



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2026/27

Date created: 15/11/20 Last amended: 04/04/2025

Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology (with a year abroad)^

^Students may only enter this degree programme by transferring at the start of year 2

a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100484	80
100387	20

b) UCAS Code (where required)

CF84

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 years

BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology (with a year abroad)

The normal period of registration is 4 years

The maximum period of registration is 6 years

5. Typical entry requirements

A/AS-levels: ABB. All subjects accepted. Two AS-levels may be considered in place of one A-level.

EPQ with A-levels: BBB + EPQ at grade B.

GCSE: English at grade C (4).

Access to HE Diploma: Pass Diploma with 45 credits at Level 3, including 30 credits at Distinction.

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 30 points overall.

BTEC Nationals: Pass Diploma at DDM.

This programme offers the Global Citizen Study Abroad programme. For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

APL will not be accepted for exemptions from individual modules, however may be considered for direct entry to year 2, on a case by case basis and subject to the general provisions of the University APL policy.

7. Programme aims

The BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology aims to:

- provide a rigorous, demanding, and coherent criminology and forensic psychology curriculum that draws on the School's research expertise and teaching strengths;
- provide a stimulating and challenging learning experience for all students;
- develop students' knowledge and understanding of the criminological and forensic psychological breadth of these disciplines;
- provide students with the knowledge and capacity to use both qualitative and quantitative methods of criminological research and investigation;
- prepare students for lifelong learning suited to the demands of the graduate market with a broad range of employability and transferable skills;
- provide students with a knowledge and appreciation of issues relating to equality, diversity, and social justice;
- prepare students for postgraduate education.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- [QAA Benchmarking Statement for Criminology](#)
- [QAA Benchmarking Statement for Psychology](#)
- [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [University of Leicester Education Strategy](#)
- [University of Leicester Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data
- [Transferable Skills Framework](#)

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

- i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of a broad range of historical and contemporary criminological and forensic psychological theory, methods, and issues relating to practice, policy or governance	Lectures, seminars, independent research, resource-based learning, team/independent problem-solving exercises, tutorials, practical classes/workshops, external visits, consultations with staff, directed reading and guided independent study.	Essays, knowledge tests, reports, dissertation, group/independent projects, oral and poster presentations, contributions to discussions/workshops, problem-based exercises, portfolios.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate recognition of the main qualitative and quantitative research methods used in criminological investigation	Lectures, seminars, independent research, resource-based learning, team/independent problem-solving exercises, tutorials, practical classes/workshops, external visits, project supervision, consultations with staff, directed reading and guided independent study	Essays, knowledge tests, reports, dissertation, group/independent projects, oral and poster presentations, contributions to discussions/workshops, problem-based exercises, qualitative and quantitative analysis, critical reviews. portfolios.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse key theoretical and methodological issues in criminology and forensic psychology	Lectures, seminars, independent research, resource-based learning, team/independent problem-solving exercises, tutorials, practical classes/workshops, consultations with staff, project supervision, directed reading and guided independent study	Essays, knowledge tests, reports, dissertation, oral and poster presentations, contributions to discussions/workshops, problem-based exercises, qualitative and quantitative analysis

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present criminological and forensic psychological knowledge and arguments in a clear and concise way in a variety of written, graphical and oral formats	Lectures, workshops, independent research, resource-based learning, team/independent problem-solving exercises, tutorials, consultations with staff, directed reading, and independent study	Essays, knowledge tests, reports, portfolios, dissertation, projects, oral and poster presentations, quantitative analysis, contribution to discussions/workshops

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to assess the appropriateness of the evidence and the methods used in criminological and forensic psychological research, their value and their limitations	Workshops, tutorials, academic skills programme, directed reading independent research, team problem solving , consultations with staff.	Essays, reports, dissertation, projects, oral and poster presentations, contribution to discussions/workshops, problem-based exercises.

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to explore a variety of criminological and forensic psychological career options and to identify requisite skills to work in criminal justice	Lectures, workshops, visits to criminal justice agencies, school Leicester Award and Leicester Award Gold employability programme.	Reports, reflective practice, discussions with personal tutor, Leicester Award and Leicester Award Gold.
Design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of academic work	Workshops, supervisory meetings, and guided independent research	Research proposal, dissertation

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Speak clearly and confidently individually and/or through effective participation as a group of students	Contributions to discussions/workshops, team problem solving exercises, presentations.	Oral and poster presentations, contribution to discussions/workshops
Communicate with sensitivity in relation to issues of crime, justice, diversity, equalities and human rights to both technical and non-technical audiences	As above	Essays, knowledge tests, reports, dissertation, projects, oral and poster presentations, contributions to discussions/workshops, problem-based exercises.

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Express criminological and forensic psychological ideas, theories and concepts clearly in writing	Workshops, tutorials, academic skills programme, team problems solving exercises	Essays, dissertations, and all other assessed coursework.

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use IT software and statistical packages to support the delivery and development of academic work.	Academic skills programme, workshops, guided computer based tasks, guided independent research, consultations with staff, project supervision.	Essays, dissertations, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises .
Ability to manage personal online identity	Academic skills programme, workshops, guided computer-based tasks	Contributions to online workshops, discussion forum tasks

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse, interpret and present relevant data using statistical and graphical techniques	Lectures, workshops, computer classes, project supervision, guided independent study	Essays, dissertations, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises, quantitative analysis

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to form teams and work collaboratively and effectively in groups to jointly explore criminological and forensic psychological problems and to recognise the value of working closely with others with different backgrounds and views	Workshops, team problem solving exercises, independent group study.	Problem-based exercises, group projects/presentations, portfolio

