



University of
Leicester

Department of Criminology

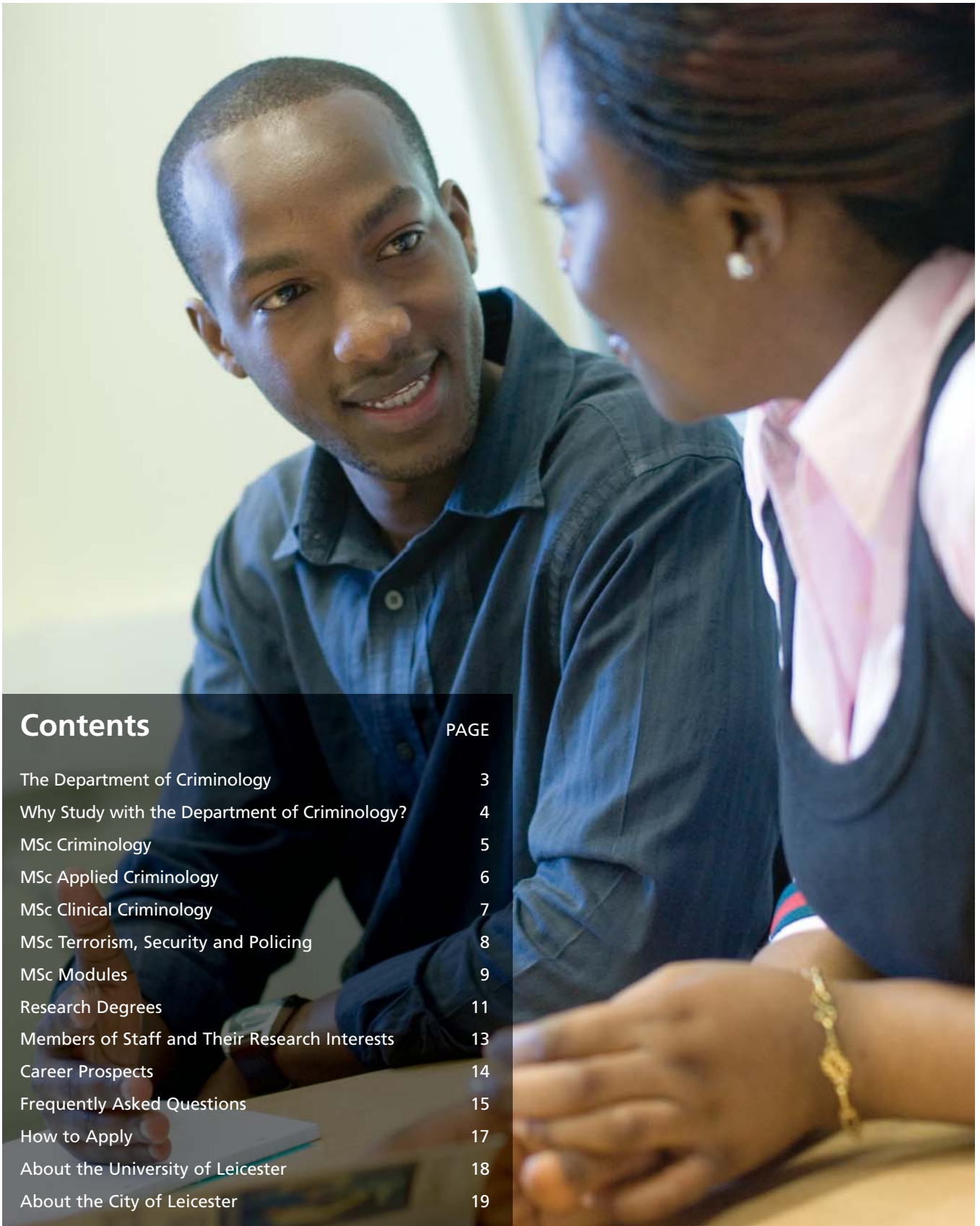
POSTGRADUATE CAMPUS-BASED COURSES IN

Criminology



THE Awards Winner
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

www.le.ac.uk/criminology



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The Department of Criminology

If you choose to study criminology at the University of Leicester you will be joining a **thriving and internationally-renowned** Department. Leicester is one of the very few universities in the country to have its own Department exclusively dedicated to researching and teaching criminology, and our students benefit from learning in an environment that is home to some of the **UK's leading criminologists**. The Department is a first point of contact for journalists needing information and advice on crime issues and it is regularly called on by national and local governments to assist with policy development.

At the Department of Criminology our teaching is inspired by the findings from our **cutting-edge research**. Lecturing staff have a wide array of research interests, ranging from community policing and offending behaviour to hate crime, sentencing, prisons and probation. This **research expertise feeds directly into our teaching programme**, helping to shape course content and keeping our courses abreast of current debates on crime and criminal justice.

Our teaching environment combines innovative lecturing methods with **groundbreaking research**, providing a stimulating yet friendly atmosphere in which to study. You are encouraged to engage in current criminological debates and to air your ideas in group discussions and seminars.

How to Apply

Our application processes are designed to be user-friendly. Our staff are happy to advise if you have any queries about your application.

