

# Youth Justice 2015-16

## 1. Basic Module Data

<b>Module Title:</b>	Youth Justice
<b>School:</b>	School of Social and Political Sciences
<b>Subject:</b>	Criminology
<b>Module Code:</b>	CRI2006M
<b>Credit Rating:</b>	15
<b>Level:</b>	Level 2
<b>Pre-requisites:</b>	None
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	None
<b>Barred Combinations:</b>	None
<b>Module Co-ordinator(s):</b>	Sue Bond-Taylor (SBTaylor)

## 2. Module Synopsis

This module provides students with an opportunity to explore the youth justice system in depth, including the theoretical and historical contexts of youth justice, contemporary policy and practice developments and the salience of political agendas in constructing responses to young people's offending behaviour. The module will expect students to demonstrate a good 'nuts and bolts' understanding of how the system operates, alongside more critical analysis of the impact of doing 'justice' on children's rights and welfare. The module will also encourage reflection upon the roles of key personnel and opportunities for career development.

## 3. Outline Syllabus

The syllabus will develop and respond to changes in issues and policies, but will typically cover the following areas:

The contexts of youth justice:

- The historical development of the youth justice system
- Comparative perspectives on criminal responsibility
- The nature & extent of contemporary youth offending
- Race, gender & class dimensions of youth offending

Policy & practice issues:

- The structure of the youth justice system (YOTS and YJB)
- Assessing risk and predicting offending
- Diversion and preventative interventions

Children and the police  
Children's rights and the youth court  
Community disposals and restorative justice  
Children in custody

Political agendas:  
Drawing upon relevant contemporary debates, for example:  
Riots, gangs, and weapons  
Anti-social behaviour  
Drugs and alcohol

## 4. Module Learning Outcomes

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| LO1 | Understand key concepts and ideological perspectives in youth justice                                  |
| LO2 | Place youth justice in England and Wales in its historical and comparative context                     |
| LO3 | Understand the diverse causes of youth offending and locate these within wider social structures       |
| LO4 | Analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of a range of different policies and practices in youth justice |
| LO5 | Demonstrate a critical awareness of the impact of political campaigns upon youth justice policy        |

## 5. Learning and Teaching Strategy/Methods

The module will typically be organised around lectures and seminars. The lectures will be used to introduce key concepts and ideas appropriate for an understanding of the subject area; the seminars will be used to clarify issues raised in the lectures and to discuss specific topics and examples. In preparation for the assessment, students will research areas of practice in youth justice and present these within seminars for group discussion. Youth Justice practitioners will be utilised where possible to provide additional learning experiences through the provision of lectures, podcasts, case studies or blogging.

## 6. Assessment

A briefing paper 100%

Assessment Method	Weighting (%)	Learning Outcome(s) Tested	Group Work
Coursework	100	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5	No

## **7. Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body Requirements**

NA

## **8. Indicative Reading**