



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Policing and Investigation (DL)

Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

July 2021

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	<i>BSc (Hons) Policing and Investigation (DL)</i>
Final Award	<i>BSc (Hons)</i>
Exit Awards	<i>Certificate in Higher Education, Diploma in Higher Education</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U2459PTD
Mode of study	<i>Part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Distance Learning</i>
Normal length of course	<i>4 .5 years</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>From September 2020 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ)</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-humanities-and-social-sciences/school-of-criminology-and-criminal-justice
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-policing-and-investigation
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	n/a
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	FHEQ Level 6

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and module catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment, based upon quality learning and teaching practices.
- To provide a framework allowing students to follow a coherent programme of study
- To enable students to study a multi-disciplinary subject and develop specialist interests in key areas of policing and criminal justice, including the role and professional practices of police investigators as well as other criminal justice related agencies.
- To enable students to exercise choice in their studies, drawing upon the expert knowledge and research of academics teaching in the department.
- To provide an opportunity for students to create and understand links between the disciplines making up the field of criminal justice, policing and criminal investigation.
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop key academic skills, enabling critical thinking and the ability to undertake independent research.
- To provide students with the knowledge, experience and employability skills required to maximise career and postgraduate study opportunities
- To provide a broad education presenting multiple perspectives on policing and investigation, acknowledging issues relating to diversity, social justice and human rights.
- To foster knowledge of criminal justice, policing and investigation in a multi-disciplinary context and critical engagement with its subject areas
- To provide an understanding of the role of empirical research in challenging existing theories and creating new theories
- To facilitate students understanding of and competence in a range of qualitative and quantitative research skills for exploring crime and investigation
- To provide the opportunity to develop transferable skills required for future professional success

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Core aspects of investigation theory and policing processes, including a range of contributing 'sub' disciplines	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and</i>

		<i>sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A2	Specialist areas of policing and investigation, some at the cutting edge of policing reform and social policy development	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A3	An understanding that 'policing' is not just about 'the police' organisation but the social contexts within which police officers operate.	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is</i>

		<i>an annual Study School.</i>	<i>also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A4	An appreciation of the early development of investigation and the recent attempts to professionalise the investigation process by linkage to national occupational standards	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A5	A range of criminal justice research paradigms and methods	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>

A6	The changing nature of the policing family especially the emergence of outsourcing to the private sector	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A7	The development of academic skills, reading and research, the writing of academic essays and undertaking independent research, including a dissertation	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A8	Quantitative and qualitative research methods	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays,</i>

		<i>material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>
A9	The development of communication skills to analyse, question and debate key issues relating to policing and investigation to a range of audiences, including professionals and lay people.	<i>are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations, dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).</i>

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Generate and explore creative and original ideas	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a</i>

		<i>and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>research dissertation</i>
B2	Apply multiple and competing perspectives to criminological issues and debates	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
B3	Gather, retrieve and synthesise information from a range of sources, recognising the validity and reliability of some sources over others	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

		<i>attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	
B4	Think analytically and critically about the multi-disciplinary nature of criminological publications	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
B5	Select appropriate theories in developing research methodologies to support projects, dissertations and other written work	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
B6	Evaluate evidence from a range of sources and make informed judgements	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle,</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

		<i>occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	
B7	Develop and sustain reasoned arguments to a range of audiences	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
B8	Identify and focus on topical and pertinent issues, placing debates in their wider social and political contexts	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
B9	Use evidence-based reasoning to reflect on practical, theoretical and ethical issues involved in criminology research	<i>delivered by distance learning using</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a</i>

		<i>interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>research dissertation</i>
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C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Communicate criminological ideas in both written and oral formats, including reports.	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
C2	Problem solve and develop reasoned argument	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle,</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

		<i>occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	
C3	Retrieve and organise information effectively from a range of reliable and valid sources	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
C4	Work effectively under pressure and exercise effective time management skills	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
C5	Be sensitive to environmental and interpersonal aspects	<i>delivered by distance learning using</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a</i>

		<i>interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>research dissertation</i>
C6	Conduct a substantial piece of criminological research, under appropriate supervision	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

D. Transferable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Contribute to online group discussions and debates about a complex subject, involving the management of tasks and problem solving skills	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle,</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

		<i>occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	
D2	Research, read and synthesise information from a range of sources and documents about a complex subject, making decisions regarding the reliability and validity of the sources used	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
D3	Develop written communication skills by employing different types of written documents (essays, reports, articles, dissertation) to convey knowledge and understanding of complex subjects and debates (C3.4)	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
D4	Present information from a range of sources for different purposes and audiences	<i>delivered by distance learning using</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a</i>

		<i>interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>research dissertation</i>
D5	Recognise, explore and describe a problem, agree standards and outcomes for its solutions, involving team working and problem solving skills	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>
D6	Work towards achieving agreed objectives, seek to establish and maintain co-operative working relationships in meeting responsibilities (W3.2)	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

		<i>optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	
D7	1. Make use of feedback to plan, organise and review own performance, using analytical and reflective skills	<i>delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.</i>	<i>assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation</i>

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Strategy](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Criminology](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of

Course specification for ***BSc (Hons) Policing and Investigation (DL)***

- Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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