

Module Guide

Introduction to the Criminal Justice System



Division of Social Sciences

Level 4

DSS_4_CJS

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Overview of lecture programme

Week 1	Introduction to the module
Week 2	The post-war criminal justice system
Week 3	Policing
Week 4	Crown Prosecution Service
Week 5	Reading week
Week 6	Criminal courts
Week 7	Probation
Week 8	Old Bailey/Royal Courts of Justice visit
Week 9	Prison
Week 10	Youth justice
Week 11	Ethics and dilemmas
Week 12	Revision/tutorials

1. MODULE DETAILS

Module Title:	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
Module Level:	4
Module Reference Number:	DSS_4_CJS
Credit Value:	20
Student Study Hours:	200
Contact Hours:	45
Private Study Hours:	155
Pre-requisite Learning (If applicable):	None
Co-requisite Modules (If applicable):	None
Course(s):	BSc (Hons) Criminology; BSc (Hons) Criminology with Politics; BSc (Hons) Criminology with Psychology
Year and Semester	Year one, semester one
Module Coordinator:	Becky Shepherd
MC Contact Details:	shepherd7@lsbu.ac.uk Borough Road, 2nd floor, B267B
Teaching Team & Contact Details (If applicable):	Lecturer and Seminar Tutor: Ms Becky Shepherd
Summary of Assessment Method:	Assignment 1: online test to be taken on 01.11.18 Assignment 2: online test to be taken on 13.12.18
The Library Information Officer for DSS:	Rebecca Fong fongr@lsbu.ac.uk

2. SHORT DESCRIPTION

This module introduces students to the different levels, agencies and operation of the criminal justice system. It presents the main institutions and provides an overview of the procedures and policies related to the contemporary criminal justice system and punishment of offenders. The module introduces a number of key issues and debates in relation to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

3. AIMS OF THE MODULE

This module aims to:

- To introduce students to the structure and institutions of the Criminal Justice System
- To familiarise students with the operation and workings of the Criminal Justice System
- To provide a foundational knowledge and understanding of the Criminal Justice System.
- To equip students with an understanding of key perspectives, policies and contemporary debates in criminal justice

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.1 Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of the module students will have:

- Knowledge and understanding of criminal justice process, key institutions, policies and practices
- Understanding of the role of various institutions and agencies and their operation.
- Understand the impact of criminal justice on wider society and debates relating to crime and criminal justice

4.2 Intellectual Skills

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

- define and apply key criminal justice concepts
- Identify and understand emerging issues in criminal justice

4.3 Practical Skills

On successful completion of this module students should be able to demonstrate skills in:

- finding, analysing and applying academic and non-academic sources both off and online;
- construction and defence of arguments, particularly in the oral environment (debating skills).

4.4 Transferable Skills

On successful completion of the module students should be able to demonstrate skills in:

- finding and analysing sources;
- constructing and defending arguments

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE MODULE

CW1: 1 online test (50% of final mark)

CW2: 1 online test (50% of final mark)

Each online test comprises a range of question formats and will last 60 minutes

Please note that to pass the module a mark of 40% is required.

The undergraduate marking criteria will be used to assess your work. Not all the [Undergraduate Marking Criteria \(PDF\)](#) will be relevant to every module or assignment. Please familiarise yourself with the assessment criteria in the course handbook. This will also be explained in class before each test.

The feedback you receive on your assessment will use these criteria and will help you to improve your performance in future assessments.

For further information regarding assessment in this course, please see your Course Handbook on Moodle. This contains detailed information regarding assessment including an explanation of the procedures to be followed if an assessment deadline is missed, as well as how to make an application for extenuating circumstances.

For a more general outline of assessment issues and marking criteria please see the 2019-20 DSS Course Guide

Plagiarism

Whether intentional or not, plagiarism is not acceptable in any circumstances. It is regarded as a form of cheating and there are strict University regulations that apply if it is discovered. The online test requires you to write *in your own words*. This is very important. This will be discussed in class before each test to clarify what is required. You will find further details on plagiarism in the *LSBU Assessment and Examinations Handbook*

(https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/84349/assessment-and-examination-handbook.pdf) and in your Course Guide. Please read these carefully.

