

MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution 3b. Language of study	Hendon, Middlesex University, London English
4a. Valid intake dates 4b. Mode of study 4c. Delivery method	September Full Time or Part Time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-campus/Blended <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Education
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	N/A
6. Apprenticeship Standard	N/A
7. Final qualification(s) available	PG Dip Criminology with Forensic Psychology PG Cert Criminology with Forensic Psychology MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology
8. Year effective from	2022

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applicants must have a minimum of a 2:2 undergraduate honours degree in social sciences or above in an appropriate subject, or an equivalent qualification.

Applicants with other qualifications and/or substantial work experience in the field of criminology will also be considered under the Recognition of Prior Learning scheme. Past learning or experience will be mapped against existing programme modules within the programme and academic credit may be awarded towards the programme of study.

Overseas applicants should be competent in English and have achieved as a minimum IELTS. Overall, 6.5 with a minimum 6.0 in each component. We normally require Grade C GCSE or an equivalent qualification.

Applicants with a disability can enter the programme. The programme team have experience of adapting teaching provision to accommodate a range of disabilities and

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- Develop contemporary understandings of theory, research, policy, and practice relevant to criminology, criminal justice, and forensic psychology.
- Develop student capability to analyse and interpret international research, policy, and practice from the overlapping domain of criminology, criminal justice and forensic psychology and apply evidence and argument in a critically informed way.
- Foster a critical awareness of the variety of approaches to explain, research and evaluate crime and deviance, causes of offending and psychological and health treatment responses.
- Equip students with the skills and ability to undertake empirical quantitative and qualitative research and dataset analysis.
- Foster a learning environment that values professionalism, integrity, ethical conduct, and respectability.

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. Contemporary theories, concepts and debates that are at the forefront of criminology, criminal justice, and psychology.
2. Different approaches to researching and analysing crime and offending, criminal justice policy responses and related offender rehabilitation and psychological health interventions.
3. Effects of inequality and social diversity in relation to crime, victimization and responses to crime and deviance.
4. Core knowledge domains within criminology and psychology that includes crime victims and victimology, human rights, social harm, cognitive and social psychology.
5. Major criminal justice institutions and the intersectionality of power in relation to criminal justice agencies and responses to crime law and order (impacting gender, race, and class).
6. Different research methodologies and the context in which to apply them.
7. Ethical underpinnings of research, policy and practice

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- Attending lectures
- Participatory seminars/seminars
- Small group discussions
- Group and individual exercises
- Workshop and laboratory exercises
- Use of interactive creative online platforms
- Independent learning
- Directed reading
- Formative assessments

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- Range of written assignments
- Project and portfolio work
- Empirical research or analysis of data
- Case studies
- Observation

<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critically assess and apply theoretical perspectives to specific areas of research, policy, and practice. 2. Critically assess recent research and scholarship from a range of disciplines relevant to the overlapping fields of criminology, criminal justice, and forensic psychology. 3. Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce significant findings and apply to professional practice contexts. 4. Formulate and present structured arguments and justify conclusions based on evidence. 5. Manage their own time to work independently at MSc. programme study level. 6. Retrieve, synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources and evidence. 7. Design and conduct an original empirical research project or a systematic workplace case study that is informed by wide and current understandings in criminology 8. Produce a substantial piece of written work to a high academic standard and communicate clearly to a specialist audience. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn skills through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending lectures • Participatory seminars/seminars • Small group discussions • Group and individual exercises • Workshop and laboratory exercises • Use of interactive creative online platforms • Independent learning • Directed reading • Formative assessments <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' skills are assessed by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual seminar and recorded presentations • Range of written assignments • Project and portfolio work • Empirical research or analysis of data • Case studies • Observation
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<p>12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression)</p>
<p>12. 1 Overall structure of the programme</p>

- The programme can be studied over either one-year full time or two years part time.
- PGCert, full time students will take four 15 credit core modules in term one in the first year of study. Part-time students will normally take four 15 credit core modules in term one in the first year, or across the two years. The order in which this is done is the students choice.
- Students who successfully complete the 120 taught credits but who do not undertake a dissertation or **work-based experience** will be awarded a PGDip.
- In addition, the MSc students will take a 60-credit dissertation or **work-based experience** and successfully complete 180 credits.

