

Module code	PCJ	NQF level	5
Credit value	15	Study duration	9 weeks

Probation and Community Justice

This module aims to:

- Ensure students understand the rationale behind community justice and its relationship with community safety
- Develop an awareness of the concept of ‘community’ and their role
- Consider the importance of public confidence
- Identify and critically assess the key agencies that assist with the implementation of community justice
- Identify and critically evaluate some of the community sentences currently available.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- understand the concept of community justice
- recognise the role of the community in relation to victims of crime
- recognise the need for visible and transparent processes in organisations dealing with community justice
- understand and critically evaluate the role of the key agencies primarily responsible for the implementation of community justice

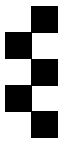
Learning and teaching methods

The learning and teaching methods for the module follow the intended online delivery strategy for the programme as a whole. The module will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials on the virtual learning platform, which shall be supported by specified discussion forums and lecturecasts, and tutor support will be available to students via phone, email, and a fortnightly synchronous question and answer (Q&A) session.

Students will be provided with indicative guidance on, and encouraged to look at, relevant websites which are appropriate to the module, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources as learning support references with their fellow students and as indicators of their individual learning contexts with their tutors. The lecturecasts will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials/web based module learning resources and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the tutors.

Syllabus

- Probation history and development:
 - introduction to the probation service
 - the changes of ethos that occurred in different eras from voluntary to statutory service
 - the links between the development of the probation service and wider trends in penal reform
- Probation and community justice:
 - the evolution of where probation service sits within the criminal justice system
 - the four practice models of Due process, Crime control, Treatment models and Restorative justice
 - the theoretical models: expressive, bureaucratic, power models
- Probation values, justice and diversity:
 - the development of values when working with offenders
 - changes to the role of the probation officer from the origins of social work
 - discrimination and anti-discrimination
 - probation values and human rights
- Punishment, sentencing and probation:
 - punishment: its purpose and justifications
 - the purpose of sentencing by the court
 - the punishment of offenders
 - the several and conflicting purposes of sentencing
- The supervision of orders:
 - challenges to the rehabilitative ideal
 - the “What Works” debate
 - the research into effective practice principles
 - the introduction of cognitive behavioural approaches into probation work
 - the Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) model
- Risk and procedures:
 - look at risk of serious harm and the likelihood of reconviction
 - OASys, OGRS, RM2000
 - risk and pre-sentence reports and parole reports



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Online

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- Probation practice: the Aspire model and Offender Management Model (OMM):
 - the ASPIRE Model
 - the Offender Management Model (OMM)
 - SMART objectives
 - the tiering of offenders in the OMM
 - the structured assessment and intervention pathways
- From partnership to competition the historical development of probation partnership work
 - the benefits and challenges of adopting a partnership approach
 - the changing nature of partnership work
 - the TR strategy and how it will impact upon the management of offenders
- Working with victims and victim issues
 - victim issues and victim’s rights
 - the development of victim contact work
 - the incorporation of the victim perspective into probation practice
- Probation, risk and public protection
 - the probation service, risk and public protection
 - the risk assessment and risk management of offenders
 - MAPPA and MARAC
 - the ‘risk society’
 - dangerousness
 - risk and compliance

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission date	Weighting
Discussion contributions	Fortnight	Unit 2 and Unit 3	10%
Mid-module assignment	2,000 words	Unit 6	40%
Journal entries	500 words (each)	Unit 4 and Unit 8	10%
End of module project	2,000 words	Unit 9	40%