

Module title: Criminal Behaviour and Deviance

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| Module code: | CBD | NQF level: | Level 6 |
| Credit value: | 15 credits | Study duration: | 9 Weeks |

Module description

This module provides students with an in depth knowledge of criminal behaviour and deviance from a psychological and sociological perspective. The module covers a vast array of topics including: psychopathy, mental disorder and its links to crimes and sociological perspectives of criminal behaviour.

Aims

- Review the history of criminal responsibility and mental disorder
- Explore the pathophysiology of mental disorders including psychopathy and personality disorder
- Assess the influences on pre-offending and offending violent behaviour
- Consider criminal deviance in relation to a variety of factors including age and gender
- Investigate the role of violence in relation to specific crimes

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module students will be able to:

- Understand how psychology and sociology can inform the study of crime
- Recognise the different factors that can influence and exacerbate violent behaviour
- Detail the history of criminal responsibility and mental disorder
- Apply an understanding of a variety of mental disorders to the study of criminal behaviour

Syllabus

- Crime or Deviance
- Sociological Explanations
- Mental Health and Offending
- Psychological Explanations
- Development Factors and Criminal Careers
- Sexual Offenders
- Gender and Crime

Learning and teaching methods

Teaching will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials that will be provided on the UoEO Learning Platform, and will be supported by specified discussion forums, pre-recorded lecturecasts and biweekly online question and answer sessions (using synchronous communication software and application sharing facility). Students will be provided with indicative guidance on, and encouraged to look at relevant websites which are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources (as learning support references) with their fellow students. The pre-recorded lecturecasts and the online question and answer sessions will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the Tutors. Self-managed learning will supplement lectures and students will be given direction on required and indicative reading.

Assessment

| Description of unit of assessment | Length / Duration | Submission Date | Weighting |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 2 x Assessed discussion activities | 2 weeks | Unit 3 & Unit 7 | 20% |
| Mid Module Assignment | 1500-2000 words | Unit 5 | 30% |
| End of Module Assignment | 1500-2000 words | End of module | 30% |
| Reflective report | 1500-2000 words | End of module | 20% |