Contact Details:

Admissions Administrator
Department of Criminology
University of Leicester
154 Upper New Walk
Leicester
LE1 7QA

t: +44 (0)116 252 2458/3946

f: +44 (0)116 252 5788

e: criminology@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/criminology



Why Study with the Department of Criminology?

- **Genuine criminological expertise:** As one of the very few dedicated Departments of Criminology in the UK we can offer students genuine criminological expertise in an environment that is geared exclusively towards the postgraduate study and research of criminology.
- **Postgraduate experience:** The Department of Criminology recruits postgraduate students from a range of professional and academic backgrounds which is used to further enrich your learning experience.
- **University of the Year:** The University of Leicester was named University of the Year 2008/9 by the Times Higher Education, an achievement which reflects the quality of our research and teaching.
- **Student satisfaction:** Leicester is ranked top after Oxbridge in the 2011 National Student Survey amongst 120 mainstream public universities in the UK. Leicester's levels of student satisfaction have been consistently in the top-10 since the annual survey commenced in 2005.
- **Flexibility and choice:** The Department of Criminology offers a comprehensive and exciting range of modules. If you choose to study our MSc Criminology programme you will have considerable flexibility in your choice of options, thereby enabling you to study topics that you are interested in.
- **Excellent support:** We pride ourselves in our supportive culture. Whether you choose to follow a taught MSc or a research degree, we provide a welcoming academic environment in which to undertake your course of study.
- **Research-led:** Our philosophy of research-led teaching ensures that you will be learning about the very latest debates in policy and practice.
- **International reputation:** Leicester is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world by both the QS World University Rankings 2011 and THE World University Rankings.
- **Forward thinking:** Our innovative array of teaching and assessment methods encourages students to engage in critical debate.
- **League table success:** The University of Leicester is ranked in the top 20 in all major UK league tables.
- **Career prospects:** Studying criminology at Leicester will enhance and broaden your academic knowledge, develop key skills and provide good career opportunities. Our MSc Applied Criminology programme includes a work placement, allowing you to gain valuable practical experience in a particular criminological field.
- **Specialist degree streams:** Our MSc Clinical Criminology programme is designed especially for students looking to investigate criminological ideas from a more psychological perspective and our MSc Terrorism, Security and Policing focuses on managing terrorism, security and risk in a post 9/11 world.

MSc Criminology

Duration and start date

One year full-time or two years part-time. The programme begins in October each year.

Entry requirements

A first or second class honours degree or an acceptable equivalent professional qualification. Consideration may be given to those without an undergraduate degree who can demonstrate significant relevant work experience and knowledge.

Course description

Taking a multi and inter-disciplinary approach, this course places particular emphasis on the development of knowledge and skills sought by the broad spectrum of agencies associated with the criminal justice process. You will gain a thorough understanding of all aspects of crime, criminology and the criminal justice system through examining key theories and policies within social, political and historical contexts. The MSc Criminology programme also examines the current political, economic and social context of relevant debates in the UK and abroad, enabling you to critically assess the changing contours of crime and responses to it. You will learn how to critically appraise research as well as conduct and write up your own independent study on a topic of your choice.

Course modules

Module One	Understanding Crime
Module Two	Penology
Module Three	Criminological Research Methods
Module Four	Option 1
Module Five	Option 2
Module Six	Option 3
	Dissertation

Options:

The modules Understanding Crime, Penology and Criminological Research Methods are core modules. You are also able to choose three optional modules from the list on page 9.



“Deciding to do a Masters degree in criminology at the University of Leicester is definitely one of the best decisions that I have made in my life. The varied research interests of the academics in the Department combined with the reality of living in a vibrant city provided me with constant inspiration.”

Irene Zempi,
MSc Criminology graduate

Student profile

"After completing my BA (Hons) Criminology at the University of Leicester, I decided to remain at the Department of Criminology to study an MSc in Applied Criminology. This decision was not only based on the great deal of support I had received from the Department throughout my undergraduate degree, but also the unique flexibility of the Applied Criminology course."

"Throughout the course, I have been able to develop many skills that will be vital in my future career. For my placement module, I spent four weeks working with the Community Safety Bureau and Intelligence Department of Leicestershire Constabulary, conducting a study into gun crime. This allowed me to apply my criminological knowledge in a professional environment and developed my research skills. I also feel that this has provided me with invaluable experience that has enhanced my employability."

"Leicester itself is a great multi-cultural city to live in. It has a little something for everyone; for those that love sport, there are the Leicester Tigers and Leicester City FC, for those who like shopping, there are hundreds of shops, and for those who like a good night out, there are many great clubs and bars to choose from."

"I have been offered a job as an Intelligence Analyst for the Metropolitan Police and feel that the MSc Applied Criminology course has provided me with all the skills and knowledge that I need to succeed in this career."

"I would therefore recommend this course to anyone who wishes to pursue a career in criminology and wants to continue their academic studies in a highly-supportive environment."

Karianne Mathiesen, MSc Applied Criminology graduate

MSc Applied Criminology

Duration and start date

One year full-time or two years part-time. The programme begins in October each year.

