Criminology in Focus
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY

Inside this issue:
In the following pages you will find out about the latest news from the Department, our current research and what our students and staff have been up to. We hope that you find Criminology in Focus informative and interesting. Please do let us know what you think.

Department News ........................ 2
Staff Focus .................................. 6
Research Focus .............................. 12
Student Focus ............................... 16
Alumni Focus ............................... 19

If you have any comments please contact the editors:
Dr Sam King and Russell Knifton
Department of Criminology,
154 Upper New Walk,
Leicester, LE1 7QA
T: +44 (0) 116 252 5780
E: criminology@le.ac.uk

The Department of Criminology welcomes Professor Jo Phoenix

We begin the latest issue of Criminology in Focus with a staff profile of Professor Jo Phoenix, who joined the Department in September 2013 as Chair of Criminology. Jo has an esteemed international reputation, especially in the fields of sexuality, sexual exploitation and youth justice. Jo also holds visiting professorships at Queensland University of Technology and the University of Bedfordshire, and sits on the editorial boards for Youth Justice, International Journal of Crime and Justice and the Howard League Journal of Criminal Justice.

My academic career began in the mid-1980s when I went to Bristol University to do a Sociology degree. When doing a Masters in Gender and Social Policy, I first encountered Criminology on a module entitled Women and Criminal Justice Policy and specifically Pat Carlen’s book Women’s Imprisonment. Already interested in gender, that module focused my attention on the complexities of the social production of ‘justice’ for women. This led to an ESRC funded PhD in the Department of Criminology at Keele University in the 1990s on prostitution and also to a long standing interest in prostitution, child sexual exploitation, and policy reform. Following my PhD I authored Making Sense of Prostitution (2001, Palgrave), which offered an insight into how some women understand their involvement in prostitution, and how the choices that they make are conditioned by their wider experiences of victimisation, poverty and social exclusion.

While researching what was then called ‘children in prostitution’ (and now called ‘sexual exploitation’), I developed a broader interest in the tensions and complexities involved producing youth justice, because so many girls and young women who experience sexual exploitation and/or sell sex have also experienced youth justice. Indeed, my most recent work has focused almost

Continued overleaf
exclusively on how practitioners, whether in the fields of sexual exploitation or youth justice, make sense of the contradictions inherent in their work (between care and control, between vulnerability and risk, between audit and engagement). My first full time academic job was in 1997 in the Criminology and Sociology Group of Middlesex University. From there I went to the Department of Social and Policy Sciences at Bath University in 2000. In 2007, I was appointed at Reader in Criminology in the School of Applied Social Sciences at Durham University. In 2011, I was promoted to Professor, and I have also been Dean at Queen’s Campus and Deputy Head of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Health.

At Durham I was founder and Director of the Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities – a cross Faculty research centre that focuses on research that brings together scientists, social scientists, arts and humanities scholars. Now in its third year, that Centre has played host to a range of visiting scholars, such as Profs James Messerschmidt, Wendy Chapkis and Distinguished Professor of Queer Studies, Kathryn Bond Stockton and convenes an annual postgraduate summer school bringing PG students from across the country to Durham to study with established gender and queer scholars from the region. I have also been Co-Director of the Centre for Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, which is also multi-disciplinary in nature.

Taking up the post of Chair of Criminology in Leicester means being able to return to the things that excite me and that brought me into my career: being able to work within a Department of Criminology with vibrant staff and students with whom I can share academic interests, a love of knowledge production and a real passion for education and teaching. What I am most looking forward to in the next few years is getting to know my new colleagues, taking an interest in their work and in exploring ways that we can raise the profile of the Department of Criminology.

Professor Adrian Beck, Head of Department at Criminology said “We are delighted to welcome Jo Phoenix to the Department as our latest Professorial appointment. She brings with her an outstanding record of research and academic leadership and along with all the other members of staff I am very much looking forward to working with her to further enhance the reputation and profile of the Department. This is an exciting time for Criminology at Leicester and with the addition of academics such as Professor Phoenix, we will undoubtedly continue to flourish as a centre of academic excellence.”

Criminology Staff member gets Superstar award

Irene Zempi is a tutor at the Department of Criminology and was recently nominated and won the Superstar award. The award was created by Dan Flatt – SU President who commented: “I believe that there are hundreds of other staff members that could be helping a students’ experience here in Leicester. I therefore decided to create this award where any staff member could be nominated for a Superstar Award whereby anybody nominated would receive a certificate and a mug. The nominees would automatically create the shortlist for the overall year’s Superstars from each college, which are celebrated at the University of Leicester Student Awards at the end of each year”.

Irene was very happy to receive the award and said: “Winning the Superstar Award is such an amazing honour! I would like to thank the students at the Department of Criminology for selecting me for this award and the University of Leicester Students’ Union for developing the scheme. Also, I would like to thank my departmental colleagues who have been so supportive and friendly! Since I joined the Department of Criminology in 2010 I have been constantly impressed by how enthusiastic and hard working both the staff and the students are. It’s a privilege to have the opportunity to study and work here. I am grateful to the Department of Criminology, University of Leicester for giving me the opportunity to pursue my PhD as well as this teaching experience”.

Student Union webpage: http://leicesterunion.com/home/index
Scarman Lecture Series 2013/14

Named in honour of one of the most outstanding and highly influential Law Lords of the Twentieth Century, the Scarman Lectures are a series of public lectures which provide an opportunity for some of the most high profile and acclaimed commentators from the world of criminology, policing, and criminal justice to share their thoughts, ideas and views on topics of key concern. The Scarman Lecture Series is free to attend and open to undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as members of staff and the public.

Over the last two years the Department of Criminology has been lucky enough to welcome some prominent academics (Professor Reece Walters, Professor Tony Jefferson and Professor Jo Phoenix) and some high profile practitioners (Nick Hardwick Chief Inspector of Prisons) to discuss an array of topics, which reflect the multifaceted nature of criminology. The Scarman Lecture series was revived in 2012 and is now in its third year.

The forthcoming year promises to be equally as exciting with the first lecture being delivered by Keir Starmer QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions on Wednesday 2nd October 2013 at 4.30pm at the Peter Williams Lecture Theatre.

In addition to the Scarman Lecture Series the Department organises various conferences, guest lectures, film screenings, study sessions and field trips designed to supplement the course material and enhance our student’s understanding of contemporary issues in criminology and criminal justice. This programme offers students the chance to engage with diverse subject matter – from the regulation of door supervisors and the prosecution of Victorian cross-dressers to ‘Legal Highs’ and the influence of The Wire on UK gang culture. Upcoming sessions include preliminary findings from the Leicester Hate Crime Project, and the feature film Monster.

