

Criminology BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: M990 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2025/2026

Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

Crime and how to deal with it are amongst the most significant and contentious issues of our time, so it is vital that we understand this subject. Criminology is the study of crime, its causes and effects, and what we do about it. At Liverpool Hope University, you will study how crime is defined and who defines it, why some people commit offences, and what happens to those who commit crimes if they are caught.

Criminology also studies the impact of the various agencies and organisations that deal with crime: the police, the courts, the probation and prison services, as well as the role of the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office. Studying Criminology enables you to focus on questions such as 'is criminal behaviour learned or inherited?' and 'why are some actions defined as criminal and not others?'.

Criminology is a well-established degree at Liverpool Hope and is taught by staff with considerable experience at national and international level. Several key criminological textbooks are written by members of the School. The Criminology team is enthusiastic and dedicated and will help you to get the most out of your degree. Criminology is heavily focused on justice - how it is delivered, to whom, by whom and whether or not it is effective. This reflects Liverpool Hope's commitment to social justice both nationally and internationally.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2025/2026 are £9,535 for full-time undergraduate courses.

We advise you to consider the cost of the books that will be suggested as key reading/reference books. All books will be available in the library, but in limited numbers. We suggest setting aside around £100 for purchases, but remember that costs of books vary depending on where you buy them.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence:
www.hope.ac.uk/halls



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Criminology BA (Hons) Curriculum

Year One

Introduction to Criminology

Your first year will provide you with the core foundational knowledge in criminology. You will be introduced to key ideas, concepts, theories and agencies that underpin criminology and criminal justice. You will study:

Criminological Theory

In this block of study you will explore the reasons behind crime and deviance. The block introduces you to a wide range of core criminological perspectives which have influenced the way criminologists explain criminal behaviour.

Institutions and Process

This block will introduce you to the inner working of the criminal justice system. You will study the key institutions including police, courts, prisons and probation, and think critically about the processes within them.

Politics, Philosophy and History of Crime

In this block you will examine the politics, philosophy and history which underpin law, criminal justice and politics within the UK. You will learn about the creation and purpose of law, political actors, parties and ideologies, and mechanics of the UK government.

Criminology Core 2

In addition to the introductory criminology course, single honours students will also explore broader issues across the social sciences. This includes classes on key concepts such as globalisation, social class, and gender.

Year Two

Explorations in Criminology (Core)

Your core second year course will draw on the threshold concepts and knowledge developed in the first year to explore significant areas of contemporary criminological interest including: Crime and the Media, Victimology, Human Rights, the Politics of Crime and Criminal Justice Policy, Critical Criminology, Psychological Criminology, and research methods.

Alongside this, students will take seminar classes in both quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Explorations in Criminology (Additional)

In addition to the topics above, single honours students will study an additional six topics, including: Drugs and Substance Misuse, Hate Crime, Sex and Crime, Criminology of the Global South, Transnational Crime, and Corporate Crime.

Alongside this, students will also study an additional programme of advanced qualitative and quantitative research methods training.

Year Three

Term one

Crime and Society in England and Wales, 1750-1900

In this course, we explore various topics in the study of crime and society in England and Wales between 1750 and 1900.

Evidence Based Policing

This course considers the ways in which good police practice is, or should be, informed by evidence and research.

Term two

Organised Crime

This course introduces students to the study of organised crime, focussing on the experiences of the most active criminal organisations around the world.

Exploring the 'Manosphere': Online Misogyny in the 21st Century

This course introduces students to contemporary academic research on the growth of extreme misogyny in online spaces.

Term three

Advanced Studies in Criminology (Core 1)

The final term provides students with an introduction to two of the most vital and engaging topics in contemporary criminology: extremism, terrorism, and security, and cybercrime.

Advanced Studies in Criminology (Core 2)

Single honours students will undertake an additional programme of lectures exploring race, crime, and identity, and green criminology.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, seminars and tutorials.

If you are studying Criminology as a single honours degree, in your first year there will be approximately 12 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 10 teaching hours in your second and third years. If you are studying Criminology as a combined honours degree, in your first year there are approximately 6 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 5 teaching hours in your second and third years.

On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours studying independently each week, as well as group study to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Exams at the end of each year offer an opportunity to assess your knowledge and understanding of the subject. Seminar topics are typically assessed via an essay. Reports and portfolios, which are linked to tutorial sessions, enable you to reflect on your learning. In the final year, all students are also required to undertake a criminology based dissertation/research project, which provides you with the chance to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a topic.

Feedback is given to you in a variety of ways. Where essays are submitted via Turnitin, then there is electronic feedback; for exams, there is a mark sheet that is available with comments on your answers; and there is always personal and group feedback.



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