Referencing & Bibliography

Some exam questions may require referencing (this will be made clear in the question). Any questions requiring referencing must be fully and accurately referenced and must include, at the end, a bibliography of material consulted in the preparation of the work. The following link takes you to a Library 'how to guide' on referencing, and provides details on standard referencing:

<https://my.lsbu.ac.uk/my/wcm/myconnect/9c19919b-d27d-430e-b821-0e71bcecae22/harvard-referencing-helphsheet.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

Books should be cited in the following manner:

Wood, E. (2003) *Empire of Capital*. London: Verso.

Stevenson, J. and C. Cook (1977) *The Slump: society and politics during the depression*. London: Cape.

Articles in readers (i.e. edited collections) are cited as follows:

Fennell, G. (1990) The Second World War and the Welfare State in Britain: sociological interpretations of historical development, in L. Jamieson & H.Corr (eds.), *State, Private Life, and Political Change*. Basingstoke: Macmillan.

Articles in journals should be cited giving volume and issue number as well as date, thus:

Tomlinson, J. (1992) Planning: Debate and Policy in the 1940s, *Twentieth Century British History*, vol. 3, no. 2.

Websites should be referenced thus:

Burke, L. (1997) Carbohydrates? They aren't that simple. Available from:

<http://www.sportsci.org/news/compeat/carbo.html> [Accessed 14 February 2014]. In-text citation: (Burke, 1997).

Learner Support Material

You will need to use both printed and electronic sources. As well as the recommended readings and references below, you should use the university's online learning resources that can be accessed via MyLSBU and the Library. From here you will be able to find books and other printed materials held in the Library, in other libraries, and to access recommended Web sites, electronic abstracting services and full text journal articles. You can also use the LSBU Library website to renew your books.

6. FEEDBACK

Marked work is usually returned to students within 15 - 20 working days of submission. Generic feedback may also be provided.

7. STUDENT EVALUATION

This is a new module and will be evaluated following completion. All student feedback assists with evaluating the module and making any amendments needed for future years. All students will be given the opportunity to provide feedback during and at the end of the module.

8. INTRODUCTION TO STUDYING THE MODULE

8.1 Overview of the Main Content

Historical overview of Criminal Justice since 1945
Purposes of the Criminal Justice Process
Government and governance and Criminal Justice
Media and the Criminal Justice System
Mapping institutions and processes in Criminal Justice

8.2 Overview of Types of Classes

Each week students will attend the 2-hour lecture and a 1-hour seminar.

Lectures will take place from 9am – 11am every Monday.

Students are expected to read from core texts, from a bibliography provided for each topic and to prepare the seminar questions. Seminars form an integral part of the course and all students are required to attend on a regular basis. They are expected to contribute to seminars through presentations and group discussions that need to be prepared in advance. Seminars will be used to address both the academic content of the module and study skills. Group working, allowing students to develop the core material further and benefit from supervised discussion, will be a recurrent feature of the seminars. It is essential to your own success and the effectiveness of the module that you come prepared every week.

8.3 Importance of Student Self-Managed Learning Time

Students must make effective use of their private study time if they are to succeed in their studies.

The 155 hours of non-contact time should be spent in reading and note-taking around the weekly topics in preparation for the seminars and coursework, and, more generally, to develop knowledge and understanding. It is to be expected that questions raised and difficulties encountered will be brought to seminars for discussion. Participation in seminars requires considerable background reading and students wishing to contribute to seminar discussion should understand that it is their responsibility to locate the material and read it in advance of the seminar.

Occasionally there will be directed work in preparation for the following week. Examples might include preparing a summary of an article, discussion of issues in groups, oral presentations.

8.4 Employability

This module develops skills that you should find very useful in your future employment by embedding them into the teaching and seminars. In particular it will demonstrate your ability to pursue independent initiatives, to meet deadlines, to search for academic materials, to write in an academic style and to prepare a presentation. Employers look for skills such as group work, written work, ICT skills, presentation and verbal skills, which are transferable from the academic world to employment. Students will develop an ability to find, analyse and synthesise empirical data and theoretical positions to understand complicated and controversial problems, and to draw evidence-based conclusions in emotionally charged arenas. Such skills will be appropriate to a wide range of career pathways.