For all Scarman Lecture bookings, please contact: Russell Knifton
T: +44(0) 116 252 5780    E: rk191@le.ac.uk

For more details and updates for our Scarman Lectures please visit:
www2.le.ac.uk/departments/criminology/news-and-events/scarmanlecture

For more information on upcoming events visit our website:
www2.le.ac.uk/departments/criminology/news-and-events

Evidence presented to the Leveson Inquiry

Rob Mawby gave evidence to the Leveson Inquiry in April 2012. The Inquiry into the ‘culture, practices and ethics of the press’ was set up at the request of the Prime Minister following the phone hacking scandal. Rob’s evidence was based on his research into the relationships between the police and the media, an area which he has studied for over 15 years. Rob was the only criminologist to appear before the Inquiry and his contribution was cited in the Inquiry’s Report, published in November 2012.
DEPARTMENT NEWS

Professor gives prestigious lectures

On June 7th, Professor Yvonne Jewkes gave one of the prestigious Perrie Lectures. These annual lectures are held at an impressive stately home in Newbold Revel, Warwickshire and the audience was made up of a mixture of Prison Service and NOMS personnel, representatives of prison reform groups and academics. This year’s theme was Prison Contraction in an Age of Expansion and was chaired by Director of the Howard League, Frances Crook. Sharing a platform with Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prisons, Nick Hardwick, Yvonne discussed her latest research on prison architecture and offered comparisons between the UK’s newest prison (and Europe’s largest), the G4S-run HMP Oakwood and Halden Prison in Norway. These prisons cost a similar amount of money to build, but Oakwood currently accommodates 1,600 inmates (and can hold up to 2,500) while Halden houses 252 prisoners. Arguing that, when it comes to prisons, size matters, Yvonne suggested that the Government’s current policy of closing down old, historic and smaller prisons and rolling out a programme of new, American style ‘Titan’ prisons, flies in the face of all the academic research showing that large custodial facilities can do little more than warehouse their occupants in impersonal and sterile surroundings and offer them little purposeful activity or interaction with officers and other prisoners.

In April Yvonne gave a talk at the Sage Publications Annual Company Meeting (to all 400+ staff) at their offices in central London. Yvonne is currently working on a third edition of her bestselling Sage text, Media and Crime, and took this opportunity to talk to Sage staff about why the topic is important and why we should never take media reports of crime and victimisation at face value. Using the Boston Marathon bombings as a case study, she looked at new opportunities for public involvement and citizen journalism in criminal cases and how, in the increasingly competitive digital news environment, the pressure to be the first to publish a news story sometimes means that journalists get their facts wrong.

Yvonne also gave the final keynote lecture at the BSC conference this year and this is reported below.

British Society of Criminology Conference 2013

The British Society of Criminology (BSC) annual conference was held in sunny Wolverhampton this year and academics from the Department of Criminology made their presence felt, with nine members of staff presenting at the main conference. In fact our very own Professor Yvonne Jewkes was invited to be a keynote speaker at the conference, where she delivered a paper ‘Criminological Research on Trial’, which was not only well received but left many academics reflecting on their own research experiences. The conference theme this year aimed to put criminology on trial, literally, with the three-day event culminating in a court case deducing whether criminology had failed to deliver. Of course, criminology was found not guilty!

The papers presented at the conference by members of the Department reflect the wide range of expertise found at Leicester and the breadth of research currently being undertaken by those who work there. The papers presented covered topics like domestic violence, hate crime, female crack dealers, Islamophobia, football hooliganism and football banning orders, to name a few.

So here is looking forward to next year’s BSC, where it is hoped Leicester’s Department of Criminology will have an even bigger presence!

The paper delivered by Tammy Ayres was presented in a panel organised by James Treadwell, formerly of the University of Leicester, alongside current (Matt Hopkins) and former colleagues (Professor Mike Rowe and Jon Garland) called ‘Football Hooliganism, Crime and Crowd Management’. James Treadwell and Tammy Ayres presented a paper called ‘Talking Prada and Powder: Cocaine Use and Supply amongst the Football Hooligan Firm’, which looked at the role of cocaine and drug dealing in the cultural milieu of violent football firms operating in a consumerist society. Despite being at 9am the room was full and the panel was well received by those who attended.

Yvonne Jewkes: “In July I gave the final keynote address at the British Society of Criminology conference, held this year at the University of Wolverhampton. Following the theme of the conference, Criminology on Trial, my lecture put Criminological Research on Trial, arguing that Criminology has remained too quiet on the subject of the emotional investment required of ethnographic fieldworkers. Many of us
in Criminology spend our professional lives researching vulnerable, stigmatised and sometimes dangerous people. Some of us occasionally experience excitement, empathy, fear, intimidation or even repugnance towards our research participants. But there is an unwritten professional code that we remain silent on these matters. The plenary, I argued that without such disclosure, Criminology remains a peculiarly blank and arid field of inquiry. More than simply concerned with justice institutions and legal practices, I highlighted that Criminology is about the dramatic, tragic and visceral, yet reflections on these dimensions of fieldwork are usually absent from written-up accounts. Emotion appears in criminology in discussions about public sentiments, populist punitiveness, and the emotional motivations behind offending but rarely features as a lens through which one might better understand the process of doing research. Drawing in part on a special issue of the journal Qualitative Inquiry which I recently guest edited (due for publication in 2014), I examined the state of the field, discussed the work of a small minority of ethnographers who acknowledge the emotional texture of their work (including our own Jennifer Fleetwood!), and made a case for doing criminological research differently."

Becky Barnes: “This year’s conference in Wolverhampton was the first BSC conference that I’ve attended, so I was very excited about going. As a new member of staff, the conference offered a good opportunity to get to know colleagues better, and it was great to be part of such a large Leicester contingent! I presented a paper titled ‘Lost in translation?: the mis/ appropriation of ‘coercive control’ in UK domestic violence discourses’ which examined responses to the inclusion of coercive control in the new cross-government definition of domestic violence. In particular, I presented an analysis of readers’ comments from the Daily Mail which demonstrated the tendency for readers to confuse coercive control with everyday family tensions and negotiations, therefore downplaying the impact which coercive and controlling behaviours can have on partners in abusive relationships. I received some interesting questions following my paper, particularly in relation to the potential for new technologies and social networking to exacerbate the control which an abusive partner can exert. I also attended many interesting papers including sessions on gender and crime and a brilliant panel session from the Leicester Hate Crime Project. Yvonne’s closing plenary was excellent in calling for the need to recognise the significance of emotion in our experiences as researchers, and anybody who was there will recall just how memorable the conference dinner was! All in all, it was a great first experience and I’m looking forward to attending future BSC conferences.”

Irene Zempi: “The BSC conference was very interesting and informative, I truly enjoyed it! Great selections of speakers and topics, particularly the Leicester Hate Crime Project. Also, it was a great opportunity to meet with fellow researchers from other universities. My paper discussed the methodological challenges of investigating Islamophobia and the Muslim veil. I found both presenting and answering questions from the audience very useful in terms of reflecting upon my work. I appreciate all the knowledge and experience that was shared and I look forward to the next BSC conference in Liverpool!”

