



Criminology BA (Hons)

Course Summary

Criminology at the University of Northampton has the distinctive approach of drawing on perspectives from the Sociology of Deviance, Criminal Psychology, History of Crime and Criminal Law. This provides a comprehensive exploration of some of the key theoretical and methodological issues at the heart of Criminology enabling you to acquire and develop a realistic view of complex social phenomena. The course has been developed with the QAA/British Society of Criminology benchmarking criteria in mind.

The course, which is divided across three years, is designed for individuals who have an interest in crime and the criminal justice system.

Year one provides an introductory interdisciplinary foundation to the study of criminality and deviance within a broad social science framework.

The focus in year two is on exploring the discipline, of which a significant feature is a practical research project where single honours students have the opportunity to study a specific criminal justice agency or institution. The research placement is a fieldwork designed to combine theoretical and professional concepts.

The third year builds on the knowledge and the analytical skills previously acquired in order to allow individual development of a particular specialism in the pursuit of becoming a criminologist. The final year dissertation is a demonstration of academic abilities and the clarity and rigour required in professional environments.

Course Content

Criminology tackles profound questions about the nature of crime in our society and the way we respond to it:

What is crime? How are laws enforced? Why is crime concentrated in particular areas? How do you judge and evaluate evidence? How can crime be prevented? At the University of Northampton we explore both theoretical and practical perspectives of crime in order to gain a more rounded view.

Field trips, volunteering, and networking opportunities provide you with valuable practical experience. This course offers a placement to single honours students within a criminal justice agency, which also enables you to carry out independent research. This is can also be useful to those students who wish to explore particular institutions as a potential employment opportunity.

Selected Modules

- Crime and Society
- The Psychology of Crime and Criminal Behaviour
- Crime and the Media
- Doing Research in Criminology (placement module)
- Organised Crime
- Crime and Punishment, Crime: Perspectives of Gender and Race
- Terrorism

Career Opportunities

The course provides a broad critical grounding which could be relevant to careers in policing, probation work, the prison service, the Home Office, the criminal courts and postgraduate studies. Projects such as crime reduction teams drug rehabilitation programmes, youth offender teams and victim care are also viable career paths.

Additional Information

As well as the research placement available to single honours students in year two, there are a variety of opportunities for you to volunteer and gain work experience within a wide range of institutions and organisations of criminological interest.

www.northampton.ac.uk/study/courses

E: study@northampton.ac.uk

Assessment

There are a variety of assessments in the course covering a range of abilities: from traditional essays to historical investigations, debates in class, posters, portfolios/reports and end of year examinations. The assessments allow you to engage with the subject to nurture your talents and to cultivate your success.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry requirements apply. A typical offer would be between 280-320 UCAS tariff points.

We welcome international applications and applications from those with a range of non-traditional educational or professional qualifications.

Course level:

BA (Hons)

Location:

Park Campus

Application Details:

Apply directly via UCAS

Duration of Study:

3 years full time or flexible part time study