Entry requirements

A first or upper second class honours degree (2:1) or an acceptable equivalent professional qualification. Consideration may be given to those without an undergraduate degree who can demonstrate significant relevant work experience and knowledge.

Course description

The MSc Applied Criminology course offers you a wonderful opportunity to acquire experience in the practical application of your growing criminological skills and expertise. Taught modules covering key issues in contemporary criminology are supplemented by a placement module which allows you to apply your knowledge in a supervised practical setting of your choosing within the criminal justice system. You will learn how to critically appraise research as well as conduct and write up your own independent study on a topic of your choice.

Course modules

Module One	Understanding Crime
Module Two	Option 1
Module Three	Criminological Research Methods
Module Four	Placement
Module Five	Option 2
Module Six	Option 3
	Dissertation

Options:

The modules Understanding Crime and Criminological Research Methods and the practical placement are core modules. You are also able to choose three optional modules from the list on page 9.

MSc Clinical Criminology

Duration and start date

One year full-time or two years part-time. The programme begins in October each year.

Entry requirements

A first or second class honours degree or an acceptable equivalent professional qualification. Consideration may be given to those without an undergraduate degree who can demonstrate significant relevant work experience and knowledge.

Course description

The MSc in Clinical Criminology provides you with an in-depth understanding of offending behaviour, particularly the key role played by mental illness, law breaking, personality disorder and cognitive impairments. Special attention is paid to sexual offending and specific personality disorders like psychopathy in order to provide a thorough grounding in theory and how this relates to practice in the criminal justice system. You will engage in informed debate about major issues in criminology from this perspective in order to equip you to design, conduct and critically appraise research and to write up your own independent study on a topic of your choice.

Course modules

Module One	Understanding Crime
Module Two	Current Issues in Clinical Criminology
Module Three	Criminological Research Methods
Module Four	Crime, Justice and Psychology
Module Five	Option 1
Module Six	Option 2
	Dissertation

Options:

The modules Understanding Crime, Current Issues in Clinical Criminology, Criminological Research Methods and Crime, Justice and Psychology are core modules. You are also able to choose two optional modules from the list on page 9.

Student profile

"Clinical criminology is perfect for anyone who has interests in the link between psychology, crime and the law. The course involves lectures and seminars in which healthy debates and different opinions are encouraged and lecturers who are currently undertaking research in the area lead each module."

"Staff within the Department of Criminology are at the forefront of criminological research and it is extremely exciting to be associated with such a prestigious academic environment."

"The University itself is excellent, and the new library, which includes a postgraduate reading room, only makes it easier for people to obtain the reading material that they need, or to find a quiet space to work. Likewise, the excellent online links to journals allow students who do not live in Leicester to access a lot of information for any of their courses without having to travel to Leicester all the time to collect books."

"The thing I like about Leicester as a city the most is how multi-cultural it is. The city itself has a lot to offer, whether that is the theatre, cinema, exhibitions or nightlife, there is something for everybody of every age."

"I would fully recommend this course to anyone who has a passion for the subject, and would thrive in an environment in which individual criminological interests are nurtured and encouraged. My intention is to continue on with criminology and complete a PhD, as I love spending time researching different aspects of the subject."

Isla Masson, MSc Clinical Criminology graduate

“On the one hand crime is a universal phenomenon, on the other hand its nature and extent vary by cultural and social context and over time. The discipline of criminology draws on law, sociology, politics and psychology to examine the causes of crime, how societies define and respond to offending, and which measures to tackle crime are effective. Developing an informed understanding of these issues is vital for anyone wishing to pursue a career in the criminal justice sector. Through a mixture of lectures, seminars and practical exercises, studying for an MSc with us will also help you to develop a range of critical and analytical thinking skills which are highly transferable and equip you for any future career, regardless of whether it is criminal justice related.”

Adrian Beck,
Head of Department

MSc Terrorism, Security and Policing

Duration and start date

One year full-time or two years part-time. The programme begins in October each year.

Entry requirements

A first or second class honours degree or an acceptable equivalent professional qualification. Consideration may be given to those without an undergraduate degree who can demonstrate significant relevant work experience and knowledge.

Course description

This innovative degree stream has been developed in response to the increasing significance of the impact of terrorism in the fields of international security and policing. The programme will provide you with a detailed understanding of the key issues surrounding managing risk and security, policing and terrorism with a focus on global issues and their impact at the local level, particularly in a post 9/11 and 7/7 world. You will explore the idea of terror as a concept, the history of terrorism and investigate the common myths associated with contemporary terrorism. You will learn how to critically appraise research as well as conduct and write up your own independent study on a topic of your choice.

Course modules

Module One	Understanding Terrorism
Module Two	Global Security and Policing
Module Three	Criminological Research Methods
Module Four	Core Choice 1
Module Five	Core Choice 2
Module Six	Option 1
	Dissertation

Options:

The modules Understanding Terrorism, Global Security and Policing and Criminological Research Methods are core modules. You are also required to choose two out of the following four core choice modules: Responding to Terrorism, Surveillance and Society, Transnational Policing and Risk Management. You can then choose an optional module from the rest of the list on page 9.