Dr Neil Chakraborti: “I chaired a specially convened panel outlining the progress of the Leicester Hate Crime Project. My paper was entitled ‘Ten Things I Hate About You: Emerging Lessons for Hate Crime Theory, Research and Policy’ which was preceded by papers from Jon Garland (formerly of the Department of Criminology) and Stevie-Jade Hardy. From an academic perspective this year’s annual conference was one of my favourites with some excellent, thought-provoking sessions. At a personal level, our panel was very well attended and it generated some fascinating discussion and debate amongst the scholars, researchers and practitioners who were present. It was fantastic to see such a high level of interest in our research project and I look forward to presenting the findings at Liverpool next year.”

‘Desistance and Probation’

Desistance research is having a growing influence on policymaking in criminal justice and, at a time when the government is reconsidering the provision of community supervision of offenders, Dr. Sam King’s new book provides an insight into the impact that probation can have on an individual’s journey away from crime. Drawing upon data from his ESRC-funded doctoral research, the book examines the findings from in-depth interviews with men under probation supervision. The book explores the men’s views on crime and the lives that they would like to lead in the future, and the impact that probation has on this. It also offers a timely critique of recent approaches towards probation, and contributes to the discussion around the current direction of community supervision. It is published by Routledge, as part of the International Series on Desistance and Rehabilitation.

‘Doing Probation Work’

At a time when the Probation Service is facing unprecedented change, Rob Mawby and Professor Anne Worrall from Keele University have published a new book called ‘Doing Probation Work: Identity in a Criminal Justice Occupation’. Drawing on data from their ESRC-funded study of the occupational cultures of probation officers, the book is based on 60 extensive interviews with probation workers who joined the probation service from the 1960s to the present day. The book explores their backgrounds and motivations, their career paths and their relationships with other criminal justice agencies. It also examines the complex public perceptions and media representations of probation work. The book reaches beyond criminological and policy analysis to an application of sociological and organisational theory to rich qualitative data. It is published by Routledge.
Dr Sam King

My journey into academia really started when I began a BA in Social Policy at the University of Birmingham in 2002. I’d been out of formal education for a few years, having left school at 16, and I’m sure that this self-imposed “mini-break” made me appreciate fully how enjoyable and rewarding studying can be. My newfound joy took me to a first class degree and a fully paid ESRC PhD studentship, which I also completed at Birmingham.

It was towards the end of my undergraduate degree that I first read Stephen Farrall’s Rethinking What Works With Offenders, and this book gave me a first insight into the world of desistance, rehabilitation and probation. I found the complexity of these topics fascinating and was inspired by this to carry out research in this area. My PhD explored the impact of probation on the first steps towards desistance among a group of male offenders. I’ve since published my findings in a book of my own, Desistance Transitions and the Impact of Probation (Routledge, 2013). Not for the first time, the future of probation is currently being debated in academic and political circles, with many asking questions about the impact that probation can have and how it should be best delivered. Desistance theory has also come to the forefront of many of these discussions, so it is an exciting time to be involved in work in this area. I have continued to carry out research on desistance, working with colleagues on projects examining the experiences of community supervision among particularly vulnerable groups of offenders.

In 2012 I applied for a post as Lecturer here at the University of Leicester, a bit of a “homecoming” as this is the city I was born and bred in. I started work in January 2013 and in the months since I’ve enjoyed working with a team of colleagues who are enthusiastic, energetic and supportive. Within the Department there is a real culture of wanting to achieve excellence in research and teaching, and it is great to be a part of it.

Dr Jennifer Fleetwood

I recently watched Scarface for the first time. It is quite a good film (although you probably know that since everyone has seen it). Since I research drug trafficking, people often assume I have a passion for films such as Scarface, the Godfather or TV series such as The Sopranos. In fact, I came to these series well after the rest of the world had discovered them. Although they are all extremely entertaining, they lacked a certain something: women (OK, OK. The Wire is the exception that proves the rule…).

My research addresses the gap in knowledge about women in the drugs trade. I am currently writing up research from my PhD for a book to be titled ‘Drug Mules: Women in the Cocaine Trade’. The book draws on interviews with traffickers imprisoned in Ecuador and examines questions such as: are women forced into it by poverty or violence, or do they make reasoned choices to get involved? Without spoiling the surprise too much the conclusion is really a bit of both. The book also looks at what drug mules do, how much control they have over their ‘work’ and whether women are disadvantaged in comparison to men. The answer to these questions is more complicated – the book is out next year.

Since finishing fieldwork, I have drawn on my research to write about sentences for drug trafficking in England and Wales (in The British Journal of Criminology), and contributed to consultations conducted by the Sentencing Council. This year I also started collaborating with Reprieve (http://www.reprieve.org.uk/deathrow/), an essential UK based charity which campaigns against the death penalty worldwide. They asked me to get involved with the case of Lindsay Sandison (the British woman imprisoned in Bali), due to my expertise on women and drug trafficking. I assessed the evidence available and wrote an expert statement that was read out to the judge. I concluded that her claims that she had been threatened were credible and that I was convinced she had played a minor role in the importation of drugs to Indonesia. I was surprised to learn that thousands of people are executed for drug trafficking and even drug use worldwide each year. This is just one consequence of the ‘war on drugs’. I have also written about the effects of US foreign policy on prisons in Ecuador, specifically women who are mothers (LINK).

While at Leicester, I hope to continue my research in this area. New Sentencing Guidelines for drug offences have been recently introduced which are potentially game-changing since they take into account the offender’s role: in other words, they differentiate between those in leading or subordinate roles. This is a very innovative approach which is potentially world leading. I look forward to researching the impact of these guidelines. This year I will also be teaching by module ‘Gender and Crime in a Globalised World’. This (to my knowledge at least) the only course which looks at international dynamics of gender and justice. I love teaching it and look forward to students joining me!

Finally, if you want to watch a film about drug mules I recommend ‘Maria Full of Grace’.
Honorary Visiting Fellows

The University of Leicester confers honorary titles to individuals who are experts in their field who make a significant contribution to the University.

Our most recent Honorary Visiting Fellow is Nick Hardwick who is Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Prisons. He was appointed to the role in July 2010, replacing Anne Owers.

Working for the prison inspectorate

Sometimes I join an inspection team in the night visit we do as part of every inspection. After the prison has been locked down and just the skeleton night shift are on duty, we spread out to poke about in the kitchens and serveries to see if they have been left clean, talk to the single support grade left staffing each wing to check they know what to do in an emergency and listen to the sound of a thousand or more prisoners settling – or not – for the night.