Full Time Programme Structure for MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology:

Term One (60 credits) Term Two (60 credits) Term Three (60 credits)

15 CREDITS

CRM4612 - Contemporary Theory in Criminology

15 CREDITS

CRM4624 - Policing and Investigative Psychology

OR

CRM4622 - Health, Crime and Punishment

15 CREDITS

CRM4619 - Forensic Psychology **15 CREDITS**

CRM4627 - Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending

15 CREDITS

CRM4613 - Criminal Justice, Courts and Prisons

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

15 CREDITS

CRM4629 - Research Strategies in Social Sciences **15 CREDITS**

Advanced Research Strategies

60 CREDITS

CRM4617 - Dissertation

OR

CRM4XXX – Work Based Experience

Taught part of these modules take place in semester two, independent study continues into term three. Submission of work falls at the end of semester three.

Part Time Programme Structure for MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

Year 1

Term One (60 credits) Term Two (60 credits) Term Three (60 credits)

15 CREDITS

CRM4612 - Contemporary Theory in Criminology

15 CREDITS

CRM4624 - Policing and Investigative Psychology

OR

CRM4622 - Health, Crime and Punishment

15 CREDITS

CRM4619 - Forensic Psychology

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL *	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: Contemporary Theory in Criminology CRM4619 - Forensic Psychology CRM4613 - Criminal Justice, Courts & Prisons CRM4614 - Policing and Investigative Psychology, OR CRM4622 - Health, Crime and Punishment CRM4627 - Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending CRM4629 - Research Strategies in Social Sciences CRM4610 - Advanced Research Strategies CRM4617 - Dissertation OR CRM4XXX – Work Based Experience	Students must also choose 1 from the following: CRM4628 - Race and Social Justice CRM4620 - Gender, Crime and Justice CRM4618 - Drugs and Crime CRM4625 - Political Violence and Terrorism CRM4616 - Cybercultures and Crime	

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code

All level 7	CRM4612 - Contemporary Theory in Criminology CRM4619 - Forensic Psychology CRM4613 - Criminal Justice, Courts and Prisons CRM4624 - Policing and Investigative Psychology OR CRM4622 - Health, Crime and Punishment CRM4627 - Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending CRM4629 - Research Strategies in Social Sciences CRM4610 - Advanced Research Strategies CRM4617 - Research Strategies in Social Sciences
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13. Information about assessment regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: https://www.mdx.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0031/623758/Regulations-2021-22-V1.12.pdf

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support

Students may elect to undertake a 60-credit work-based experience module. The programme team and MDXWorks will be able to **advise about placements in work settings** and may be able to link students with potential organisations. However, the process of researching, selecting, and negotiating the **work-based experience** is a crucial element of the learning process and assessment and as such should be student led.

Academic staff on the Programme Teamwork with ‘MDXWorks’ and the university ‘employability service’ establish **work based** placement opportunities in the police service, youth justice organisations, prison and community-based offender rehabilitation teams, drugs/alcohol agencies, forensic mental health services, social welfare oriented charities, among others.

Students will be allocated with a university supervisor for the **work-based experience**, and before enrolling on the module can seek advice and guidance from the employability lead for the department or module leader as well as the employability office and placement administrator. The module leader or employability office will

15. Future careers / progression

There are a wide range of career options available to graduates of this course. Evidence of career progression from former students suggests those who successfully complete the programme move into job roles in offender behaviour change and rehabilitation programmes, psychological treatment support linked to youth and adult offender groups, local and international policing organisations (INTERPOL), Metropolitan and UK police in specialised back office roles, government crime management agencies (the National Crime Agency, the Office for National Statistics ONS), Ministry of Justice and Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) positions, forensic mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment agencies, among others. The programme also enables students to build applied research skills that assist promotion within their organisation. International students return to countries of origin able to progress within their organisations. Middlesex Criminology Masters students also move onto doctoral research study within the Department of Criminology and Sociology and at other reputable universities.

16. Particular support for learning

- Programme induction workshop for all students within the first induction week.
- All academics in the department, including programme leaders provide up to four hours of office hours on a weekly basis which students can make use of without making an appointment.
- Availability of guidance from Graduate Academic Assistants.
- The Learner Enhancement Team (LET) can provide one-to-one tutorials and workshops for those students needing additional support with literacy and numeracy.
- Availability of guidance from library staff, including a dedicated Criminology Librarian.
- E-mail access to academics and support services.
- Comprehensive information in programme and module handbooks.
- Facilities and equipment available to assist students with disabilities.
- Access to careers information and an Employability Service staffed with careers advisers with extensive knowledge of career options in criminology.
- Middlesex University Library and subject librarian will provide access to specialist learning resources i.e., journals, textbooks, reports etc. For ease of access for students based at Hendon, the library has facilities for inter-library loans and photocopying of any articles required. The library can also provide texts/articles or chapters where possible in electronic format for students. Other articles may be obtained from the British Library in London where a similar provision is provided.
- MyLearning/Moodle provides additional information and resources to support students. Course materials, links to resources and interactive exercises are provided.
- Students may undertake a research project at their workplace where relevant and possible.
- UniHelp, university's central service through which students can access a range of support for the kinds of concerns that might arise throughout their study.
- Counselling and Mental Health Team – provides mental wellbeing support and a confidential individual counselling service to help students manage any challenges affecting them emotionally or psychologically that they might face during their study.
- Disability and Dyslexia Service – supporting an inclusive teaching and learning environment which caters for all students.
- Student Welfare Advice Team – providing information and advice on funding matters and housing.
- International Student Advice Team – providing information and advice on visa and immigration concerns for both international applicants and current international