8.5 Some tips for success

- plan your work schedules in advance, use the module guide and the Moodle site to help with this
- attend all sessions
- make effective and careful notes
- work with the other members of the seminar group, they are a useful resource
- establish a consistent pattern of reading
- do not be afraid to ask questions or seek clarification particularly in the seminars
- give yourself sufficient time to complete the tests, including time to revise before online submission
- ensure your test answers meet the format requirements and where required, that your answers are properly referenced
- make sure that your test answers are in your own writing and DO NOT cut and paste from websites
- finally... if in doubt **ask for help** (don't be afraid to ask or contact staff by e-mail).
- Good luck.

9. THE PROGRAMME OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

WEEK	LECTURE	SEMINAR
1 24/09/2018	Introduction to the module	Organisation of the module, seminars and assignments
2 01/10/2018	The post-war criminal justice system	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
3 08/10/2018	Policing	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
4 15/10/2018	Crown Prosecution Service	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
5 22/10/2018	Reading week – no lecture or seminars	
6 29/10/2018	The criminal courts	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
Online test 1 to be taken on 01.11.18		
7 05/11/2018	Probation	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
8 12/11/2018	Old Bailey/Royal Courts of Justice visit	
9 19/10/2018	Prison	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
10 26/11/2018	Youth justice	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
11 03/12/2018	Ethical issues	Seminar questions, readings & discussion
12 10/12/2018	Revision/Tutorials	1-2-1 Drop in Tutorials in preparation for final essay
Online test 2 to be taken on 13.12.18		

Week 1

Lecture Introduction to the Module – the Criminal Justice System

The lecture will give an overview of the topics covered by the module, assessment and expectations.

Seminar Work allocation, discussion of expectations, formative and summative assessments.

Quiz: what do you know about the Criminal Justice System?

Essential reading:

Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE. Introduction.

Week 2

Lecture The post-war Criminal Justice System in England & Wales

This session will look at the emergence and development of the modern criminal justice system as a method of managing offenders and responding to crime. It will present the key legislation and political influences which have shaped the system.

Seminar Activity: creating a timeline of key events in criminal justice

Essential reading:

Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE. Chapter 2.

Additional reading:

Gelsthorpe, L., 2013. 'Criminal justice: the policy landscape'. *Criminal Justice*, eds Hucklesby, A. & Wahidin, A. pp.17-33.

O'Malley, L. and Grace, S., 2018. *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Bristol: Policy Press. Chapter 2.

Ministry of Justice, 2010. *Breaking the cycle: Effective punishment, rehabilitation and sentencing of offenders* (Vol. 7972). The Stationery Office.

Downes, D. and Morgan, R., 2002. The skeletons in the cupboard: the politics of law and order at the turn of the millennium. *The Oxford handbook of criminology*, 3, pp.

Lammy, D., (2017). The Lammy review: An independent review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the Criminal Justice System. *HM Government*.

Week 3

Lecture Policing

This lecture will look at the development of the modern police force, police powers, relevant legislation and discuss controversies of policing.

Seminar Discussion:

- Is stop and search effective at preventing or detecting crime?
- Is 'policing by consent' realistic in the modern era?

Essential reading:

O'Malley, L. and Grace, S., 2018. 'The Police Service' in *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Policy Press.

Jones, M. & Stockdale, K. (2017) 'The Police' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE.

Additional reading:

Newburn, T. and Reiner, R., (2012). 'Policing and the Police' in Maguire, M., Morgan, R. & Reiner, R. *The Oxford Handbook of Criminology 5th ed.* Oxford: OUP.

Sanders, A., Young, R. & Burton, M. (2010) Ch 2 'Stop and Search' in *Criminal Justice*. Oxford: OUP.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/655710/Deaths_in_police_custody_A_review_of_the_international_evidence.pdf

Week 4

Lecture The Crown Prosecution Service

This lecture will look at the history and development of the CPS, vulnerable witnesses, disclosure, the public interest test.

Seminar Activity: ethical dilemmas – rape prosecutions and 'digital stripsearch'.

Essential reading:

Howey, A. (2017) Ch 13 'Prosecution and the Alternatives' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Additional reading:

Belloni, F. & Hodgson, J. (2000) Ch 6 'Prosecution, bail and trial venue' in *Criminal Injustice*. Basingstoke: MacMillan.