If you had told me a few years ago that I would be wandering around prisons on my own at night, and checking that staff had a ‘fish knife’ on their belt for cutting down prisoners who were trying to hang themselves - and that they would be prepared to go into a cell without back up to use it (the answers is still too often “no”) – I would have been very surprised.

I hope it doesn’t sound pompous to say it’s a privilege to have the job. For all that some parts of the media and politicians bang on about getting tough on prisoners, there is another significant and thoughtful tradition of penal reform that has its roots in the work of John Howard, the first C18 prison inspector and Elizabeth Fry, the first woman to be pictured on a UK bank note. The inspectorate is part of that tradition and my recent predecessor have played key roles in ending ‘slopping out’, integrating prison health care with the NHS, cutting prison suicides and ending immigration child detention – to name but a few important reforms.

One of the great pleasures of the job is the people I work with. About 70 people work for the inspectorate – inspectors themselves, researchers, and policy and support staff. Between us we visit every prison, police cell and immigration detention place in England and Wales and produce about 100 reports a year.

It’s not a job that would suit everyone. About half the inspectors’ and researchers’ time is spent on the road, staying in bland, middle range hotels and working long intense, hours in very close knit teams. The rest of time they are on their own, working from home, writing up reports and contributing to other work the inspectorate is doing. Given how much of the time you spend working - and living - with your colleagues you have to get on.

Most of the inspectors, like me, worked for a variety of criminal justice organisations before ending up at the inspectorate. Many of our researchers, on the other hand, come to us pretty much straight from university. We try and make best use of that diversity of experience by having a shared culture of robust independence and strong human rights based values but within that encouraging scepticism, challenge and argument.

The questions we try to find the evidence to answer and that we argue about are the most basic ones. Are prisoners, particularly the most vulnerable, safe here? How do staff treat them and is the place clean and decent? How much time do they spend locked in their cells with nothing to do? Has anything effective happened to prepare them for release and reduce the likelihood they will re-offend?

The biggest frustration in the job is when I see the penal theories of some politicians and policy think-tanks that seem very far removed from any empirical evidence of what actually happens in prisons. One of the responsibilities of the inspectorate and academics is to provide that evidence and one of the biggest satisfactions of my job is when that evidence is used to support sensible reforms. Providing that evidence base is very important now when there are some big issues to be decided. The government is currently working on a review of custody arrangements for young people and women. Plans to develop larger ‘titan’ prisons are underway and radical changes to rehabilitation processes are being made. Let’s hope they consider the evidence.

Our other Honorary Visiting Fellows are:

• Jamie Bennett – Governor at HMP Morton Hall
• Joel Harvey – Clinical Psychologist
• Mick Creedon – Chief Constable of Derbyshire
• Rex Bloomstein – Documentary Film-Maker
• Heather Munro – Director of the Probation Chiefs’ Association
• Simon Cole – Chief Constable of Leicestershire
• Dr Barbara Perry – Professor and Associate Dean
• Rick Adderley – Director at A E Solutions
• Colin Peacock – Proctor and Gamble

You can read more about each Visiting Fellow on the department of Criminology website: www2.le.ac.uk/departments/criminology/people/hvfellows
Staff Publications and Achievements

In each issues of Criminology in Focus we include details of staff research, publications, awards and invitations from recent months.

Research grants awarded

Tammy Ayres has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant of £1,997 (July 2013).

Adrian Beck has been awarded £119,880 from Efficient Consumer Response to undertake a series of research projects on loss prevention in the European Retail Sector.

Adrian Beck (with Matt Hopkins) has been awarded £140,000 from the Economic and Social Research Council – project title ‘Developments in Mobile Scanning Technology: Understanding the Potential Impact on Shrinkage & Loss Prevention’.

Neil Chakraborti has been awarded £368,865 by the Economic Social and Research Council – project title ‘Understanding Experiences of Hate Crime Victimisation and Expectations of Criminal Justice Responses’ (The Leicester Hate Crime Project).

Neil Chakraborti; has been awarded £5,300 by the University of Leicester’s Enterprise and Business Development Prospects Fund to support the development of a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme in Hate Studies.

Neil Chakraborti has had £1,888 awarded by the University of Leicester in association with HEFCE and UnLtd – HE Social Entrepreneurship Award to support the production of a short film entitled ‘The Harms of Hate’.

Neil Chakraborti has had £2,000 awarded by the College of Social Sciences to support a six-month Research Internship as part of the University of Leicester Graduate Internship Programme (with Carol Hedderman).

Clare Gunby has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant to carry out a literate review of evidence evaluating the impact and effectiveness of public educational rape campaigns, £1,050

Clare Gunby (with Jennifer Fleetwood) has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant to carry out a centre for critical gender studies in Criminology, £2,000

Yvonne Jewkes has been awarded an ESRC Standard Grant ES/K011081/1 “Fear-suffused environments” or potential to rehabilitate? Prison architecture, design and technology and the lived experience of carceral spaces” (with Co-I Dominique Moran, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham; 3 year study including PhD stipend starting 1st Jan 2014) £728,214.42

Yvonne Jewkes was awarded ESRC Seminar Series Grant ES/J022381/1 ‘Visual criminology: crime, criminal justice and the image’ (with Prof Ronnie Lippers, Dr Tony Kearon, Keele University; Dr Chris Greer, City University; Prof Eamonn Carrabine, Essex University; five seminars across 2013-2014, £18,000

Yvonne Jewkes was awarded UOL Research Equipment and Infrastructure Fund for purchase of ProQuest Guardian (1821-2003) and Observer (1791-2003) Archive, 2013, £44,013.74

Yvonne Jewkes has been awarded UOL Research Equipment and Infrastructure Fund for Mass Observation data set, 2012, £33,900

Yvonne Jewkes has been awarded funding for an AHRC Seminar series ‘Representations of Imprisonment/Penalty: A network connecting social sciences, humanities and the arts’ (with Dr Sarah Armstrong, Karen Lury and Philippa Lovatt, University of Glasgow), £50,771

Yvonne Jewkes; Australian Institute of Criminology submitted ’The problem of prison overcrowding’ (with colleagues at University of South Australia and University of Adelaide) $19,800 AUS

Yvonne Jewkes; Australian Research Council ‘Crime and Fear of Crime on Public Transport’ (with colleagues from Monash University) $189,000 AUS

Sam King has been appointed to evaluate a COPE Black Mental Health Foundation project working with young adult offenders, £6,000

Sam King has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant to present at the ESC Conference 2013, £1,273

Sam King has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant to present at the ASC Conference 2013, £1,530

Rob Mawby has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to complete a study on ‘Police, media and public life’.