17. HECos code(s)	
18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	Criminology Benchmark Statement 2019 Psychology Benchmark Statement 2019

19. Reference points

The following reference points were applicable in the design of this programme:

- Middlesex University Regulations 2021-2022.
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Criminology, 2019.
- QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Psychology, 2019
- Middlesex University, Inclusive Curriculum Paper.
- Principles of Blended Learning, 2022 Paper.
- University Learning and Teaching policies and strategies.
- The QAA Quality Code for Higher Education, 2014.
- The QAA Characteristics Statement: Master's Degree, 2020.
- SEEC, Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education, 2021.
- Business and Law Assessment Tariff Guidance, November 2021.

20. Other information

The availability of specific optional modules is subject to achieving appropriate student numbers. Modules with less than 10 students enrolled before the commencement of the first week of teaching are unlikely to run.

The programme is not British Psychological Society (BPS) accredited and does not qualify students to practice as a forensic psychologist.

The Department of Criminology and Sociology at Middlesex University is part of the Common Studies Session in Critical Criminology (CSSCC) alongside different universities across Europe (i.e., Athens, Porto, Barcelona, Ghent, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Kent and John Jay College in New York). Criminology Masters students are encouraged to attend this bi-annual conference held in-person at one of the contributing partner universities for the vibrant exchange of ideas, debate, and

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for MSc Criminology with Forensic Psychology

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding of:													
A1	Contemporary theories, concepts and debates that are at the forefront of criminology, criminal justice, and psychology.												
A2	Different approaches to researching and analysing crime and offending, criminal justice policy responses and related offender rehabilitation and psychological health interventions.												
A3	Effects of inequality and social diversity in relation to crime, victimization and responses to crime and justice.												
A4	Core knowledge domains within criminology and psychology that includes crime victims and victimology, human rights, social harm, cognitive and social psychology.												
A5	The major criminal justice institutions and the intersectionality of power in relation to criminal justice agencies and responses to crime law and order (impacting gender, race, and class).												
A6	Different research methodologies and the context in which to apply them.												
A7	Ethical underpinnings of research policy and practice.												
Skills to:													
B1	Critically assess and apply theoretical perspectives to specific areas of research, policy, and practice.												
B2	Critically assess recent research and scholarship from a range of disciplines relevant to the overlapping fields of criminology, criminal justice, and forensic psychology.												
B3	Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce significant findings and apply to professional practice contexts.												
B4	Formulate and present structured arguments and justify conclusions based on evidence.												
B5	Manage their own time to work independently at MSc. programme study level.												
B6	Retrieve, synthesise, and evaluate a wide range of information resources and evidence.												
B7	Design and conduct an original empirical research project or a systematic workplace case study that is informed by wide and current understandings in criminology.												
B8	Produce a substantial piece of written work to a high academic standard and communicate clearly to a specialist audience.												

Programme outcomes														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Highest level achieved by all graduates														
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level														
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7

Contemporary Theory in Criminology	CRM4612	X		X					X			X	X	X		
Forensic Psychology	CRM4619	X			X	X			X			X	X	X		
Criminal Justice, Courts & Prisons	CRM4613	X	X			X			X	X		X	X	X		
Policing and Investigative Psychology	CRM4624	X			X	X				X		X	X	X		
Health, Crime and Punishment	CRM4622	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X		
Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending	CRM4627		X			X			X	X		X	X	X		
Research Strategies in Social Sciences	CRM4629	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Advanced Research Strategies	CRM4610	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Dissertation	CRM4617	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Work Based Experience	CRM4XXX	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gender, Crime and Justice	CRM4620	X	X	X		X			X			X	X	X		
Drugs and Crime	CRM4618	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X		
Political Violence and Terrorism	CRM4625	X	X						X	X		X	X	X		
Race and Social Justice	CRM4628	X		X		X			X	X		X	X	X		
Cybercultures and Crime	CRM4616	X	X						X	X		X	X	X		