

MA Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	MA Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice
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 Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice PG Cert Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice MSc Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice
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:

- Engage students in a range of contemporary issues and debates about the challenges and the workings of the criminal justice system.
- Provide a high-quality programme relevant to the needs of both experienced practitioners seeking to apply academic knowledge and to critically analyse and assess the context in which they work, and recent graduates aiming to pursue a career in areas akin to youth and criminal justice.
- Develop contemporary understandings of criminological theory, the social and political context of work with offenders with a particular concern around anti-discriminatory practice; probation resettlement and community based interventions; the development and significance of the 'what works' movement and evidence based practice; risk assessment and public protection; probation, resettlement and community based interventions; desistance and rehabilitation and criminal courts, punishment and prisons.
- Provide a strong applied focus where students undertake either a work-based project (for those already in suitable employment) or a placement with a criminal justice agency such as a Youth Offending Team (for those wishing to gain experience in the field).
- Provide opportunities for students to apply criminological theories and methodologies to areas of work thereby advancing knowledge in this area and the potential for transformative solutions to workplace practice.
- Equip students with the skills and ability to undertake empirical quantitative and qualitative research and analysis.

11. Programme outcomes*	
<p>A. Knowledge and understanding</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current theoretical and methodological approaches within the discipline of criminology and their relevance to and application within contemporary criminal justice. 2. The historical context in which contemporary criminal justice institutions, policies and practices have emerged. 3. Conceptual, policy and practice issues and debates relating to work with young offenders, probation resettlement and community-based interventions and criminal courts, punishment, and prisons. 4. Contemporary concerns and problems associated with crime and anti-social behaviour, including gangs, substance misuse, sexual exploitation and mental health, and existing strategies for dealing with these issues. 5. The quantity and quality of the research evidence relating to these issues, problems and debates and the extent to which this informs current policy and practice. 6. Different research methodologies and the context in which to apply them. 7. Ethical underpinnings of research policy and practice. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students gain knowledge and understanding 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' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual seminar and recorded presentations • Range of written assignments comprising of • Project and portfolio work

<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. Design and undertake substantial investigations to address significant areas of theory, policy, and practice. 2. Develop their own strategies and successfully complete a substantial empirical research project or research in a policy and/or practice environment. 3. Flexibly and creatively apply criminological concepts and theories to a range of issues and problems. 4. Compare, contrast, and critically evaluate alternative strategies for dealing with complex problems. 5. Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce findings. 6. Effectively develop and design a research proposal. 7. Criticise and engage in reasoned debate about contemporary issues in youth crime and youth justice. 8. Retrieve, synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources 	<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
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression)
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

- 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 MA students will take a 60-credit dissertation or **work-based experience** and successfully complete 180 credits.

Full Time Programme Structure for MA Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice
Term One (60 credits) **Term Two** (60 credits) **Term Three** (60 credits)

15 CREDITS

CRM4612 Contemporary Theory in Criminology

15 CREDITS

CRM4626 Probation, Resettlement and Community Based Interventions

15 CREDITS

CRM4611 Contemporary Issues in Youth Crime and Youth Justice

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

15 CREDITS

CRM4613 Criminal Justice, Courts, and Prisons

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

15 CREDITS

CRM4629 Research Strategies in Social Sciences

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

60 CREDITS

CRM4617 Dissertation

OR

Work Based Experience

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

Part Time Programme Structure for MA Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice

Year 1

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

15 CREDITS

CRM4612 Contemporary Theory in Criminology

15 CREDITS

CRM4626 Probation, Resettlement and Community Based Interventions

15 CREDITS

CRM4611 Contemporary Issues in Youth Crime and Youth Justice

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

15 CREDITS

CRM4629 Criminal Justice, Courts and Prisons

15 CREDITS

OPTIONAL MODULE

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL *	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>CRM4612 - Contemporary Theory in Criminology</p> <p>CRM4611 - Contemporary Issues in Youth Crime and Youth Justice</p> <p>CRM4613 - Criminal Justice, Courts & Prisons</p> <p>CRM4626 - Probation, Resettlement and Community Based Interventions</p> <p>CRM4629 - Research Strategies in Social Sciences</p> <p>CRM4617 - Dissertation OR CRM4XXX Work Based Experience</p>	<p>Students must also choose 3 from the following:</p> <p>CRM4628 - Race and Social Justice</p> <p>CRM4620 - Gender, Crime and Justice</p> <p>CRM4618 - Drugs and Crime</p> <p>CRM4622 - Health, Crime and Punishment</p> <p>CRM4624 - Policing and Investigative Psychology</p> <p>CRM4627 - Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending</p> <p>CRM4616 - Cybercultures and Crime</p>	

