

## Programme specification



### BA (Hons) Police Studies

<i>School:</i>	School of Psychological and Social Sciences		
<i>Entry in:</i>	2018	<i>in:</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>Exit awards:</i>	BA (Ord) Police Studies Diploma of Higher Education Police Studies Certificate of Higher Education Police Studies		
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	L4L3		
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>QAA benchmark group(s):</i>	Criminology 2014		
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Full-time for 3 years Part-time for 6 years		
<i>Language of study:</i>	English		
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes		

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### Introduction and special features

BA (Hons) Police Studies has been developed in accordance with the College of Policing guidance so as to introduce you to the fundamental study of policing, crime and deviance as relevant both to the UK and in terms of global issues. It does this through engaging with a range of contemporary and relevant issues in the UK and across international policing. The programme achieves this by drawing upon modules which enable you to pursue a focused study of contemporary issues facing the police service in the UK and internationally and criminology modules relating to crime and deviance. In line with current thinking from the College of Policing, criminology and policing modules complement one another. Modules within BA Police Studies provide for a consideration of how crime, policy, social inequalities and divisions impact upon an understanding of policing. This is done using a policing and a criminological perspective. This ensures that students can recognise that their studies foreground policing, but draw upon criminology. Experienced police officers and police staff will be involved in the delivery of modules, particularly in more specialised areas, such as domestic abuse, mental health, community policing and safeguarding. Staff have wide ranging experience of policing and criminology. Assessment methods will reflect the requirements of the police service, such as, report writing, case study, examination and research. As part of your academic development, assignments will foster critical and original thinking through structured activities and study.

We want you to do well and our aim is to enhance your employment potential at the end of the course, whether as a police officer, police staff or within the wider criminal justice sector. A recent report by the Higher Education Statistics Agency illustrates that Social Science graduates out-perform graduates in other areas in respect of progressing to employment or further training. In encouraging you to enhance your future employability volunteering in a range of settings is encouraged and both the department and the university will support you in this. Relationships have been developed with police forces in the north east region, as well as organisations that work alongside the police service. These organisations cover restorative justice, domestic abuse and support for victims of sexual assault. These will not only provide work related experience, but support your studies. In summary, this is an exciting opportunity

to develop detailed and critical insights into policing issues. It also allows you to enhance your future employability within a vibrant and growing department.

### **Admissions criteria**

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study. Whilst it is not a criterion for entry onto the programme, if you are looking to join the police service in the UK, you should ensure that you will meet the necessary criteria. Information is available via the link; <http://www.policecouldyou.co.uk/police-officer/am-i-eligible/detailed-eligibility-req/index.html>

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <http://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements.aspx>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

### **Programme aims**

The BA (Hons) Police Studies programme aims to enable students to develop:

1. An informed and critical understanding of key concepts and theoretical approaches that have been developed, and are developing within police studies;
2. A range of skills in the collection, interpretation, analysis and communication of policing data;
3. A range of transferable skills to equip them for employment, entrepreneurship and lifelong learning;
4. An ability to critically evaluate the ways in which policing relates to the relationship between individuals, groups and power.

### **Programme learning outcomes**

The learning outcomes for this programme have been designed with close reference to the Criminology benchmark statement (2014). In addition, the learning outcomes were designed with close attention to the guidelines of the *Framework for Higher Education Qualifications* (2008).

Students who gain the award specified will be able to:

#### **YSJU Level 4 / FHEQ L4**

1. Demonstrate a broad-based knowledge and understanding of a range of underlying concepts, content and theoretical perspectives associated with studying policing;
1. Effectively explain different policing perspectives;
2. Present, evaluate and interpret different forms of information, evidence, data, artefacts and performances appropriate to the study of policing;
3. Communicate effectively using a range of skills appropriate for the audience and purpose;
4. Demonstrate a range of key transferable skills (including those for lifelong learning) appropriate for further study.

#### **YSJU Level 5 / FHEQ L5**

1. Apply theoretical perspectives and concepts to a range of issues relevant to the fields of policing;
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of research strategies that are relevant to the study of policing;
3. Critically analyse data and information relevant to the study of policing;
4. Communicate subject-relevant information, ideas and arguments effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
5. Demonstrate an ability to apply knowledge and skills effectively in decision-making in the context of growing maturity as an independent learner.

**YSJU Level 6 / FHEQ L6**

1. Show proficiency in using policing theories and principles in the analysis and solution of complex problems;
2. Demonstrate critical evaluation of research strategies associated with police studies;
3. Proficiently use and communicate approaches to the evaluation of qualitative and quantitative data relevant to the study of police studies;
4. Acquire, organise and communicate information, ideas and arguments, showing an understanding of the significance and limitations of knowledge in the field of police studies;
5. Critically evaluate and apply policing theory and principles to a range of issues.
6. Apply skills, concepts, theoretical and empirical knowledge, and methods appropriate to the study of policing to initiate, design, plan and execute research;
7. Demonstrate an ability to reach reasoned judgements about arguments and evidence based upon sound critical analysis and an understanding of different value positions;
8. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in a range of decision-making contexts related to their studies.