MSc Modules

Core modules

Each MSc programme consists of six taught modules plus a dissertation. Each programme has a number of core modules. The core modules that you are required to follow will be determined by the programme that you choose. The optional modules you can choose from are also dependent on the programme you are studying. Further details can be found under the individual course listings.

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- **MSc Applied Criminology** – page 6
- **MSc Clinical Criminology** – page 7
- **MSc Terrorism, Security and Policing** – page 8

Module descriptions

Core modules

Criminological Research Methods provides you with a good grounding in research methodology relevant to the study of criminology. Specifically, it aims to give you hands on experience of designing research as well as the ability to comment critically on published articles, books and reports.

Core and optional modules

(depending on programme studied – please see individual course listing)

Understanding Crime focuses on the problems of explaining, measuring and preventing crime. It also considers the effects of crime, fear of crime, media reporting, corporate crime and police responses to crime.

Penology examines issues relating to the punishment of offenders within the criminal justice process. It considers various justifications for punishment and the ways in which they inform sentencing practices in the courts. You will also explore the punishment/treatment dichotomy within penal policy and issues of control and order within the penal establishment.

Current Issues in Clinical Criminology investigates how the criminal law and the criminal justice system respond to mentally disordered offenders, it examines the relationship between mental disorders and criminality and explores the methods of disposal for mentally-disordered offenders.

Crime, Justice and Psychology focuses on the overlap between psychology, criminology and the law. This includes topics from forensic psychology and psychiatry, the study of crime and the criminal justice system, and from legal and criminological psychology.

Global Security and Policing introduces you to theoretical perspectives in security and policing within a global and local framework. It also considers the relationship between transnational and local criminal activity and the security issues which arise from this.

Understanding Terrorism explores the emergence and manifestation of terror and terrorism from a range of historical, political, sociological and cultural perspectives. Emphasising the diverse and contested nature of terror as both concept and practice, a number of case studies are highlighted in order to explore the complex connections between order, power, authority, security and terror.

Optional modules

Responding to Terrorism explores the interpretation of, and response to, contemporary manifestations of terror and terrorism. Exploring similarities and differences between the 'new' terrorism and predecessor forms using examples and case studies, the module considers the organisation and objectives of terrorist groups, and the range of strategies available in response to the demands and challenges posed by terror in an era of globalisation.

Media and Crime investigates the overlap between media, culture and crime. This focuses on the relevant theoretical perspectives that have shaped the fields of criminology and media studies, but also the impact that media theory and research has had on public understandings of crime and victimisation.

Racism, Crime and Disorder explores key issues surrounding racist harassment, crime and disorder. It introduces a range of theoretical perspectives on racism and identity, and relates these to the context of British society in the post 9/11 and 7/7 climates. The nature of multiculturalism, ethnicity and community are critically examined.

Psychology of 'Evil' explores the way that deviancy is socially constructed within society. In particular it takes a multi-disciplinary and critical approach, and seeks to investigate manifestations of 'evil' from psychological, socio-cultural, and historical perspectives. The way in which 'normality' and morality are constructed is considered by examining a range of illustrative topics including psychopathology, sexuality, crowd behaviour, genocide, and multiple homicide.

Risk Management provides a theoretical and practical resource for risk management within organisations, government and criminal justice. It begins by introducing theories and concepts of risk, and then traces the development of risk management principles and practices within industry, commerce and law.

Drugs and Crime focuses on the key issues that arise when attempting to deal with drug use, particularly in a criminal justice context. The module takes a multi-disciplinary approach as it focuses on strategies of demand reduction and not simply strategies of reducing the supply of substances.

Transnational Policing aims to consider how combating the many forms of organised crime requires an efficient policing response at a European and international level. It examines the theoretical and practical operation of the many existing structures of police (and judicial) cooperation that currently exist between state and non-state sponsored organisations and agencies.

Surveillance and Society looks in detail at the nature, scale and extent of surveillance in modern societies. In particular it explores the way in which surveillance technologies are being used by governments and private organisations, their impact upon theories of social control and security, and the protection of civil liberties and human rights.

- *Please note that not all modules will be available each year.*





Research Degrees

Programme outline

As well as the chance to enhance your career and earning potential, our PhD or MPhil programme offers you the opportunity to grasp a higher academic challenge while conducting research at an advanced level. PhD students are an integral part of the academic life of the Department, which aims to deliver high quality supervision through a team of experienced and highly-regarded academics who are themselves actively researching and publishing.

Start dates and course structure

Research degrees have intakes in October, January, April and July. You will need to be highly motivated to carry out original research, possibly building on the work you conducted for your Masters dissertation. You must successfully produce a written thesis of up to 50,000 words to be awarded the MPhil. An 80,000 word thesis is required for the PhD.

The minimum and maximum periods of registration are:

Degree	Minimum	Maximum
PhD full-time	2 years*	4 years
PhD part-time	3 years*	6 years
MPhil full-time	1 year	2 years
MPhil part-time	2 years	4 years

* This excludes the writing-up period of one year.

Supervision

Every research student is allocated either one or two supervisors whom they meet regularly. Supervisors will help establish a structured approach to studies and will help plan, define goals and set deadlines for any required research training and the eventual submission of your work. Progress is monitored by a Department Thesis Committee.

