



**UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH**

Introduction to

BSc (Hons) Sociology with Criminology

Combined Honours Programme Specification Supplement

Primary Purpose

Course management, monitoring and quality assurance.

Secondary Purpose

Detailed information for students, staff and employers. Current students should refer to the related Course Handbook for further detail.

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information given in this Programme Specification Supplement. We will endeavour to deliver the course in keeping with this Programme Specification Supplement; however, changes may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, review and update of units and courses. Where this activity leads to significant changes to units and courses, there will be prior consultation of students and others, wherever possible, and the University will take all reasonable steps to minimize disruption to students. It is also possible that the University may not be able to offer a unit or course for reasons outside of its control, for example; the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible. Where appropriate, the University will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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Combined Honours Programme Specification Supplement

1. Named Award

BSc (Hons) Sociology with Criminology

2. Course Code (and UCAS Code if applicable)

C0979 (LM39)

3. Awarding Body

University of Portsmouth

4. Teaching Institution

University of Portsmouth

5. Document Control Information

August 2017

6. Effective Session

2017-2018

7. Home Course Leader

Dr Joseph Burridge

8. Home Faculty

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

9. Home Department

School of Social, Historical and Literary Studies

10. About this Programme Specification Supplement

This Combined Honours Course Programme Specification Supplement is designed for prospective students, registered students, University staff and potential employers. It provides an introduction to combined honours courses at the University of Portsmouth, and an overview of the course rationale, aims and learning outcomes.

A full Programme Specification is prepared for each half of the course. This supplement links the full Programme Specifications for each half of the Combined Honours Course. In the full Programme Specification documents (see A1. and A2. below), you will find more detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes, unit information, reference points, support for student learning and regulatory arrangements for each half of the Combined Honours.

A1. Combined Honours Sociology Half - PSD

A2. Combined Honours Criminology Half - PSD

11. The Combined Honours Degree Course at the University of Portsmouth

At the University of Portsmouth, our Combined Honours Degrees are predetermined combinations of subjects (subject A and subject B). Most students will be registered on a joint award where the number of credits studied in both subjects is roughly the same (approximately 50/50).

A small number of Combined Honours courses are designated major/minor courses where subject A is the major subject and subject B is the minor subject (approximately 66/33). For a joint Combined Honours, a student may choose to undertake a dissertation in subject A or subject B; in the case of major/minor awards, the dissertation will always be in the major subject.

12. Course Management

For each course, one of the academic departments owning one of the two subject halves will be designated the 'home' department. The home department is often, **but not always**, the first named of the subject combination, see section 9 above for this course's home. The home department will be the students' base and is responsible for providing the academic course leader, personal tutor and student support. A deputy course leader is appointed from the 'away' department.

The University operates a two-tier course management structure at department level, which monitors students' progression and achievement at unit level and award level. At University level, there is a dedicated Combined Honours Management Board, which reviews annually overall student experience, monitors student achievement and advises on the introduction and withdrawal of new course combinations.

13. Course Rationale

Criminology is a subject that links very well with Sociology – the problem of crime and its causes and costs to society being very much an issue of our times. The course begins with core studies in each area before developing more specialised aspects of both.

The sociology strand focuses on classical and more recent social theories as well as concepts like social inequality and change, research design and analysis. Options vary from year to year but include race and ethnicity, food and society, gender and sexuality, work and employment, war and violence, and risk society.

The criminology strand embraces criminology and criminal justice, with the chance to look at more specific topics such as penology, policing, and the politics of criminal justice, crime profiles, victims, criminal investigations, dangerous offenders, and crime and the media.

14. Educational Aims of the Course

- To enable students to develop knowledge and understanding of the social world by focusing on the relations which connect individuals, groups, and institutions.
- To develop an awareness of the nature of social processes, social diversity and inequality, and social change.
- To provide students with a strong foundation in the key concepts and theoretical approaches developed within sociology and the research strategies and methods used in gaining sociological knowledge.
- To enable students to develop an understanding of the relationship between sociological argument and evidence.
- To facilitate the development of both students' independent study and collaborative work.
- To prepare students to undertake postgraduate research, or to complete specialised professional training.
- To give students a wide-ranging specialist knowledge of criminology and criminal justice.
- To build upon academic expertise in a range of areas to enable students to examine in detail some of the key contemporary issues in the field.
- To enable an understanding of real life applications of theory to problems of crime causation and crime solutions, and the subsequent development of new policies, practices and legislation.
- To facilitate students understanding of and competence in a range of qualitative and quantitative research skills for exploring crime and its management.
- To provide the opportunity to pursue specialist knowledge and interests through volunteering, placements and research.

15. Employability Statement

Employability skills are delivered (and assessed where applicable) throughout the curriculum. We provide structured support to enable students to develop their employability skills from L4 to L6. Core units at each level include most of the academic and employability skills that are listed in Annex 5 of the 2012 Curriculum Framework. Career management skills specifically (as a subset of employability skills) are embedded throughout the curriculum.