**Programme Structure**

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Status of Module*
1CL001	1	1	Introduction to Researching and Writing for Criminologists	20	C
1CL002	1	1	Fundamentals of Criminological Theory	20	C
1PC001	1	1	Handling service users & incidents	20	C
1PC002	1	2	Community Policing	20	C
1CL005	1	2	Crime and Deviance in a Contemporary World	20	C
1PC003	1	2	Policing Mental Health	20	C
2PC001	2	2	Public Safety and Security	20	C
2PC002	2	2	Working with Policing and/or Justice	20	C
2PC003	2	1	Priority and Volume	20	C
2CL001	2	1	Qualitative Approaches to Research	20	C
2CL002	2	1	Quantitative Approaches to Research	20	C
2PC004	2	2	Interviewing (APP Investigation)	20	C
3PC001	3	1 & 2	Independent Study	40	C
Any two from:					
3CL001	3	1	Philosophical Aspects of Criminological Theory	20	O
3CL030	3	1	Professional and Organised Crime	20	O
3CL003	3	1	Exploring Murder	20	O
3CL004	3	1	Surveillance	20	O
Any two from:					
3PC002	3	2	Managing Demand for Policing	20	O
3PC003	3	2	Safeguarding: Sex & Exploitation	20	O
3CL007	3	2	Youth, Crime and Justice	20	O
3CL008	3	2	Prisons and Penology	20	O

\*C: Compulsory, CA: Compulsory for award, O: option

**Learning, teaching and assessment**

We provide a positive learning environment and generally avoid large scale lectures. Instead you will experience a range of teaching styles and settings and a variety of approaches to learning. Classes will generally involve tutor-led input interspersed with student activities.

Activities may include small group work, discussions, guided reading and library-based research leading to feedback alongside seminars (small groups of students with a tutor) and tutorials (one-to-one meetings with a tutor). In addition, there is an emphasis on independent study outside of formal teaching sessions. This 'supported open learning' (SOL) will include directed reading tasks, student-based project work, engaging with the online virtual learning environment (VLE) and the Learning Centre and encouragement to attend guest lectures and research seminars.

The range of resources is designed to enable you to work collaboratively and build your knowledge beyond guided reading so that you are able to engage with key debates within the approaches to theory. Policing studies is a rich and varied discipline and, as such, you must be able and willing to explore the depth of knowledge and experience at your disposal. You will study challenging issues and cases. This will require you to undertake reflective learning.

Although learning about the discipline of police studies is important, the development of academic skills is not overlooked and there will be various activities which are aimed at making you more effective in the work that you produce whilst on the course. As part of this, skills which are valued by employers, such as communication, presentational and organisational skills are intrinsic to assignments. You will find further support in relation to the development of academic skills on the Programme's Moodle site.

York St. John University adopts the position that students are co-producers of knowledge rather than just recipients of it. We see students as an important aspect of a student centred approach. As such there will be opportunities for students to engage in research in different ways such as through the Research Assistant scheme. This provides students with the opportunity to take part in research projects being carried out by staff if successful. York St John University is committed to seeing students as co-creators of knowledge and we aim to ensure that you have opportunities to engage in the study of Policing rather than just hear about how knowledge is produced.

Transferable skills and competencies as evident within graduate attributes will be achieved through the tiered learning progression. As such, Level 4 and 5 have increased contact time to ensure that you have a sound grounding in the subject area in key modules; this is reduced in Level 6 in order to develop your autonomy, whilst still providing a supportive environment. In Level 6, you will be expected to engage in critical enquiry-based learning to develop your individual autonomous reasoning, analytical and research skills to a high standard.

Throughout your studies you will have an opportunity to undertake learning that is related to the careers that you may wish to pursue in the future. In Level 5, you will study specialist modules that will allow you to reflect upon a range of possible future careers. Guest speakers from the police service, former police officers/staff and people from partnership agencies will provide relevant learning experiences. You will also be encouraged to undertake volunteering activities to enhance your future employability.

You will be assigned an academic tutor in addition to module tutors. The role of the academic tutor is to provide additional support with your studies where necessary. In addition to this support the university provides extensive support in a range of academic skills, such as writing assignments and the use of the library for locating relevant information.

### **Assessment approaches**

York St John University is committed to embedding formative assessment as part of its approach to teaching, learning and assessment. These are activities which develop your understanding of how assessed work is marked and how you might produce work to a higher standard. The intention is to ensure that you receive on-going feedback relating to your learning and development which will assist you in being successful in your studies. You will encounter a range of assessment approaches which are designed to enable you to develop a range of skills and meet the learning outcomes detailed earlier. Formative and summative assessment will be

by a variety of methods appropriate to the specified Learning Outcomes for the programme, the level, and the specific module.

### **Progression and graduation requirements**

The University's [general regulations for undergraduate awards](#) apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in [the Programme Structure section](#).

### **Internal and external reference points**

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

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*Date written / revised: 08/12/16*