

- **Overview**

Our BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice degree is a broad-based programme of study that explores both the social and personal aspects of crime. It examines some of the most serious concerns we face as a society, such as: What causes crime and criminal behaviour? Can crime be prevented? How and why should we punish offenders? How does criminal justice link to social justice? The course requires a critical engagement with criminology theory, research methods and the history of crime and punishment.

You gain an understanding of the social and personal aspects of crime, develop critical thinking skills, and become confident in your ability to analyse and reflect upon different sociological, legal and economic theories. You also gain transferable skills in research, time management and written communication.

- **Course structure**

The Bachelors degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice is made up of the following modules and, upon completion, is equal to a total of 360 credits.

- **Level 4 modules:**

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| Fundamentals of Effective Learning (15 credits) * |
| Introduction to Offender Profiling (15 credits) * |
| The Legal System (15 credits) * |
| Crime and Society (15 credits) * |
| Dealing with Offending Behavior (15 credits) * |
| Introduction to Criminology (15 credits) * |
| Introduction to Psychology (15 credits) * |

- **Level 5 modules:**

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| Criminology (15 credits) * |
| Risk Assessment and Management (15 credits) * |
| Forensic and Criminal Psychology (15 credits) * |
| Criminal Investigation (15 credits) |
| Prisons and Penology (15 credits) |
| Probation and Community Justice (15 credits) |
| Substance Misuse and Crime (15 credits) |

- **Level 6 modules:**

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| 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:** 48 Months
- **Mode:** Online
- **Entry requirements**

We have flexible entry requirements that look at both your academic and work-based experience. There are two entry routes onto our BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice degree programme:

1. Academic Entry Route

In order to satisfy the Academic Entry Route requirements for our BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice degree programme you must have the following qualifications as a minimum:

- Two A-levels, or equivalent; plus
- If English is not your first language, IELTS (Academic) 6.0 or equivalent.
- 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 are required to pass your initial assignment set during the first 21 days of the course in order to continue with your studies**

2. Work Experience Entry Route

To apply for the BA (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice degree via our Work Experience Entry Route you must meet the following criteria:

- GCSE Maths and English at grade C or above, or equivalent;
 - Three years' relevant work experience; plus
 - If English is not your first language, IELTS (Academic) 6.0 or equivalent.
 - If you do not hold an IELTS or equivalent qualification, we require students to pass a free online English test.
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- **Assessment**

We adopt an assignment-based approach to assessment instead of exams. Criminology and 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 Criminology and Criminal Justice, you will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony at the University of Essex, Colchester Campus.