*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	<p>CRM4612 Contemporary Theory in Criminology</p> <p>CRM4611 Contemporary Issues in Youth Crime and Youth Justice</p> <p>CRM4613 Criminal Justice, Courts & Prisons</p> <p>CRM4626 Probation, Resettlement and Community Based Interventions</p> <p>CRM4629 Research Strategies in Social Sciences</p> <p>CRM4617 Dissertation OR CRM4XXX Work Based Experience</p>

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.

The employability service and Department of Criminology and Sociology have built up a wide range of contacts for criminology students in, for example, Youth Offending Teams, prisons, voluntary organisation, and research institutions. Placements cannot be guaranteed but every effort is made by academic staff on the Programme Team and with 'MDXWorks' and the university 'employability service' to establish placement opportunities for students.

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

The programme is designed for those who want to expand their knowledge and understanding of crime and criminal justice practice at national and international levels. We have an excellent employment record, with many graduates working in youth offending, probationary, community safety policing, mental health, and substance misuse services, in practitioner, research and managerial occupations.

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	Criminology 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.
- 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 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 MA Applied Criminology, Youth and Criminal Justice

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	Current theoretical and methodological approaches within the discipline of criminology and their relevance to and application within contemporary criminal justice.
A2	The historical context in which contemporary criminal justice institutions, policies and practices have emerged.
A3	Conceptual, policy and practice issues and debates relating to work with young offenders, probation resettlement and community-based interventions and criminal courts, punishment, and prisons.
A4	Contemporary concerns and problems associated with crime and anti-social behaviour, including gangs, substance misuse, sexual exploitation and mental health and existing strategies for dealing with these issues.
A5	The quantity and quality of the research evidence relating to these issues, problems and debates and the extent to which this informs current policy and practice.
A6	Different research methodologies and the context in which to apply them.
A7	Ethical underpinnings of research policy and practice.
Skills to:	
B1	Design and undertake substantial investigations to address significant areas of theory, policy, and practice.
B2	Develop their own strategies and successfully complete a substantial empirical research project or research in qualitative and/or quantitative environment
B3	Flexibly and creatively apply criminological concepts and theories to a range of issues and problems.
B4	Compare, contrast, and critically evaluate alternative strategies for dealing with complex problems.
B5	Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce findings.
B6	Effectively develop and design a research proposal.
B7	Criticise and engage in reasoned debate about contemporary issues in youth crime and youth justice.
B8	Retrieve, synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources and evidence.

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	B8	

Contemporary Theory in Criminology	CRM4612	X				X		X			X	X				
Contemporary Issues in Youth Crime and Youth Justice	CRM4611	X	X		X	X					X	X			X	
Criminal Justice, Courts & Prisons	CRM4613	X	X	X		X					X	X			X	
Probation, Resettlement and Community Based Interventions	CRM4626			X	X	X						X			X	
Research Strategies in Social Sciences	CRM4629	X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Dissertation	CRM4617	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Work Based Experience	CRM4XXX	X				X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Gender, Crime and Justice	CRM4620		X		X						X					
Drugs and Crime	CRM4618	X	X	X	X							X				
Race and Social Justice	CRM4628	X			X	X					X	X				
Psychological Interventions and Approaches to Offending	CRM4627	X			X	X					X	X				
Policing and Investigative Psychology	CRM4624		X	X	X			X			X					X
Health, Crime and Punishment	CRM4622			X	X	X					X	X				
Cybercultures and Crime	CRM4616	X		X	X							X				X