

## Course Specification

<b>Published Date:</b>	21-Sep-2020
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<b>Status:</b>	Validated

## Core Information

<b>Awarding Body / Institution:</b>	University of Wolverhampton		
<b>School / Institute:</b>	School of Social, Historical and Political Studies		
<b>Course Code(s):</b>	CJ006P01UV	Full-time	12 Months
	CJ006P31UV	Part-time	2 Years
<b>UCAS Code:</b>			
<b>Course Title:</b>	MA Comparative Criminology		
<b>Hierarchy of Awards:</b>	Master of Arts Comparative Criminology Postgraduate Diploma Comparative Criminology Postgraduate Certificate Comparative Criminology University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
<b>Language of Study:</b>	English		
<b>Date of DAG approval:</b>	14/May/2018		
<b>Last Review:</b>	2017/8		
<b>Course Specification valid from:</b>	2017/8		
<b>Course Specification valid to:</b>	2023/4		

## Academic Staff

<b>Course Leader:</b>	David Cox
<b>Head of Department:</b>	Dr Clare Williams

# Course Information

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<b>Location of Delivery:</b>	University of Wolverhampton
<b>Category of Partnership:</b>	Not delivered in partnership
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	University of Wolverhampton
<b>Open / Closed Course:</b>	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

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## Entry Requirements:

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Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

## Distinctive Features of the Course:

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The course draws on the expertise of internationally established researchers based at the University of Wolverhampton. Each module is led by scholars who have published widely in many aspects of comparative criminology.

Each module is informed by books, articles and cutting-edge research authored by University of Wolverhampton academics that have made new knowledge available to practitioners as well as significant interventions into key debates on the past, present and future of criminology and criminal justice. The interdisciplinary nature of the MA gives it a unique and broader focus and content that that offered on programmes at many other institutions, which tend to focus largely on either research or law.

The MA in Comparative Criminology provides students with a pathway into various careers. The range of skills developed throughout the course ensures that graduates will be well equipped to work in a range of crime and criminal justice fields, and further afield: for example the Crown Prosecution Service, Charitable organisations, think-tanks, the National Office for Statistics, the Home Office, fraud investigators, immigration officers, and crime prevention/law enforcement areas. Students will also be able to draw on the wider research culture of the Faculty; the team have, over the past two years developed significant links with outside agencies such as the Parole Board, the Independent Monitoring Board, representatives of the English Collective of Prostitutes, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, HMP YOI Brinsford, the Shannon Trust, the Magistrates' Association and many other organisations and charitable bodies. These links enable the team to ensure that students are given the opportunity to receive guest lectures and seminars from representatives of these bodies that greatly enhance their learning experience.

## Educational Aims of the Course:

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This Masters course allows you to explore many of the rich and varied components of comparative criminology through the focusing in turn on aspects of contemporary justice, social harms, violence, oppression, the penal system and its reform, transnational policing, and past and current controversies in the criminal justice system. You will study these themes in depth under the care of tutors who have a keen interest in and expert knowledge of these fields.

As the culmination of the course, you will undertake a piece of independent research in the form of a 15,000 word dissertation on a topic based on one or more of the taught components of the course. Guidance in this undertaking will come from your appointed dissertation supervisor but also from the Research Methods core module, which will be studied prior to you commencing your research.

The MA draws on a vast range of expertise and will prepare you for future research at doctoral level, as well as further developing your interpersonal and professional skills.

Its especial strength resides in the sustained combination of criminological, historical, policing and social science approaches and expertise made available to you by the course team. The sound grounding that you

will have acquired by the time of completion will provide the skills and the confidence to consider and seek opportunities in public and private sector research-based employment, as well as a wide range of jobs within academia, customs and excise, border control, policing, etc. to name but a few examples.

In preparation for future employment, an optional Work Placement module is available in which you will have the opportunity to undertake accredited work-based activities and experiences which will give you the opportunity to reflect on and apply the skills and knowledge learned on the course in a practical situation.

Intakes:

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September

Major Source of Funding:

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Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

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Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time	£13350.00
2020/1	H	Full Time	£8850.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£4425.00

PSRB:

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None

Course Structure:

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Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

## Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

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None.

Reference Points:

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QAA Subject Benchmark document for Criminology 2014.

Equality Act (2010).

Learning Outcomes:

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PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCL01)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

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PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCL02)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

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PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCL01)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

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PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCL02)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

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PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCL03)

Deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

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PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCL04)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

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Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

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Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

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Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

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Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

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Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or

area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

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#### Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

#### Overview of Assessment:

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Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7CJ002	Prisons and Penal Reform in Twentieth-Century England and Wales	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7CJ003	MA Comparative Criminology Dissertation	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6
7CJ004	Criminal Justice Ethics	MACLO1, MACLO2, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2
7CJ005	Contemporary Justice	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7CJ006	Beyond Criminology: Victimisation of Social Harms	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7CJ007	Work in Context	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7CJ009	Transnational Policing	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7HS006	Research Methods	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4

#### Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

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To ensure academic success and enhance employability skills, you will be expected to take part in learning via listening to and taking notes on lectures; engage in structured discussion; take part in student-led presentations; read specified texts; access relevant course and module specific documentation via a suitable electronic medium; and also engage in primary independent research;

- You will have access to appropriate lecturer-produced course documents, e.g. module guides, assessment briefs and other core documentation.
- On-line and/or in-class activities will provide meaningful formative learning opportunities.
- You will have the opportunity to engage with fellow students in your cohort via a suitable electronic portal or medium.
- Each module has clearly indicated methods of assessment linked to the stated learning outcomes.

#### Assessment Methods:

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At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)

Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)  
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

## Student Support:

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### General University Support:

The University Learning Centre is a key source for academic information for students, offering a range of physical library resources such as books, journals, DVDs, etc. as well as a range of study area to allow students to study in an environment that suits them best. Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills For Learning programme. Students can attend workshops or request one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. The University Student Support web pages offer advice on a variety of matters including careers, counselling, Student Union advice, etc.

### Course Specific Support:

Tutors will be available during office hours for learning support. Specific support will be provided with regard to the 15,000 word dissertation through the appointment of an individual dissertation supervisor throughout the academic year who will help and guide each student through the complex process of researching and writing a Masters-level dissertation.

Academic study skills will be developed throughout the curriculum: each optional module will contain elements of taught study skills, whilst the core Research Methods module will consist of curriculum-wide key academic skills.

## Employability in the Curriculum:

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An optional Work Placement module will allow students to experience work-based employment and activities. This module allows for both a practical application of many of the transferable skills gained during the course and a reflexive opportunity of seeing how the academic issues addressed on the course can be related to 'real-life' applications and processes.

A key component of the course will be the regular use of guest speakers from both public and private sector organisations. These will give students the unique opportunity to learn about and discuss a variety of future employment and volunteering opportunities.

