Module description:
This module has been designed by a Consultant Forensic Psychologist who has substantial experience working with mentally disordered offenders. The module aims to introduce students to the assessment and treatment of offenders, including thinking about context and considering ethical issues relating to working as a psychologist with this group. The topics taught within this module highlight to students the difficulties that can occur when dealing with mentally disordered offenders and provide students with an understanding of how such offenders are dealt with within the UK criminal justice system.

This module aims to:
- provide students with a thorough understanding of Forensic Psychology and its role in the assessment, treatment and management of mentally disordered offenders.
- provide students with an overview of the links between mental disorder, personality disorder and crime.
- provide students with a working knowledge of the ways in which different types of offenders are managed within the criminal justice system including:
  - violent offenders
  - sex offenders
  - offenders with learning disabilities

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
- critically explain the relationship between mental disorder and offending,
- appreciate and understand the ethical and practical issues that arise when dealing with those who are mentally ill within the criminal justice system.
- thoroughly explain the approaches for assessment, treatment and management of mentally disordered offenders within different settings including:
  - the community
  - hospital settings
  - prison
- Appreciate the limitations of psychological assessment within the criminal justice system.

Syllabus
- Introduction to Forensic Psychology
  - Working as a forensic psychologist
  - Philosophy of, 'punishment,' and rehabilitation
- Working with risk
  - Actuarial Vs. structured clinical judgement
  - Risk assessment within Forensic Psychology
- Multi-agency working and partnerships within the forensic mental health care system
- Mental disorder and violent offending
  - Working with violent offenders
  - Theories of violent offending
  - The relationship between violence and mental disorder
  - Approaches to the assessment, treatment and management of violent offenders
- Mental disorder and sex offending
  - Working with sex offenders
  - Theories of sexual offending
  - The relationship between sexual offending and mental disorder
  - Approaches to the assessment, treatment and management of sex offenders
- Fire setting and Arson
  - Introduction to the psychology of arson
  - The assessment of individuals who have committed arson and approaches to treatment
- Working with offenders with learning disabilities
  - Introduction to forensic learning disabilities, including issues to do with care and treatment, recovery and rehabilitation
- Psychopathy and severe personality disorder
  - Psychopathy and offending
  - Different approaches to 'treating' and managing individuals with psychopathic disorder
- Mentally disordered offenders within the community
  - Management of offenders within the community
  - Risk management and public protection
- Malingering and illness deception
  - Detecting malingered mental disorder
  - Improving psychological assessment

Learning and teaching methods
The module will be delivered by reading materials available on the learning platform supported by discussion forums and online lecture-casts. Students will be encouraged to identify and share relevant web-based resources. Self-directed learning will supplement the lecture-casts and discussions and tutors will provide students with direction on required readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Assessed Discussion Activities</td>
<td>Two weeks</td>
<td>Q1 and Q3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-module assignment: Essay</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>Mid term</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of module project: Essay</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>End term</td>
<td>40%</td>
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