Lisa Smith has been awarded a College of Social Science Research Development Grant, to investigate the impact of language interpreters on police interviews with suspects £1500

Lisa Smith (with John Bond) has been awarded a Prospects Fund Grant to develop mobile crime scene examination technology, £9360

Publications

BOOKS


BOOK CHAPTERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Barnes, R. (2013) ‘She Expected her Women to be Pretty, Subservient, Dinner on the Table at Six’: Problematising the Narrative of Egalitarianism in Lesbian Relationships through Accounts of Woman-to-Woman Partner Abuse’ in
Mapping Intimacies: Relations, Exchanges, Affects. Palgrave Macmillan. Rebecca will also be speaking at the launch event for the book, to be held at London South Bank University on Friday 11th October 2013.


JOURNAL ARTICLES


Barnes, R. (2013) “I’m over it”: survivor narratives after woman-to-woman partner abuse’ Partner Abuse (Vol 4, Issue 3)


http://euc.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/06/28/1477370813491177.abstract


**Publications – reports**


**Conference papers presented**


Barnes, R. (2013) ‘Researching abusive behaviours in same-sex, bisexual and/or trans relationships: emergent methodological dilemmas and reflections’ (co-authored with Dr Catherine Nixon and Professor Catherine Donovan, University of Sunderland) presented at the British Sociological Association Annual Conference titled. Rebecca also made a contribution to the Violence Against Women Study Group stream plenary session, focussing on the inclusion of coercive control in the revised cross-government definition of domestic violence.


Chakrabarti, N. (2013) Invited to provide expert guidance for policy-makers and professionals at an international workshop organised by the Foundation EVZ in Berlin: ‘Mapping Assistance Strategies for Hate Crime Victims’


Economy a Useful Space for Addressing Sexual Violence?” Paper presented at the 8th International Conference on Nightlife, Substance Use and Related Health Issues, San Francisco, US.


King, S. (2013) ‘Voluntary sector supervision and desistance from crime’, American Society of Criminology Conference, Atlanta, USA.


Sleath, E. & Smith, L.L. (2013) ‘Understanding the factors that predict retraction in police reported allegations of intimate partner violence’, European Association of Psychology and Law Annual Conference, Coventry UK


Smith, L.L. (2013) ‘Managing expectations of forensic science to improve reported satisfaction with the Criminal Justice System’, International Congress for Forensic Research and Technology, Las Vegas, USA


Zempi, I. (2012) Lecture on Islamophobia at Coventry University, Department of Psychology

Media Work

Neil Chakraborti conducted Interviews with national and local media (including BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio Leicester, BBC News Online, Sky News, the Leicester Mercury, BBC One’s ‘Inside Out’, LBC Radio, and The Voice of Russia) and wrote blog posts for Leicester Exchanges and The International Network for Hate Studies.

Dr Jennifer Fleetwood, as part of a news story about drug arrests in Peru appeared on BBC Radio Leicester on Ben Jackson’s programme, BBC Radio 4 ‘PM’, Radio 5 Live, Radio Scotland, the Today show, published an article in the Independent newspaper and was also interviewed on Newsnight Scotland

Lisa Smith will appear on The One Show as part of the investigation into the Northampton Blazing Car Murder case (1930). She was also on BBC Radio Leicester, as Ben Jackson’s ‘In Depth’ guest on 12 August, 2013

Invitations, awards, accolades

Neil Chakraborti has been awarded an honorary position as Adjunct Professor at the University of Ontario, Institute of Technology

Neil Chakraborti has been appointed as a Commissioner to the first-ever review in England and Wales of consensual and coercive sex in prisons – the Commission on Sex in Prison led by the Howard League for Penal Reform.

Neil Chakraborti has been appointed as an Advisory Board Member for The International Network for Hate Studies.

Neil Chakraborti guest edited a special issue on Hate Crime Victimisation for the International Review of Victimology (Volume 18, Issue 1)

Jennifer Fleetwood is now a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Yvonne Jewkes has been appointed External Advisor for REF2014, London South Bank University

Lisa Smith was invited to San Jose State University (California) to teach at a CSI Summer Camp in July 2013. During this visit she also visited various research collaborators including the Oakland Police Crime Lab, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (Walnut Creek), and the Santa Clara Crime Lab.

Irene Zempi has been appointed the International Officer for the Criminology Association of Ireland in December 2012
RESEARCH FOCUS
CRIMINOLOGY IN FOCUS: ISSUE 7 2013/2014

The Leicester Hate Crime Project

Every year tens of thousands of people in Britain are victims of hate crimes – crimes where the victim is targeted specifically because of their identity or perceived ‘difference’. While all crime causes harm, hate crimes can have especially damaging physical and emotional consequences for victims, their families and for wider communities, and yet in many cases they are not reported to criminal justice agencies or other organisations in a position to offer support.

The Leicester Hate Crime Project is a two year study, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, which began in October 2012. The study is designed to investigate people’s experiences of hate, prejudice and bigotry in Leicester, and this includes acts of physical violence as well as more ‘everyday’ forms of harassment such as being called an abusive name, being spat at, being threatened and being bullied through social networking sites or text messages. From the outset this project has used a deliberately broad and inclusive definition of hate crime in order to capture the experiences of anyone, from any background, who feels that they have been victimised specifically because of who they are. This has seen the research team working with a much more diverse range of groups than is often the case in conventional studies of hate crime, including the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers, Gypsies and Travellers, new migrant communities, people with mental health problems, and those belonging to alternative subcultures, amongst many others.

In terms of progress so far, the research team have used an online and hard-copy survey, which has been translated into eight different languages, to explore victims’ experiences of hate crime and their perceptions of agency responses. In order to facilitate the process of survey completion they have been attending hundreds of different social drop-ins, community events and organisational meetings across the city of Leicester, which has taken them to many different venues such as places of worship, leisure and neighbourhood centres, schools, community groups and even exercise classes! The Leicester Hate Crime Project also has a dedicated project website and the research team have been developing an online following through Twitter and Facebook. Earlier this year they ran a week long initiative exposing ‘Everyday Prejudice’ via Twitter, encouraging people to ‘tweet’ their own experiences of hate and thereby helping to highlight the prejudice, intolerance and bigotry that people face every day. To date the research team have collected approximately 900 surveys from victims of hate crime and have conducted over 100 face-to-face interviews, with many more interviews scheduled for the coming months. The research team have also secured funding to produce an educational film on the ‘Harms of Hate’. This will be based on the stories of eight victims of hate crime from different backgrounds and walks of life and will be distributed to local schools, community groups and organisations free of charge in 2014.

The Leicester Hate Crime Project is being led by Dr Neil Chakraborti, in conjunction with Jon Garland (University of Surrey), Stevie-Jade Hardy (Lead Researcher) and Liz Bonnett (Project Administrator). If you would like more information please visit the website at www.le.ac.uk/hatecrimeproject. You can also keep up with their progress by following @HateCrime_Leics on Twitter.
The University of Leicester has a long history of forensic science research and innovation, including the discovery of DNA profiling by Sir Alec Jeffreys in 1984 which revolutionised the way crimes are investigated and prosecuted. In order to better coordinate forensic activities across the University, and maximise the potential for research collaborations, Dr Lisa Smith (together with Dr John Bond in the Chemistry department) launched the Alec Jeffreys Forensic Science Institute in November 2012. After a successful public launch event nearly 12 months ago, there have been some exciting developments and activities, both within the social sciences and natural science disciplines.

