qualification, we require students to pass a free online English test.

You don't need to prove your knowledge of English if you're a national of, or if you have completed a qualification equivalent to a UK degree in, any of these countries.

You must pass your first assignment set during the two-week induction period in order to continue with your studies.

***You are required to pass your initial assignment set during the first 21 days of the course in order to continue with your studies**

- **Assessment**

We adopt an assignment-based approach to assessment instead of exams. Criminal justice assignments are based on real-life work experience and assessed by tutors on an ongoing basis. You are always aware of your current provisional grade right from the start of the programme, allowing you to evaluate the success of your current study methods and clearly identify areas to improve.

We believe that this transparency gives you the information you need to make the most of your course. We achieve this by:

- showing your marks clearly in your gradebook, which can be viewed whenever you log onto the learning platform
- the rapid turnaround of work assessed to ensure that your gradebook is always up to date
- assessing your work throughout the module rather than waiting for end of year exams
- ensuring you have regular contact with your Student Adviser
- the simplicity and transparency in the design of our assessment criteria

We also have a policy of ensuring that work submitted by students is authentic. As well as the fact that all work is frequently assessed, we use a well-established electronic monitoring system to check for plagiarism.

On successful completion of your Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice, you will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony at the University of Essex, Colchester Campus.