



- **Overview**

Our MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology Masters degree offers an advanced qualification that is designed to equip graduates with a thorough understanding of cutting-edge and important topics within criminology and criminal psychology.

Studying for a Criminology and Criminal Psychology Masters qualification gives you the opportunity to expand your subject knowledge and build on the skills you have gained during your undergraduate studies. The benefits extend beyond improving your earning potential.

If you have not previously studied for a Bachelors degree in criminology, criminal justice or related subjects, our MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology course will provide grounding for a range of specialist careers including hundreds of different roles within the Police Service (from analytical Police Staff roles to serving Police Officers), working with offenders from support workers to probation and prison staff, working within victim services and roles within a variety of law enforcement agencies from the Security Services to the National Crime Agency.

- **Course structure**

The MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology degree is made up of the following modules and, upon completion, is equal to a total of 180 credits at Level 7.

- **Level 7 modules:**

Applied Forensic Psychology (20 credits)
Crime, Causation and Criminological Theory (20 credits)
Complex Criminal investigations (20 credits)
Practical Psychology for Policing (20 credits)
Advanced Research Methods (20 credits) *

Optional Modules**

Criminal Victimization (20 credits)
Policing: Leadership, Policy & Partnerships (20 credits)

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

** **In addition to the core modules, students will take one optional module.**

- **Course Duration:** 24 Months
- **Mode:** Online

Entry requirements

We have flexible entry requirements that look at both your academic and work-based experience as well as your motivation to do the course. There are two entry routes onto our MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology programme:

1. Academic Entry Route

In order to satisfy the Academic Entry Route requirements for our MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology you must have the following qualifications as a minimum:

- An undergraduate degree from an approved institution equivalent to a UK Honours degree or a relevant professional qualification.

If English is not your first language, your English ability should be equivalent to IELTS (Academic) 6.5. 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.

2. Work Experience Entry Route

We recognise that you can gain skills in a wide variety of ways and that prior academic performance is not the only indicator of an applicant's ability. Therefore, if you do not meet the minimum academic standards above, you may still be eligible to enrol via our Work Experience Entry Route.

In order to satisfy the Work Experience Entry Route requirements for our MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology course you must meet the following criteria as a minimum:

- At least 5 years' senior level work experience.
- If English is not your first language, your English ability should be equivalent to IELTS (Academic) 6.5.
- 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.

Your application will be considered on an individual basis taking into account your motivation for doing the course, prior work experience and other relevant qualifications that demonstrate your ability to successfully complete the programme.

- **Assessment**

We adopt an assignment-based approach to assessment instead of exams. Assessment for the MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology will be based on a combination of written coursework and work on a dissertation or individual project.

At the end of your studies, you will submit a 60-credit thesis.

You will be able to see your current provisional marks 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 Masters 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; and
- 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 MSc Criminology and Criminal Psychology degree, you will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony at the University of Essex, Colchester Campus.