

Module title: Economics of Crime

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

Module description

This module outlines the breadth of economic input into the criminal justice system and provides students with a detailed understanding of the economic cost of crime.

Aims

- Outline the relationship between economic theory and criminological theory
- Assess the economic and social costs of crime
- Apply basic economic theory to understand illegal markets and organised crime
- Evaluate the economic efficiency of punishment and crime reduction and prevention initiatives

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module students will be able to:

- Appreciate the economic cost of crime
- Show an understanding of basic economic theory and how this relates to criminology
- Appreciate the breadth of social costs of crime
- Analyse the economic efficiency of punishment

Syllabus

- Introduction to Economic Theory
- Modelling Criminal Behaviour
- Rational Choice Theory
- Labour Market, Poverty and Crime
- Statistical Methods & the Costs of Crime
- Crime Reduction
- Prison and Community Justice

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%