During the past year, the Institute’s Associate Directors have been invited to participate in a number of national and international events. In July, Lisa and John travelled to San Jose California, where they were invited to teach a CSI Summer Camp. The course was a great success, and the students enjoyed the lectures and hands-on evidence and crime scene activities. The visit also provided an opportunity for building new and existing research links, including meeting with colleagues at the Oakland Police Crime Laboratory, Santa Clara Crime Lab, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The next international visit for Lisa and John will be as invited keynote speakers in China, at the Zhejiang Police College in September.

In addition to these research and teaching activities, Lisa and John have also been involved in an 83-year old murder mystery. In the early hours of 6 November, 1930 a car was found engulfed in flames on a country lane in Northampton. Inside the car were the burned remains of an unidentified male, and the police investigation led to Alfred Rouse (the owner of the car) who was charged and later confessed to murder. Rouse was hung in 1931, and despite his confession he never disclosed the identity of the victim. When this crime was originally investigated, the police had no means of identifying the burned remains and the case was closed…until a family who had long believed that their missing relative was the murder victim contacted the University to see if mtDNA from an archived pathology slide taken during the autopsy of the victim could provide some answers.

Lisa and John met with the family and, after realising that there was some circumstantial evidence to potentially link their missing relative to the murder scene, they agreed to help. After negotiating access to the archived tissue slide, they worked with colleagues at Northumbria University to successfully recover mtDNA from the 83-year old slide. This mtDNA was then compared to the DNA of the surviving relatives, in order to establish whether the unidentified victim could be linked to their family. The results will be released in early October and reported in the next issue of *Criminology in Focus.*

For further information about the Alex Jeffries Forensic Science Institute please visit: [www.le.ac.uk/forensic-science](http://www.le.ac.uk/forensic-science)
Extremes of Human Cruelty Network and Holocaust Tourism Research

The Extremes of Human Cruelty Network, created and led by Dr Sarah Hodgkinson, Senior Lecturer in Criminology, was launched by the University of Leicester in May 2013.

Bringing together academics, practitioners and other interested parties from a range of disciplines, the Network seeks to explore the human capacity to commit cruelties and atrocities towards other humans. The Network aims to showcase the existing work and research of contributors, provide a forum to develop collaborative projects, generate debate and discussion, and attract further scholars, practitioners and researchers with an interest in human evil and cruelty. The scope of the Network is diverse, exploring multifaceted aspects of evil and cruelty including sexual and violent offenders, homicide and multiple homicide (including serial killers), abuse and torture, mass violence and genocide.

Attempting to explore why people seek to harm others at an interpersonal level and why people tolerate, encourage or perpetrate atrocities at a mass or collective level will be a central focus of the research of the Network. In addition, Dr Hodgkinson is also interested in why humans are so fascinated with human evil and cruelty, and in particular the rise of ‘Dark Tourism’ (visiting sites of death, atrocities and suffering). Research shows that visiting such ‘dark’ sites is becoming a more and more mainstream tourist experience, with record numbers of visitors to these sites across Europe. Dr Hodgkinson is currently undertaking research exploring the area of ‘Holocaust Tourism’ surveying visitor’s experiences of visiting sites of former concentration / extermination camps and Holocaust Memorial sites. For this project Dr Hodgkinson has conducted her own fieldwork, visiting camps and sites in Germany and Austria and has blogged about her experiences.

Dr Hodgkinson is also interested in visitor experiences of Holocaust Memorial sites and her research seeks to answer questions including: What draws us to visit sites of atrocities such as the Holocaust? What affect does visiting these sites have? What do we hope to gain from these experiences? What impact does visiting such sites have on our understanding of the Holocaust, history and humanity itself?

If you have visited the site of a former concentration camp or a Holocaust memorial site, and would like to share your thoughts and experiences, please fill out our online survey which can be found here:

www.le.ac.uk/extremes-human-cruelty/online-survey

For further information about the network or to enquire about becoming a member please email:
human cruelty@le.ac.uk
Professor Yvonne Jewkes awarded major ESRC funding for research study entitled “Fear-suffused environments” or potential to rehabilitate? Prison Architecture, Design and Technology and the Lived Experience of Carceral Spaces

Professor Yvonne Jewkes has been awarded £728,214.00 by the ESRC to carry out a three-year research project investigating developments in the design of prisons. To be conducted with co-investigator Dr Dominique Moran from the University of Birmingham’s Department of Geography, together with a small team of researchers, the study will explore the propositions that punishment is manifested architecturally, that ‘good’ prison design need not cost any more than ‘bad’ design, that architecture, design and technology (ADT) may impact on prisoners’ emotional and psychological reactions to incarceration, including their behaviour, their willingness to engage with regimes and their capacity to build positive relations with other prisoners and staff, and that ADT may significantly influence prisoners’ prospects of rehabilitation and reintegration into society on release. The title of the study comes from a book by a ‘lifer’ who notes that many of the crises facing penal systems in the developed world (including overcrowding, violence, mental and physical illness, drug use, high levels of suicide, self-harm etc.) are intrinsically related to the ‘fear-suffused environments’ created by prison architects.

Against that backdrop, a few new penal experiments in parts of northern and western Europe might be welcomed as ‘humane’ alternatives to the traditional architecture of incarceration. Equipped with state-of-the-art lighting imitating natural daylight, extensive use of glass, no bars on windows, different colour palettes creating varied atmospheres in each ‘zone’, displays of artwork, curved lines, rounded walls and uneven horizons, the design features being incorporated into some new prisons might be assumed to mitigate against the harms caused by imprisonment. But can aesthetic considerations make a difference to behaviour and might they have potential to ease offenders’ reintegration back into society? Or is it simply that ‘a prison is a prison’, regardless of the enlightened humanism that may underpin its design? Could it even be that these prisons have unintended outcomes and perverse consequences and bring their own distinctive pains of imprisonment? And if the general public are as punitive in their attitudes to offenders as is commonly thought, how do communities feel when prisons are built in their midst?

This exciting new project will empirically investigate these issues and inform future debates about how prisons might be designed differently in order to fulfill the goal of rehabilitation as well as those of security, deterrence, retribution and punishment.

