

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	Humanities & Social Sciences
Programme:	Criminology
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Crime, Deviance and Society
Course Code:	CRIM 4102
Total Hours:	160 (Lev 3-5) (4 US Credit)
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	15
Independent Learning Hours:	100
Credit	16 UK CATS credits 8 ECTS credits 4 US credits

Course Description:

This course immerses students in the study of deviant and criminal behaviour, exploring the historical context, theories, and challenges surrounding the concept of 'deviance'. It invites students to engage with debates on how crime and deviance are socially constructed, examining how public perceptions have evolved over time. The curriculum then shifts focus to the impact of social structures, highlighting issues of social exclusion and problematic forms of inclusion. Finally, students analyse historical behaviours once labelled as 'deviant' that may no longer be considered criminal, offering insight into the fluid nature of societal norms.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

- To critically engage students with the key concepts of crime and deviance in their social context.
- To critically examine representations of crime and deviance and how these change over time.
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields (including work in government, international organisations, business, and the media) which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals with a grasp of contemporary issues related to crime in a social context.
- To provide a framework to assist concerned citizens to think critically about issues that are of increasing importance in the 21st century.
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of literature, and the development of both a succinct writing style, and the ability to present complex arguments orally.

Programme Outcomes:

A4I; B4I; C4I; D4I

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate broad knowledge and understanding of the core social theories and methods used to understand crime and deviance.
- Demonstrate a broad understanding of key issues addressed in the study of crime, deviance and society.
- Demonstrate broad communication skills (including digital literacy) in deploying ideas and information across a range of different formats and media.
- Demonstrate broad skills that are relevant to the workplace in terms of both personal and/or group outcomes.

Indicative Content:

- Defining crime and deviance: conceptual issues and debates on legality, morality, social harm and stigma.
- Classical and Modern Sociological and Criminological Theories of Crime: Functionalism, Strain Theory, Social Disintegration Theory, Labelling and Social Control Theory.
- Social Conflict Theories & Critical Criminology.
- Crime and society (i.e. social institutions, social exclusion and problematic social exclusion, mental health).
- Justice, Punishment and alternatives.
- Key contemporary issues in crime and deviance (i.e. juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, sex work, white collar and corporate crime).
- The social construction of crime and deviance (including social processes leading to changing perceptions of crime and deviance or to decriminalisation).

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be delivered face to face through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions. In addition to classroom activities, there are guided learning elements that are tutor led and arranged through Blackboard. These activities can be asynchronous online sessions, flipped classrooms, set readings with discussion boards or set guest lectures for example. Set activities are monitored by the instructor to ascertain student engagement. Students are encouraged to prepare for class and to play an active part, to raise questions, following-up ideas and interact with a wide range of provided material.

Indicative Text(s):

- Carrabine, E. *et al.* (eds.) (2020) *Criminology: A Sociological Introduction*. 4th edn. London: Routledge.
- Downes, D., Rock, P. and McLaughlin, E. (2016) *Understanding Deviance*. 7th edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Liebling, A., Maruna S., and McAra, L. (eds.) (2023) *Oxford Handbook of Criminology*. 7th edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Newburn, T. (2017) *Criminology*. 3rd edn. London: Routledge.
- Reiman, J. and Leighton, P. (2023) *The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison: Ideology, Class, and Criminal Justice*. 13th edn. London: Routledge.

See syllabus for complete reading list.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
First edition	Nov 2024	