Full-time research students receive regular one-to-one supervision by arrangement with their main supervisor. Part-time students based overseas, are expected to spend four weeks at the University every year (either made up of one or several visits) during which time they receive face-to-face supervision.

Department facilities for research students

The Department is able to provide shared office space for research students. Access is provided to telephone, fax and computing (including email) facilities with a dedicated PhD room.

The Department encourages and advises on graduate involvement in the larger network of scholarship, through attendance at conferences, visits to archives and producing publications.

Departmental research training

The Department of Criminology, together with the departments of sociology and politics collectively contribute to a Research Training Programme, and full-time research students are expected to undertake and be assessed in relevant modules from this in their first year of study. This Research Training Programme consists of modules in: Knowledge and Method; Research in Context; Introductory and Advanced Data Analysis. Part-time students are encouraged to participate in these courses wherever feasible.

Entry requirements

To apply for a PhD or MPhil programme, you should have successfully completed, or be about to complete, a Masters course in a similar subject area with an average mark of over 60%. Consideration will be given to candidates with a good first degree and/or substantial professional experience.

Examples of recent and current MPhil and PhD topics

- The role and influence of district judges
- Warm beer and invincible green suburbs? Examining the realities of rurality for minority ethnic households

- Workplace bullying/harassment amongst voluntary sector workers: its perceived causes and consequences
- The effectiveness of an andragogical instructional methodology in basic police training and education
- Theory of participative reassurance: a study into the effects of mobile communications within three communities
- Technology and media – terrorism’s essential tools
- From the statute book to social action: perspectives of community penalties and cognitive behavioural programmes in the real world
- The anonymity of African American serial killers
- Education in prisons: theory, understanding, practice and impact
- Aviation accident aetiology and fratricide: revealing the social. Insights from actor network theory and complexity theory
- The evidence-based policy movement and the Crime Reduction Programme: does evidence influence policy?
- Acts of extravagance and folly: the conception and control of male effeminacy and gender transgression during the 19th century
- An examination of the nature of witness testimony in respect of incidents involving the Police Service
- Criminal men: an explanation of masculinity and offending
- Freedom inside: a study of yoga in prisons
- Suppressing the diversity of ‘The Other’: the nature and extent of racism experienced by visible ethnic minorities in rural areas of South East Scotland
- Operational security for humanitarian aid workers in complex emergencies: a comparative analysis of security management policies and practices between the UN and Non Governmental Organisations
- Desisters and persisters in Chile: similarities and difference



Student profile

Brian Plastow is a current PhD student with the Department of Criminology.

Brian is a part-time PhD research student who has previously gained an MSc with Distinction in Community Safety from the University of Leicester. His current PhD research focuses on the nature, extent, and impact of racism experienced by visible ethnic minority residents in rural areas of Southeast Scotland and is linked to the award of a Bramshill Fellowship from the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA).

Brian’s view of the Department

“I have now been working with staff at the Department of Criminology since 2004 and first chose to study with the University of Leicester due to its acknowledged excellence in meeting the remote learning needs of distance students and also because of the international academic reputation of the Department.”

“I first enrolled in 2004 as a part-time distance learning MSc student and found the learning experience very enjoyable due to the high levels of support and encouragement provided by staff. I returned in 2007 as a part-time PhD student.”

“As a PhD student, and in close consultation with the Department, you are assigned a research supervisor appropriate to your subject area and in my case I have received outstanding levels of support from my supervisor Jon Garland who is an acknowledged expert in my particular area having published widely on the subject.”

“In my day job I am a Police Chief Superintendent and have found that the academic learning and research skills that I have developed with the University of Leicester have been both invaluable to my studies and also directly transferable to the equally challenging context of the workplace. In short, I would highly recommend the Department of Criminology to anyone with an academic or vocational interest in the wider sphere of criminology.”

Brian Plastow, PhD student,
Department of Criminology



Members of Staff and Their Research Interests

Mr Adrian Beck, Head of Department

Crime and policing in transitional societies; community policing; retail crime and loss prevention; staff dishonesty; technologies and crime prevention; national identity cards.

Dr Neil Chakraborti

Hate crime; rural racism; 'race', ethnicity and identity; victimisation; policing diversity.

Ms Tracey Dodman

Pedagogic research into distance learning and teaching; alcohol related crime and disorder; fear of crime.

Mr Jon Garland

Hate crime; ethnicity, community and identity; cultural criminology; policing of minority groups; football hooliganism.

Dr Laure Guille

Intelligence-led policing; cross-cultural and comparative studies; transnational policing; organised crime; security; terrorism; Justice and Home Affairs matters.

Professor Carol Hedderman

The effectiveness of sentencing; 'rational' approaches to sentencing; the comparative effectiveness of different approaches to enforcing court penalties; 'what works' in prison and probation; reconviction studies and the development of alternative measures of effectiveness; treatment of female offenders at different stages of the criminal justice system; domestic violence; rural crime.

Dr Sarah Hodgkinson

Forensic mental health; secure mental health provision (especially High Security Hospitals); personality disorders; forensic psychology; environmental criminology; anti-social behaviour; policing and communities; aggression and violence; evaluation research.

