Crime Causation and Criminological Theory

Module Code: CCT  
NQF level: 7  
Credit Value: 20  
Study duration: 12 weeks

Module description:
The University of Essex’s Centre for Criminology undertake extensive research and produce high ranking research that informs both academia and public policy. Such high quality research is due to the internationally recognised scholars which work within the Centre. This module aims to share with students the Essex approach to Criminology by disseminating the centre’s up to date research. This module will study Criminology primarily from a sociological approach and throughout this 12 week module students will be introduced to the scholars and their research, which has made the Criminology Centre at the University of Essex one of the leading departments in Criminological research.

This module aims to:
▪ provide students with a sociological introduction to crime, causation and criminological theory.
▪ inform students of the different strands of research produced at the University of Essex and discuss the practical and academic applications including:
  o crime and the media
  o green criminology and crimes against the environment
  o terrorism, security and surveillance

Syllabus
▪ A history of crime in the UK
▪ Theories of crime an introduction:
  o The Classical School
  o Biological and Psychological Positivism
  o Sociological Positivism and Anomie Theories
  o Subcultural and Labelling Theories
  o Control Theories
  o Conflict and Radical Theories
  o Feminism and Criminology
▪ Crime policing and punishment
▪ The criminal and the sociological researcher
▪ Meet the researcher: Terrorism, security and surveillance
▪ Meet the researcher: Crime and the media
▪ Meet the researcher: Green Criminology

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.

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
▪ demonstrate a critical understanding of sociological criminology and its contributions in:
  o explaining crime
  o controlling crime
  o globalizing crime
▪ critically articulate the strands of research studied in Centre for Criminology and understand their practical and theoretical applications.

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<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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<td>End of module project: Essay</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>End term</td>
<td>40%</td>
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