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to address and analyse theoretical, methodological and empirical problems posed by criminological and forensic psychological literature and practice, evaluate a range of solutions and demonstrate cultural and political sensitivity in solution creation	Lectures, workshops, team problems solving exercises	Essays, knowledge tests, dissertation, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises

vii) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Logically summarises information or data pertaining to criminological and forensic psychological issues, identifying the most relevant/key issues	Computer classes, workshops, independent and group research	Essays, group research project, dissertation, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises, qualitative and quantitative analysis
Have an awareness of data protection issues and how these relate to criminological data	As above	As above

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to demonstrate intellectual independence through the setting of research tasks and/or the analysing of criminological/forensic psychological related questions	Reflect upon own learning and achievements and plan for personal, educational and career development. Fostering independent learning and self-evaluation through consultation and feed-back sessions	Independent research, workshops, team problem solving exercises, independent research and computer classes.
Capacity for time management, personal reflection, and monitoring of own performance.	Through all of the above teaching and learning methods	Managing workload, meeting deadlines, dissertation, reflective practice, all coursework.

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

The programme is completely delivered by the School of Criminology and its academic members of staff with the curriculum being underpinned by staff with criminological and forensic psychological research expertise from within the School.

The programme has the Leicester Award embedded in the curriculum in Year 1, with the opportunity to complete Leicester Award Gold in Year 2.

The course has a clear focus on Research Methods, with 60 credits in the second year dedicated to Understanding and Doing Criminological Research and 60 credits in the third year dedicated to planning and undertaking a research project on a criminological topic of the students choosing.

The programme offers students the opportunity to engage with relevant practitioners through guest lectures, volunteering, and careers events.

12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
<p>Research-briefed</p> <p>Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.</p>	<p>Our programme provides students with a thorough understanding of society through a variety of different lenses. It draws upon a range of theoretical concepts which can then be applied to numerous situations in order to better understand the world in which we live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-briefed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be exposed to challenging learning, which is inspired and informed by our cutting-edge research. All of our teaching staff on the programme are engaged in research, allowing them to use their experiences and findings in their teaching.
<p>Research-based</p> <p>Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students take part in a variety of activities which are based on real world issues. They will learn to apply their knowledge of theoretical concepts and ideas to a range of different criminological and psychological contexts.
<p>Research-oriented</p> <p>Students critique published research content and process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-oriented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be challenged to critically appraise a range of research articles that have been published in a range of formats. They will learn to recognise the limitations of various methodological approaches the requirements for ethical practice.
<p>Research-apprenticed</p> <p>Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-apprenticed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be guided through the research process by an experienced researcher. Training will be provided on both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, providing an excellent foundation on which to undertake their own ethical research

As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

Our well-renowned Scarman and Neustadt lectures take place each year and students at every level across our School are invited to attend. The topics of these important lectures change each time in order to ensure that our students are exposed to a range of cutting-edge contemporary issues, presented by leading figures in their fields.

Our School also holds a monthly research seminar series, whereby staff showcase their latest collaborative research projects to staff and students alike. This provides another opportunity for our students to hear about our interdisciplinary research outside of the traditional classroom.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

All programme module convenors attend an annual education away day, which supports teaching activities across the School. Our monthly 'Learning over Lunch' programme provides more frequent opportunities for staff to share ideas regarding engaging teaching approaches. This programme of events supports staff to deliver educational best practice through the sharing of ideas from teaching conferences, talks from external educational speakers, and a platform for staff to share evaluations of their own teaching practice.

12b. Work-related learning

The workload of all students on this programme includes the opportunity to engage with *at least* 100 hours of employer informed, work-related learning activity. Further information regarding work-related learning is available [online](#).

13. Indications of programme quality

The programme is centred on research inspired education with School of Criminology research outputs feeding directly into the programme's range of core and option modules. The Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 results show that vast majority of research within the School of Criminology was judged to be of global significance. 77% of our research activity was rated as 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent'.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Updates to the programme

Academic year	Module	Change
2027/28	CR2001 Policing	New core module
2027/28	CR2008 Punishment and Rehabilitation	Changed from 30 credits to 15

BSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

Level 4/Year 1 2026/27

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	120	n/a	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	CR1001	Theories of Crime and Criminality	30 credits
Year long	CR1002	Criminal Justice in Action	30 credits
Year long	CR1006	Victims of Crime	30 credits
Year long	CR1011	Introduction to Forensic Psychology	30 credits

Notes

n/a

Level 5/Year 2 2027/28

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	CR2008	Punishment and Rehabilitation	15 credits
Sem 1	CR2019	Criminological Research Methods 1	30 credits
Sem 1	CR2022	Investigative Psychology	15 credits
Sem 1	CR2001	Policing	15 credits
Sem 2	CR2021	Criminological Research Methods 2	30 credits
Sem 2	CR2034	Forensic Psychology in the Courtroom	15 credits

Notes

n/a

Level 6/Year 3 2028/29

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	45 credits	45 credits
Optional	n/a	15 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	CR3017	Preparing for your Research Project	30 credits
Sem 1	CR3039	Using Psychology in Secure Settings	15 credits
Sem 2	CR3038	Student Research Project	30 credits
Sem 2	CR3019	Criminal Justice and Mental Disorder	15 credits

Notes

n/a

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	CR3025	Violence	15 credits
Semester 1	CR3023	Gender and Crime	15 credits
Semester 1	SY3091	Education and Social Justice	15 credits
Semester 1	CR3028	Hate Crime	15 credits
Semester 2	CR3040	Citizens for Change	15 credits
Semester 2	CR3002	Understanding Extremism: Causes, Actions and Solutions	15 credits
Semester 2	CR3005	Crime, Borders and Migration	15 credits
Semester 2	CR3007	Green Criminology	15 credits
Semester 2	CR3013	Forensic Science	15 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).