O'Malley, L. & Grace, S. (2018) Ch 6 'The Crown Prosecution Service' in *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Sanders, A., Young, R. & Burton, M. (2010) Ch 7 'Prosecutions' in *Criminal Justice*. Oxford: OUP.

Week 5

Reading week – no lectures or seminars

Week 6

Lecture The criminal courts

The lecture will look at the functioning Magistrates and Crown courts, disproportionality, miscarriages of justice, controversies in sentencing for sex offences.

Seminar Film clips and discussion: sentencing the 2011 English riots - miscarriages of justice?

Essential reading:

Cole, B. & Osidipe, T. (2017) Ch 14 'Criminal Courts' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Sarah Lamble; The Quiet Dangers of Civilized Rage: Surveying the Punitive Aftermath of England's 2011 Riots. *South Atlantic Quarterly* 1 July 2013; 112 (3): 577–585.

Additional Reading:

John Lea & Simon Hallsworth (2012) *Understanding the riots*, *Criminal Justice Matters*, 87:1, 30-31

Ashworth, A. & Roberts, J. (2012) 'Sentencing: theory, principle and practice' in Maguire, M., Morgan, R. & Reiner, R. *The Oxford Handbook of Criminology 5th ed.* Oxford: OUP.

Kennedy, H., (2011). *Eve was framed: Women and British justice*. London: Random House.

Week 7

Lecture The probation service

The lecture will chart the development of the probation service over the past century, discuss the key functions of probation officers, discuss the impact of privatisation and look at the impact of serious further offences on the service.

Seminar Activity: drafting a pre-sentence report

Essential reading:

O'Malley, L. & Grace, S. (2018) Ch 7 'The probation service' in *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Additional reading:

Fitzgibbon, W. and Lea, J., 2014. Defending probation: Beyond privatisation and security. *European Journal of Probation*, 6(1), pp.24-41.

Annison, J., 2013. Innovation in probation practice: Past, present and future. *Probation Journal*, 60(3), pp.227-241.

Mair, G. (2017) Ch 15 'Community Sentences' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Week 8

No lecture or seminars: Visit to the Old Bailey and Royal Courts of Justice

Week 9

Lecture Prisons

The lecture will discuss the development of the modern prison, justifications for imprisonment, women prisoners, deaths in prison and prison riots.

Seminar Film clip and discussion: the Strangeways riot

Essential Reading:

Bilby, C. (2017) Ch 16 'Imprisonment' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Additional Reading:

O'Malley, L. & Grace, S. (2018) Ch 6 'The prison service' in *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Liebling, A. & Crewe, B. (2012) Ch 30 'Prison life, penal power, and prison effects' in Morgan, R., Maguire, M. and Reiner, R. eds., *The Oxford handbook of criminology*. Oxford: OUP.

The Corston report: a report by Baroness Jean Corston of a review of women with particular vulnerabilities in the criminal justice system: the need for a distinct, radically different, visibly-led, strategic, proportionate, holistic, woman-centred, integrated approach. Home Office, 2007.

Sparks R. (1994) 'Can Prisons be Legitimate?' in R. King and M. Maguire (eds) *Prisons in Context*. Oxford: Clarendon Press

Week 10

Lecture Youth justice

The lecture will examine the separate youth justice system, including youth courts, young offenders in custody and youth offending teams. It will also discuss rival approaches to working with young people who offend.

Seminar Discussion: child sexual exploitation and 'county lines' drug dealing: are young people who commit crime offenders first or children first?

Essential Reading:

Bateman, T. (2017) Ch 18 'Youth Justice' in Harding, J., Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Berelowitz, S., (2013). If only someone had listened: Office of the Children's Commissioner's inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups. Final report.

Additional Reading:

Jay, A., 2014. *Independent inquiry into child sexual exploitation in Rotherham: 1997-2013*. Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

Goldson, B. and Muncie, J. eds., (2015). *Youth crime and justice*. London: SAGE.

Gelsthorpe, L. and Sharpe, G., (2006). Gender, youth crime and justice. *Youth crime and justice*, pp.47-61.

