



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

### *BSc (Hons) Policing and Investigation (DL)*

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

#### Copyright

The contents of this document are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>BSc (Hons) Policing and Investigation (DL)</b>
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Exit Awards	Certificate in Higher Education, Diploma in Higher Education
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U2459PTD
Mode of study	Part time
Mode of delivery	Distance Learning
Normal length of course	4 .5 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	From September 2022 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Criminology and Criminal Justice (SCCJ)
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="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">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</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-policing-and-investigation">https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-policing-and-investigation</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	None
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	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	Appreciate the ethics and values of professional policing, including duty of care, service delivery, employment practice, efficiency, effectiveness and value for money, Code of Ethics, professional standards, and equality, diversity and human rights.	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support	is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work, presentations, examinations,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	dissertations and in some case relevant online tools in Moodle. Formative assessment is also used (essay planning, oral feedback, draft chapters and dissertations).
A2	Identify specialist areas of policing processes and investigation, including a range of contributing 'sub' disciplines, some at the cutting edge of policing reform and social policy development.	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A3	An understanding that 'policing' is not just about 'the police' organisation but social behaviour and society, including their origins, development, organisation, networks and institutions and how this relates to policing across diverse and increasingly complex communities.	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online	is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects, assessed group work,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A4	Attain an appreciation of the early development of investigation and the attempts to professionalise the investigation process by linkage to national occupational standards and Authorised Professional Practice (the official source of policing professional practice), legal and organisational requirements relating to the operational policing context.	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A5	A range of criminal justice research paradigms and methods	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle,	is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios, posters, projects,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A6	The changing nature of the policing family especially the emergence of outsourcing to the private sector	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A7	Understand and evaluate the application of criminal law to policing	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and e-mail tutor	is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing, briefing notes, portfolios,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A8	Describe specialist interrelated contemporary theories, ideas and methods to prevent and detect crime, deal with suspects and offenders	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).
A9	Explain the specialist interrelated contemporary theories, ideas and methods used in key cross-cutting and inter-dependent areas of policing, including roles and responsibilities, criminal justice, counter terrorism, vulnerability (including public protection and mental health) and risk.	are delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed	is assessed through summative coursework, including essays, report writing,

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	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).

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Evaluate different policing approaches alongside partner organisations or as part of a multi-disciplinary team to address identified, often complex, issues, concerns and situations to reduce and prevent crime in communities.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
B2	Use evidence-based reasoning to make informed judgements in developing research methodologies to support projects, dissertations and other written work	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts	assessed through essays, reports and a



LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	research dissertation
B3	Critically evaluate multi-disciplinary evidence from a range of sources and make informed judgements on the validity and reliability of some sources over others.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
B4	Generate In-depth knowledge, understanding and relevant the following operational policing contexts: response, community, intelligence, investigation.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	
B5	Select appropriate theories in developing research methodologies to support projects, dissertations and other written work	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
B6	The development of academic skills, including a range of criminological research paradigms and research methods.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

**C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Communicate criminological ideas via a range of formats.	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.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
C2	Retrieve and use information effectively from a range of sources in order to problem solve and develop reasoned arguments.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
C3	Work effectively under pressure and exercise effective time management skills.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	
C4	Conduct a substantial piece of criminological research, under appropriate supervision.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

**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	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	
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	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
D3	Develop written communication skills by employing different types of written documents to convey knowledge and understanding of complex subjects and debates.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D4	Present information from a range of sources (including different forms of media) for different purposes and to a range of audiences.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
D5	Recognise, explore and describe a problem, agree standards and outcomes for its solutions, involving team working and problem-solving skills	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle, occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation
D6	Demonstrate their own skills and make use of feedback to plan, organise and review own performance, using analytical and reflective skills in a career management context.	delivered by distance learning using interactive texts and online material, backed by telephone and email tutor support, Moodle,	assessed through essays, reports and a research dissertation

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		occasional evening online discussion and study support sessions, together with optional attendance at an annual Study School.	

## 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 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.

## Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

## Document details

Template Date	June 2020
Author	Dr John Fox
Date of production and version number	June 2020 v2
Date of update and version number	June 2022 v4
Minimum student registration numbers	20