Leverhulme Research Fellowship

Rob Mawby has been awarded a Leverhulme Research Fellowship to undertake a study of ‘police, media and public life’. Rob was the only criminologist to be called to give evidence to the Leveson Inquiry which was was established to investigate, among other things, police-press relations and to make recommendations for their future conduct. The Inquiry generated an unprecedented dataset which Rob will be drawing on to analyse academically the significance of police-media relations, and the place of each institution in public life in the second decade of the 21st century.
Criminology graduate gains exciting new job role

Mehma Singh, a graduate of our MSc Clinical Criminology, has recently started in her new job role as Project Officer for the East Midlands Police Collaboration Team led by Chief Constable Simon Cole of Leicestershire.

Mehma commented on her new job and on her studies with the Department of Criminology: “My academic experience studying at the University of Leicester is unforgettable. I hardly took a few days contemplating my next steps after my Undergraduate Degree and knew that the University of Leicester was where I wanted to be. I was certain that I wanted to take the MSc in Clinical Criminology as I had a keen interest in Psychology from the very beginning, and I was excited to stretch my knowledge to the psychology of the ‘Criminal mind’. I had great enjoyment in attending the lectures and always put a 100% into my learning, mainly because I really did enjoy the experience of being a Postgraduate student at a top University. My passion and drive has been carried forward into my current role as Project Officer for the East Midlands Police Collaboration Team, where I can demonstrate the academic skills gained from studying at the Department of Criminology. The role has involved me visiting the Finger Print Bureau and being Project Officer to the project ‘Criminal Justice’. I recommend studying at the University of Leicester and being part of the fantastic opportunities that the university has to offer, as it has played a vital role in my success to date.”

Criminology PhD Student Wins Prize at Leicester University Festival of Postgraduate Research

Each year the University of Leicester holds a Festival of Postgraduate Research to showcase and celebrate the next generation of world-changing researchers. Fifty of the University’s best research students were selected to present their cutting edge research to academics, employers, and the public at the 9th Festival on the 27th June 2013.

Jo Roberts from the Department of Criminology was chosen as one of only nine students from the School of Social Sciences to present a poster about her research. Jo’s groundbreaking research examines the relationship between domestic abuse and female offending, specifically ways in which domestic abuse may directly or indirectly influence a woman’s involvement in crime.

Jo was chosen as one of seven prize winners and was awarded the Leicester Mercury Media Prize. This special prize recognized the particularly effective design of Jo’s poster as well as her ability to present her research in an exciting and accessible way.

Jo is pictured below with Dr Kevin Fong, Co-director of the Centre for Aviation Space and Extreme Environment Medicine at University College London, who presented her with the prize.

Success story for Criminology Undergraduates

The academic year 2012/13 ended with a hugely successful set of final year undergraduate results. On the BA Criminology, twelve students reached the pinnacle of academic success by achieving first class degrees, and a further thirty-six received upper second class degrees. This is testament to the hard work and dedication of our undergraduate students. Our teaching is nationally recognised, and in the 2014 Guardian University Guide, the Department of Criminology ranked 3rd in the annual university league tables. In the National Student Survey, 96% of our undergraduate students said that they were satisfied with the course.
What will your future history be?

Bob Athwal, Director of the Career Development Service

You’ve just got to University after the summer; for some of you it’s the start, for the others it’s the middle, but for some it’s nearly the end. And no I am not talking about a good book but about what you will have to do to stand out after university to get the career you want.

Now, you may be wondering what this old fella from the Career Development Service is going on about? I don’t want to patronise you or be condescending but more I do want to give you some hints on how to be successful for the career that you will pursue, not just for that first job after university but more crucially career management techniques that will stay with you for life.

I’ve been Director of the Career Development Service for 20 months and it seems like only yesterday when I joined; time really does fly. And what’s hard for me to realise is that 20 years ago I, too, was starting out as an undergraduate! I remember very clearly my apprehension at coming to university and figuring out my place in this new environment. You may be wondering what’s the point here? Just hold that thought and indulge me, whilst I talk to you about my career.

To put it into context this is my first real job in higher education. I say first real job because I did spend 2 years as Students’ Union president after my first degree in mathematical modelling, before joining Tesco on their graduate programme. After a short time at Tesco I left and joined another retail supergiant, Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Whilst at enterprise I honed in my skills and expertise as a graduate recruiter – the experience that eventually brought me to Leicester.

After I finished at Enterprise Rent-A-Car I went to work as the UK Graduate Marketing Manager at graduate-jobs.com, at the same time going back to university to embark upon an executive MBA. Whilst studying part time and having a full time job I learnt to prioritise many things, including being a husband and a father. After a successful stint at graduate-jobs.com I left and went into my second stint as a graduate recruiter with RWE npower, one of the biggest utilities in Europe. At RWE, my team and I took the graduate brand from nowhere to being one of the most recognised and successful brands on campus, so much so that we won several awards, including doing the double at the two industry graduate recruitment award nights, for innovation on campus, a feat never matched since.

Over the last 13 years I have built my career as a graduate recruiter serving as a non-executive director for the professional body of graduate recruitment, the AGR (Association of Graduate Recruiters) as well as co-authoring a book aimed at graduate employers to aid them in finding the very best graduates and then how to develop them. My experience and expertise has meant that I have been fortunate to present at many different conferences on the subject of graduate recruitment across the world.

So as I said, what’s the point here? The point is simply that I am here at the University as the Director of the Career Development Service and my personal story is not unique as many of my colleagues have industry experience much like mine, including graduate recruitment across a number of different industries. Our job is not to tell you who to work for but to help you attain the knowledge and skills that in turn will give you the experience you need to stand out amongst other graduates in a competitive graduate marketplace!

We have many opportunities through the curriculum, co-curriculum and extra-curriculum, that will help turn your passion (whether it be part time work, volunteering, business start-ups or something else) into a language that employers understand and crave. Our expertise is to help you understand yourself so that you can articulate your story. The only caveat being that you will have to be prepared to make the most of yourself, we can’t do this for you, only you know what you enjoy and which of your skills are your strengths.

As I said though, we can help you stand out and whether you are at the start of your journey or the middle or the end my colleagues and I are here ready to help you in any way we can.

Trust me when I say you will not realise how quickly time flies. So do yourself a favour and get involved, it’s never too late! We look forward to meeting you all soon.

Visit the Careers Development website: www2.le.ac.uk/offices/careers-new
Being A Criminologist

Talent Academies, Career Workshops and Volunteering: How to make the most of You!

As highlighted in Bob Athwal’s article the graduate market is increasingly competitive and it is no longer enough to just have a good degree classification. Therefore the Department of Criminology, working alongside the careers development service, has created a programme called ‘Being a Criminologist’ which has become an integral part of our BA in Criminology. The programme aims to equip you with real-world skills, practical work experience and the qualities necessary to enhance your career prospects, thus improving your chances of getting a graduate job once you have finished your studies.

The first years will be partaking in the new Criminology Talent Academy, while the third and second years will have bespoke workshops aimed at helping them gain internships and apply for graduate jobs whether they are for criminal justice agencies like the police or the prison service or security providers like G4S. The careers development service and the Department are working together to ensure you not only improve your employability but you recognise the skills you have acquired throughout your degree. We are here to help you make the most of yourselves but the rest is down to you.