Dr Matt Hopkins

The investigation and detection of crime; organised crime and homicide; football violence; crimes against business; environmental criminology; evaluation methodology; the evaluation of crime prevention programmes.

Professor Yvonne Jewkes

The intersections between crime, media and culture; cultural criminology, cybercrime and cyber-deviance; the problems associated with policing the internet; prisons and the sociology of imprisonment, especially prison culture, inmate social networks



and flows of power in prisons; self and identity including how masculinity is 'performed' in men's prisons and how lifers manage their identity through a disrupted lifecourse.

Dr Darrick Jolliffe

Individual differences and offending behaviour; school bullying; developmental life-course criminology and systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Dr Hillary Jones

Pedagogic research into distance learning and teaching; criminal law and justice; mentally disordered offenders.

Dr Rob Mawby

Organisational aspects of policing including: police reform, civilian oversight and accountability, anti-corruption strategies, workforce modernisation, policing strategies and processes; police corporate and direct communications and the police-media relationship; joint agency offender management of prolific/persistent offenders.

Ms Nikki Shelton

The aims, structure and effectiveness of community penalties; offenders' attitudes towards community penalties and custodial sentences; women's motivation to offend and their experiences within the criminal justice process; desistance processes.

Dr Lisa Smith

Jury decision making; Interpretation of forensic evidence in the Criminal Justice System (e.g. police investigations, courtroom); Improving the recovery of forensic evidence, and interpretation and processing of evidence by police agencies; Case linkage and profiling of offender characteristics based on crime scene behaviours and evidence recovered; The impact of stress on police personnel performance; The use of victim services in critical incident response.

Dr Keith Spence

The sociology of risk, security and terrorism; contemporary social and political theory; the philosophy and methodology of the social sciences.

Dr James Treadwell

Theoretical criminology; crime in the night-time economy; violent and alcohol-related crime; football violence; organised crime; youth crime; probation and community sentences.



Career Prospects

Transferable skills

The Department of Criminology aims to provide you with a whole host of skills that will give you a head-start in today's competitive job market, and works closely with the University's Student Development Service to alert you to relevant opportunities.

Students who graduate from one of our postgraduate courses will have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of crime and its consequences, both theoretical and applied. Your capacity for imaginative, rigorous and critical thinking will be developed throughout the degree programme. Subject specific skills, such as knowledge of the social processes of crime and the criminal justice system, and the ability to understand and use different types of evidence, will be complemented by the type of transferable key skills that are highly valued by employers in the graduate job market, including:

- the ability to present and develop a cohesive argument
- IT skills
- research and problem-solving skills
- communication skills
- working as part of a team

If you have successfully completed one of our taught Masters courses you will have the option to continue your studies with us by completing one of our research programmes. Doctoral work often leads to employment in a research-related area or in an academic environment.

Possible careers

A degree in criminology offers routes into a wide range of criminal justice and criminology related careers. Possible career options include: the police service (officers and analysts); the prison, probation and youth offending services; community and voluntary organisations (such as NACRO, drugs projects, youth work); government agencies (whether at the Home Office or at local government level); and academic research.

“The course has been both a challenging and rewarding experience, where I have covered the key issues in contemporary criminology in a well-organised and proactive department. A supervised placement at Leicester City Council Community Safety Team allowed me to apply an array of criminological knowledge and discover an ideal career path to maximise the skills I have learned. A month after completing the MSc course, I began the role of Community Safety Project Officer at South Bucks District Council, where I work in a team to help deliver and develop the Community Safety Partnership for the area.”

Nicholas Martin,
MSc Applied Criminology graduate

Frequently Asked Questions

How and when do I apply?

The easiest way to apply for both our postgraduate taught and our postgraduate research programmes is online. For further details please see the 'How to apply' section on page 17. Our Masters programmes only have one intake per year. This is in October and we advise applicants to submit their application as early as possible to avoid disappointment. Our application deadline will be posted on our website. There are several start dates per year for our research degrees and therefore we advise applicants to contact the Department for application deadlines.

Do I need an undergraduate degree in criminology to undertake one of your MSc programmes?

No, an undergraduate degree in criminology is not always necessary. We have students on our Masters programmes who have undergraduate degrees from subjects across the arts and social sciences, including history, politics, psychology, law, sociology and modern languages.

Can I come and visit the Department?

The Department of Criminology holds open afternoons throughout the year where potential Masters students can come and visit the Department and meet the Admissions Tutor and current students. For details of upcoming open afternoons please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology

If you are interested in one of our research degrees or you cannot attend the open afternoons then please contact the Department as we are happy to arrange individual visits.

How will I be taught?

On our taught MSc programmes, modules vary in their teaching methods but typically involve both lecturing and seminars where students are given the opportunity to discuss and clarify ideas.

How will I be assessed?

Each of our MSc courses is based on continuous assessment comprising a written assignment of 4,000 words for each module studied. Some optional modules have a presentation component. In order to obtain the MSc, you must also complete an independent piece of research of up to 20,000 words.

How will I be supported?

