Module description:
This module encourages the student to make links between psychology and police practice, in a way that helps them to consolidate prior learning and to understand how psychological knowledge can be applied to routine police practice. Topics covered will include: the co-evolution of psychology and policing, suspect interview strategies, street psychology for police (e.g. detecting those giving personal false details), police decision making, using ‘nudge psychology’ to prevent crime, and how knowledge of criminal careers can be used to detect serious offenders (e.g. self-selection policing). The module has been developed by a chartered academic psychologist that has researched the area of psychology and policing for over a decade. Although this module takes a specific focus upon policing students will be taught aspects of psychology that will be of use to many agencies involved within the criminal justice system including: probation, social work and the national offender management service.

This module aims to:
▪ provide students with a critical understanding of the historic relationship between psychology and police practice, including where psychological research and knowledge has had the greatest impact on policing.
▪ provide students with a critical understanding of how psychological research and knowledge can be applied to practical policing in the ‘real world’.
▪ encourage students to identify potential gaps in the contribution which psychology and policing make to their symbiotic relationship, and suggest ways in which these can be best addressed.

Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
▪ identify, describe and critically assess the historic relationship between psychology and police practice, including where psychological research and knowledge has had the greatest impact on policing.
▪ identify and critically appraise specific examples of where psychological research and knowledge can be applied to practical policing in the ‘real world’.
▪ critically evaluate the contribution that psychology has made to policing (this far), identify potential gaps in their symbiotic relationship, and suggest ways in which these can be best addressed.

Syllabus
▪ A history of psychology and policing. A symbiotic relationship?
▪ Psychology and the police interview
▪ Developing a ‘street psychology’ for police.
▪ The psychology of decision making
▪ ‘Nudging down crime’ and the psychology of offender decision making.
▪ Self-selection policing and the psychology of criminal careers.
▪ Psychology and policing. Future directions?
▪ Practical psychology and the criminal justice system, where can psychology be applied?

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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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</thead>
<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: Case study</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>End term</td>
<td>40%</td>
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