McAra, L. and McVie, S., (2010). Youth crime and justice: Key messages from the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*, 10(2), pp.179-209.

Coomber, R. and Moyle, L., (2017). The changing shape of street-level heroin and crack supply in England: Commuting, holidaying and cuckooing drug dealers across 'County lines'. *The British Journal of Criminology*.

Chase, E. and Statham, J., (2005). Commercial and sexual exploitation of children and young people in the UK—A review. *Child Abuse Review: Journal of the British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect*, 14(1), pp.4-25.

Week 11

Lecture

Ethical issues

The lecture will consider some of the key ethical debates in the criminal justice system including racial disproportionality, prisoners' rights, community safety and civil liberties.

Seminar

Discussion: balancing crime prevention with civil liberties: is it possible?

Essential Reading:

Crawford, A. & Evans, K. (2012) Ch 26 Crime prevention and community safety' in in Morgan, R., Maguire, M. and Reiner, R. eds., *The Oxford handbook of criminology*. Oxford: OUP.

Muncie, J., (1999). Institutionalized intolerance: youth justice and the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. *Critical Social Policy*, 19(2), pp.147-175.

Additional Reading:

Pollock, J.M., (2014). Ch 6, 'Ethics and the criminal justice professional' in *Ethical dilemmas and decisions in criminal justice*. Nelson Education.

Pinkney, C. and Robinson-Edwards, S., (2018). Gangs, music and the mediatization of crime: expressions, violations and validations. *Safer Communities*, 17(2), pp.103-118.

Cyr, J.L., (2003). The folk devil reacts: Gangs and moral panic. *Criminal Justice Review*, 28(1), pp.26-46.

[http://www.policingethicspanel.london/uploads/4/4/0/7/44076193/lpep - ethical challenges of policing in london october 2014.pdf](http://www.policingethicspanel.london/uploads/4/4/0/7/44076193/lpep_-_ethical_challenges_of_policing_in_london_october_2014.pdf)

Hudson, B., (2001). Human rights, public safety and the probation service: defending justice in the risk society. *The Howard Journal of Criminal Justice*, 40(2), pp.103-113.

<https://www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/human-rights/justice-and-fair-trials/asbos-and-civil-orders>

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/dec/05/prison-book-ban-unlawful-court-chris-grayling>

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/jan/13/crime-disorder-act>

Week 12

There will be no lectures or seminars this week. There will be a **1-2-1 drop in tutorial session** in preparation for the final test. Students are encouraged to attend this session to discuss their revision plans with the tutor.

10. LEARNING RESOURCES

Core materials

- 1 Harding, J, Davies, P. & Mair, G. (2017) *An Introduction to Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE
- 2 O'Malley, L. and Grace, S., (2018). *The Short Guide to Criminal Justice*. Bristol: Policy Press.

Optional reading

1. Belloni, F. and Hodgson, J. (2000) *Criminal injustice : an evaluation of the criminal justice process in Britain*. Basingstoke: MacMillan.
2. Maguire, M., Morgan, R. and Reiner, R. (eds) (2012) *The Oxford Handbook of Criminology* 5th Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
3. Sanders, A., Young, R. and Burton, M. (2010) *Criminal Justice* 4th Edition. London: Butterworth.
4. Kennedy, H., (2011). *Eve was framed: Women and British justice*. London: Random House.

Relevant journals

Probation Journal

Criminology and Criminal Justice

Journal of Criminal Justice

Howard Journal of Penal Reform

You will need to use both printed and electronic sources. As well as the recommended readings and references given in this module guide, you should use the Web site: Library and Learning

Resources: <http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/library/>

Library and Learning Resources have created this site as your starting point for information searching. Use it to find books and other printed materials held in the Library, in other libraries, and to access recommended Web sites, electronic abstracting services and full text journal articles. You can also use it to renew your books.

For help on using the library and accessing resources such as Box of Broadcasts [BoB], go to the library website.

TV and Radio Programmes via BoB:

Box of Broadcasts allows all LSBU students and staff to record TV and radio programmes at the click of a mouse and watch them back via live streaming

You can find it via the Library Catalogue or just search for 'Box of Broadcasts' or click on the direct link

available in the Advanced Search page.

<http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/library/html/guidesandworkshops.shtml>