The University's support services are designed to be here for you and to help you develop the skills to live and work independently



and successfully. The Student Support and Development Service assists students in all aspects of university life, providing expert confidential advice on a range of issues. All MSc students are allocated a Personal Tutor within the Department who will be able to provide help and support on academic and general welfare issues.

Is there any support available for international students?

The International Office can provide all the information you need about applying for a course at the University of Leicester as well as advice on scholarships, English language programmes and acceptability of international qualifications. Please visit the International Office website for further information: www.le.ac.uk/international

The University has a Students' Union Officer with responsibility for international students, and our International Students' Advisers offer support to international students on issues such as visas, employment, finance and cultural adjustment.

How will I fund my studies?

It is important that you have enough funds to cover the full cost of your course and living expenses before you begin so it is recommended that you begin researching possible funding options as soon as possible.

University access funds are available to all full-time and part-time home students, including postgraduate students. Priority is generally given to students who have particular financial responsibilities.

There are a number of public bodies (the Research Councils) which provide awards for postgraduate study for students from the UK (and fees only support for EU students). Each is responsible for a particular group of subject areas. Only the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) currently consider applications from individual students.

Professional and Career Development Loans are offered by a consortium of major banks for students on vocational courses only. You can borrow between £300 and £10,000 towards tuition and/or living expenses for a course over a period of up to two years study (three years if the course includes work experience). The interest on the loan is paid by the Learning and Skills Council during the course and you begin to pay back the loan a month after your course finishes.

Some organisations will sponsor their employees on vocational courses that fit in with their business needs. Often such study is undertaken part-time to allow employees to continue working.

What learning facilities are available?

The £32 million refurbishment of the David Wilson Library means that it now combines stunning contemporary design with state-of-the-art technology to provide an inspirational place to study. It houses study spaces for 1,500 students, group study rooms, the careers service and has a wireless network for mobile computing. The University provides access to over a million printed volumes and a digital library of some 18,000 electronic journals, electronic books and databases.

Does the University offer any accommodation for postgraduates?

The University offers a wide choice of self-catered rooms close to the University's academic campus in properties designated for postgraduate students. Our residences offer a range of prices and facilities. For more information on the halls of residence popular with postgraduates please visit the Accommodation Office website: www.le.ac.uk/accommodation

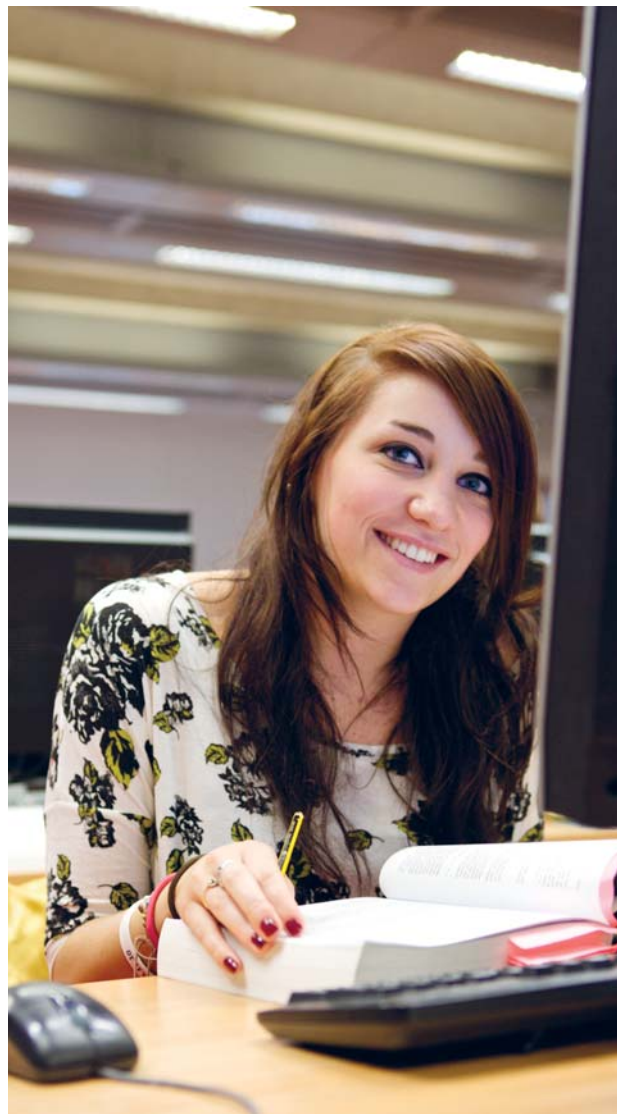
Many postgraduates choose to live in private accommodation. The Student's Union has its own Private Sector Accommodation Office. They can help you find good quality, reasonably priced housing.

Do you offer any MSc courses via distance learning?

Yes, the Department of Criminology offers a suite of distance learning programmes:

- MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice
- MSc Community Safety
- MSc Police Leadership and Management
- MSc Security, Conflict and International Development
- MSc Security and Risk Management

For more information about our distance learning courses please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology or contact the Department. For contact details please see the back page of this brochure.



