

Module Details	
Module Title	Introduction to Crime and Criminal Justice
Module Code	SAC4007-B
Academic Year	2024/5
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 4

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Lectures	24
Tutorials	6
Directed Study	170

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

Module Aims
<p>This module will provide you with an introductory knowledge of crime and criminal justice and the opportunity to analyse and interpret the same. The module will apply historical and contemporary approaches to provide introductory interpretations of crime and criminal justice issues which are of importance today.</p>

Outline Syllabus
<p>The syllabus will provide an opportunity to address up-to-the-minute criminal justice themes which may be particularly topical at a given time.</p> <p>There is some flexibility to enable discussion of any criminal events. Otherwise, a typical presentation of the module will introduce you to an array of issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an overview of the criminal justice system structure and function;</li> <li>- sociological and psychological theories of crime;</li> <li>- different perspectives on crime definitions;</li> <li>- a discussion of the social construction of crime statistics;</li> <li>- different ideas of punishment.</li> </ul>

Learning Outcomes	
Outcome Number	Description
1a	Define crime, drawing on knowledge of a range of conceptual perspectives.
1b	Identify and analyse the main empirical and theoretical issues associated with historical and contemporary perspectives on crime and criminal justice.
2a	Identify key organisations and players in the structure and function of the criminal justice system.
2b	Use academic sources and critical skills to support or criticise ideological or theoretical perspectives on crime and criminal justice.
3a	Demonstrate effective oral communication skills.
3b	Work collaboratively in mixed and new groups.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
<p>Lectures will introduce topics, theoretical perspectives and empirical issues in understanding crime and the structure and function of the criminal justice system from historical and contemporary perspectives. They will support your understanding of what makes a good essay and presentation. The lectures will be interactive and involve group discussions to explore, clarify and critically appraise the main empirical and theoretical issues (LO1b, 3b). Directed study requires you to carry out independent reading relevant to the topics covered (LO2).</p> <p>The formative and summative assessments require you to use academic sources and critical skills to support or criticise as appropriate (LO2b).</p> <p>The formative written assignment assesses your understanding of crime from a range of conceptual perspectives (LO1a) and develops skills in summarising information (LO3a). This enhances your oral communication skills and full feedback will be given.</p> <p>The summative oral examination assesses your understanding of crime from a range of conceptual perspectives (LO1a) and develops oral skills in summarising information (LO3a). The examination also assesses your understanding of the structure and function of the criminal justice system (LO2a) and your ability to identify and analyse theoretical and empirical issues associated with perspectives on crime (LO1b).</p>

Mode of Assessment			
Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Examination - oral/viva voce	15 minutes: Individual oral exam discussing student's understanding of the core learning outcomes	100%
Formative	Coursework - Written	1000 words mid-semester formative essay: 'Define crime'.	N/A

Reading List
To access the reading list for this module, please visit <a href="https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html">https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html</a>

Please note:

*This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.*

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