Other organised career events include a Department of Criminology careers day, making the most of you sessions, a festival of careers and a graduate recruitment fair all of which are aimed at helping you gain a job after graduation.

5th-8th November Festival of Careers – The University of Leicester Festival of Careers is the best place for you to meet employers who want to recruit University of Leicester students. You can find out more about internships, work placements, volunteering experiences and graduate careers, learn what skills and experience employers look for and how you can develop these.

Find out more here: www2.le.ac.uk/offices/careers-new/Festival2013.

The Criminology Society

The Criminology Society’s aim is to support its members in getting the most out of their university experience. This is done through various events such as; prison visits, police HQ visits, gallery of justice visits, ex offender talks, revision sessions, bar crawls and much more. We also have two successful sports teams, a women’s netball team and men’s football team.

To sign up contact me or sign up at Freshers Fair. For more information like our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/LeicesterUniversityCriminologySociety20132014.

Criminology society president: Josh Stevens  E: js574@le.ac.uk
If you are a graduate of the Department of Criminology and would like to join the Alumni association and receive Criminology in Focus via email then we would like you to get in touch with us so that we have your up-to-date contact details. The central University Alumni Association has some exciting things planned for the coming year, including networking events, reunions and its famed Annual Alumni Dinner.

The next alumni event is the College Hall Reunion on 12th October 2013, which gives graduates an opportunity to see the newly refurbished venue, which is now College Court Hotel and Conference Centre. If you are interested, or you know anyone else who stayed at College Hall as a student, then click on the following link for further details www2.le.ac.uk/alumni/newsevents/college-hall-reunion/college-hall-reunion-12-october-2013

Graduates can also receive a free copy of the annual Graduates Review magazine through the central Alumni Relations team – do please let them know how you’d prefer to receive it by contacting them at alumni.relations@le.ac.uk

Don’t forget to join the Alumni LinkedIn Group (brilliant for professional networking and getting ahead in your career) and also the Alumni Facebook and Twitter pages (great for hearing about the latest news and events).

If you have not done so recently, you can fill out the short alumni questionnaire form so that you will be added to our contact list. In addition, if you know anybody who is an alumnus of the Department of Criminology please forward this newsletter on to them and ask them to update their contact details as well.

If you are one of our alumni and you would like us to feature an article about what you’re doing now then we would love to hear from you. Thank you to Mehma Singh for providing the alumni profile in this issue.

Alumni loyalty discount scheme

If you have already completed a degree or PGCE course at the University of Leicester and are a self-financing student, you are entitled to 10% off the course fees of:

- any campus-based postgraduate course (except PGCE or four-year M-level courses e.g. MPhys, MGeol);
- any postgraduate distance learning course;
- any postgraduate research degree

Your discount will be automatically calculated when you apply for your postgraduate course. No separate application form is required.

NB. This discount cannot be combined with the Family Discount Scheme for international students.

Study with us at the Department of Criminology

CAMPUS BASED UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES:
- BA Criminology
- CAMPUS BASED POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES (available part-time and full-time):
  - MSc Criminology
  - MSc Applied Criminology
  - MSc Clinical Criminology
  - MSc Terrorism, Security and Policing
  - MPhil and PhD opportunities

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMMES:
- Foundation Degree in Security and Risk Management
- BA Security and Risk Management
- MSc Security and Risk Management
- MSc Security, Conflict and International Development
- MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice
- MSc Police Leadership and Management
- PhD opportunities

NEW DISTANCE LEARNING PHD IN CRIMINOLOGY

From October 2013 the Department is offering potential students the opportunity to study for a PhD by distance learning. This approach to a PhD is designed for those who find it difficult to study for a campus-based PhD either full-time or part-time. This mode of study involves completing four research training distance learning modules and then undertaking a research study which is written up in an 80,000-word thesis. More information about the programme is available at: www2.le.ac.uk/departments/criminology/dlcourses/phd-research

For more information, please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology, or contact the department:
The Department of Criminology, The Friars, 154 Upper New Walk, Leicester, LE1 7QA.
T: +44(0)116 252 3946/2458    E: criminology@le.ac.uk
ALUMNI PROFILE

Mehma Singh

I have always been a very driven individual and always had the intention to undertake further education. My interest in criminology began during my Undergraduate Degree (BSc in Human Psychology); I opted to take criminology and mental health as my last year subjects and really enjoyed studying the two together. This enjoyment led me to apply for the MSc in Clinical Criminology at the University of Leicester. I thoroughly enjoyed the Master’s Degree and felt that it was really well-structured with a fantastic choice of modules, from Forensics to Terrorism, both of which I opted to take.

The students were always the first priority and it was really pleasing to know that students and staff had a great relationship. I was particularly pleased with the interaction I had with my dissertation supervisor. He was fantastic and was always happy to see me to talk through the planning phase of my dissertation, my research questions, and to talk through any queries I had. I maintained regular visits with my supervisor for the duration of my dissertation, which really helped in keeping the drive and focus of my chosen topic. I really enjoyed researching my subject and had immense passion for it. I was extremely pleased with the end result and I felt really proud on my graduation day.

I have a keen interest to progress my dissertation topic into a PhD project and have always kept this interest at heart, but this involves more of a step into the world of academia, and where I am now, I am thoroughly enjoying working for the Police. A month after completing my Master’s Degree, I applied for the post of Project Officer for the East Midlands Police Collaboration Team. To my excitement, I was invited for an interview a month after applying and received a call 3 weeks prior to Christmas informing me that I had got the job! I had the most amazing Christmas as I was about to venture into an exciting role. I have now been a part of the Collaboration Team for 7 months and am really enjoying my role. I am Project Officer to the Operational Support Portfolio, led by Chief Constable Simon Cole of Leicestershire Police. The projects within this portfolio include Criminal Justice and IT. My role includes attending meetings across the East Midlands region, networking with a wide range of individuals within the police force, and liaising with Chief Constables, Deputy Chief Constables and Assistant Chief Constables. My week always varies, and I can be faced with new challenges daily. The East Midlands Police Collaboration Team is a fantastic place to be, always offering exciting new opportunities, and keeping you on your feet. I have learned invaluable skills and love being a part of the fastest changing environment in policing. I thank the University of Leicester for being everything I expected it to be and more, and for providing me with the skills and attributes that have contributed to my success as a Project Officer.

Mehma Singh

Contact us

Dr Sam King and Russell Knifton,
Department of Criminology,
154 Upper New Walk, Leicester, LE1 7QA

T: +44 (0) 116 252 5780
E: criminology@le.ac.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @CriminologyLeic

This was printed by Print Services, University of Leicester, using vegetable based inks on FSC certified stock.