How to Apply

Applying online

You can apply online by visiting the University of Leicester's website: www.le.ac.uk/pgprospectus

At the end of the application process you will be able to upload your supporting documents. In addition, if you have supplied email addresses for your referees, they will be contacted via email and offered the opportunity to upload references via a secure link. However, we encourage you to check that your referees have received an email and that they respond, as it is your responsibility to ensure that we receive references.

After you have completed the online application form, you will need to send any supporting documents that you could not upload online through to the Postgraduate Admissions Office by post (please see below for the address).

Applying by post

You can download a copy of our application form from each course page on our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology or you can complete the prospectus request form on the website and a copy will be sent to you in the post.

Completed application forms along with the required supporting documents should be sent to:

Postgraduate Admissions Office
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH
UK

Supporting documents

The required supporting documents are:

- Two formal references
- Copy of your degree certificate (if available)
- Copy of your degree transcript detailing the modules taken and the marks received so far
- Copies of any other academic certificates
- Personal statement (or research proposal for research degrees)
- Proof of English language competency if your first language is not English

The supporting documents should be sent in with your completed application form if you have applied by post or sent to the Postgraduate Admissions Office separately if you have applied online. We cannot make a decision on your application without the required supporting documents.

What happens next?

As soon as we have received your completed application form and supporting documents then your application will be passed to the Department of Criminology admissions panel for review. You will be informed as soon as possible whether or not your application has been successful.

English language

Students educated outside the UK in countries where English is not the first language must provide, before they can be admitted to their chosen degree programme at the University, evidence that they have sufficient command of both spoken and written English.

Acceptable evidence includes:

- GCSE/O-level English Language at grade C or above
- An overall score of 6.5 in the British Council IELTS test
- A score of 600 (paper) or 250 (computer) in TOEFL, with a score of 4.0 in the Test of Written English (TWE) or a score of 90 in the TOEFL Internet Based Test.

You will be required to submit originals or certified copies of any certificates and score reports.

Open afternoons

The Department of Criminology holds open afternoons throughout the year where potential students can come and visit the Department and meet the Admissions Tutor and current students. For details of upcoming open afternoons please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology

Further information

Detailed and up-to-date information on all aspects of the Department and our courses can be found by visiting our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology

We are happy to contact any queries you may have so please do not hesitate to contact our admissions team if you have any further questions.



“ At the Department of Criminology we pride ourselves on providing a rich and interactive student learning experience. Our MSc degrees offer a diverse range of innovative research-led modules, giving our students the opportunity to both broaden their knowledge and enhance their enthusiasm for criminology, whilst preparing themselves for their future careers. ”

Dr Sarah Hodgkinson,
Senior Tutor on the MSc Criminology
Programme

About the University

Some universities consider their primary purpose to be high quality research, others concentrate on excellent teaching. Here at Leicester we think that the two are not only complementary, they're inseparable. We believe that teaching is more inspirational when delivered by passionate scholars engaged in world-changing research – and that research is stronger when delivered in an academic community that includes students.

We think that a university should be about empowering people to explore what they don't know. We achieve this through passionate, dedicated research and teaching.

When we were named University of the Year for 2008-9 by the Times Higher Education, the judges applauded Leicester's very different approach, calling us “elite without being elitist.” Of Britain's top 15 universities only one – Leicester – exceeds its government benchmarks for inclusivity.

Our dedication to providing an excellent student experience can be seen in our consistent performance in the National Student Survey. Since the launch of the survey in 2005, Leicester has consistently featured amongst the top-10 universities in England for student satisfaction.

With these ideas at heart, Leicester is reframing the values that govern academia and re-defining what a university needs to be in the 21st century; we are constantly finding new ways of being a leading university.



About the City of Leicester

“ The modules have been very well organised and the lecturers are both clear and knowledgeable. I have been very impressed with the staff from the Department. They are all so approachable and will gladly answer any concerns or queries that you may have. They are easy to contact, either through email or by telephone. ”

Viki Phillips,
MSc Clinical Criminology graduate

Leicester is a lively and diverse city and the tenth largest in Britain. It has all the activities and facilities you would expect, with a friendly and safe atmosphere. The city centre is just a short walk from campus so you'll never be far from the action.

Leicester's diverse heritage is reflected in a dazzling array of festivals and cultural experiences including the largest Diwali celebrations outside India, the UK's longest running Comedy Festival, the eclectic Summer Sundae Music Festival, and the University's hugely successful book festival – Literary Leicester.

Recent developments have led to the opening of the world-class Curve Theatre and Phoenix Square Independent Arts Centre in the new Cultural Quarter, which complement Leicester's existing array of cinemas, theatres, museums and galleries.

The sparkling Highcross complex features 110,000 square metres of retail therapy, bars, cafés and restaurants. For those with independent tastes Leicester Lanes houses a variety of boutiques and specialist shops.

As you would expect from a true student city, there is a huge range of bars, clubs and live music venues that cater for all kinds of tastes. Food lovers are treated to a fantastic selection of restaurants, with specialities available from every corner of the world.

We are passionate about our city and so are our students, many of whom settle here after graduation.

Contact Details:

Admissions Administrator
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University of Leicester
154 Upper New Walk
Leicester
LE1 7QA

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f: +44 (0)116 252 5788

e: criminology@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/criminology

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