Victimology and Criminal Victimisation

This module aims to:

- Examine the history and theoretical perspectives on Victimology
- Investigate the incidence of criminal victimisation amongst vulnerable persons
- Assess criminal victimisation in the context of anti-social behaviour, corporate crimes, domestic violence, hate crimes and state crimes
- Explore the role of the victim in the criminal justice process and the provision of victim support services
- Analyse comparative approaches to victim services in the European Union and United States

Syllabus

- History of and theory of victimology
- Definitions and data
- Social inequalities, vulnerability and victimisation
- Hate crimes
- Criminal victimisation
- Crimes of the powerful and hidden victims
- Victims in the criminal justice system
- Justice for victims
- EU perspectives

Learning outcomes

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

- apply an understanding of criminological theories to assess the political and social processes of victimisation and criminalisation
- demonstrate the relationship between diversity and social inequality in relation to victimisation
- understand the role of the victim in the criminal justice process and the support services available to them
- evaluate comparative approaches to victim services in the European Union and United States
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 live lectures 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. At pre-arranged and regularly agreed points, on specified days and times in advance of each lecture (typically two to three days prior to the lecture) there will be a ‘drop in’ telephone or online preparatory learning liaison session conducted between the student(s) and tutor, typically lasting for 20 to 30 minutes. These sessions are designed to provide students with an introductory preview of the week’s work and give them an opportunity to ask specific and general questions related to that week’s learning opportunities and to enable them to contextualise their learning experience. Self-managed learning will supplement lectures and students are given weekly direction on required and indicative reading.

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