

Programme specification

BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology

<i>School:</i>	Psychological and Social Sciences
<i>Entry from:</i>	September 2017
<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>	
<i>Exit Awards:</i>	Certificate of Higher Education Sociology with Criminology Diploma of Higher Education Sociology with Criminology BA (Ord) Sociology with Criminology
<i>UCAS Code:</i>	L6L1
<i>Joint Honours Combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA Benchmark Group(s):</i>	Sociology 2007, Criminology 2014
<i>Mode/s of Study:</i>	Full-time for 3 years Part-time for 6 years
<i>Language of Study:</i>	English

Introduction and Special Features

BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology is a coherent programme which not only introduces you to the fundamental study of crime and deviance but does so through engaging with a range of contemporary and relevant issues. The programme achieves this by drawing upon modules which enable you to pursue a focused study relating to crime and deviance in which sociology and criminology modules complement one another. Modules within BA Sociology with Criminology provide for a consideration of how social inequalities and divisions impact upon an understanding of crime and deviance but from a sociological rather than a criminological perspective on the whole as befits the “with” pairing. This ensures that students can recognise that their studies foreground sociology but draw upon criminology.

As part of your academic development, assignments will foster critical and original thinking through structured activities and study. YSJU is committed to formative assessment and we aim to ensure that you always know how to approach your assignments and that you are aware of what a strong, and a weak, assignment looks like. We want you to do well and our aim is to enhance your employment potential at the end of the course. 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.

As part of the opportunities provided by BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology at York St John University students will be able to study abroad. In a programme that has a strong focus on encouraging students to draw upon work and examples from a range of international contexts the opportunity to experience a different culture whilst studying is seen as particularly worthwhile. Studying abroad offers you the opportunity to further develop this aspect of your studies and your personal development more generally. Study abroad is possible, subject to certain requirements, in semester 1 of year 2. Throughout your studies you will adopt a global outlook and your modules will draw upon a range of international perspectives and examples.

In summary, this is an exciting opportunity to develop detailed and critical insights into sociological and criminological issues. It also allows you to internationalise your thoughts and enhance your future employability within a vibrant and growing department.

Admissions Criteria

The University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate/postgraduate](#) apply.

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

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 learning outcomes for this programme have been designed with close reference to the Sociology benchmark (2007) and with 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). The aims of the BA (Hons) Sociology with Criminology programme aims to enable students to demonstrate an ability to:

1. Apply key concepts and theoretical approaches that have been developed, and are developing, within sociology and criminology
2. Provide critical insights into sociology and criminology to evaluate a variety of social practices that criminologists have investigated
3. Make comparative analysis when exploring issues relevant to the programme
4. Critically evaluate the relationship between individuals, groups, and power with a particular focus on experiences of deviance, crime and criminality
5. Evaluate the assumptions that are made by sociologists and criminologists
6. Critically evaluate social processes as applicable to the study of sociology with criminology
7. Apply a range of qualitative and quantitative research strategies and methods
8. Offer sociological and criminological arguments based upon appropriate evidence
9. Evaluate the possible career destinations that they may take and strategies to increase employability.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Students who gain the award specified will be able to:

FHEQ L4 Certificate of Higher Education

1. Demonstrate a broad-based knowledge and understanding of a range of underlying concepts, content and theoretical perspectives associated with studying sociology and criminology.
2. Effectively explain different sociological and criminological perspectives.
3. Present, evaluate and interpret different forms of information, evidence, data, artefacts and performances appropriate to the study of sociology and criminology.
4. Communicate effectively using a range of skills appropriate for the audience and purpose.

5. Demonstrate a range of key transferable skills (including those for lifelong learning) appropriate for further study.

FHEQ L5 Diploma of Higher Education

1. Apply theoretical perspectives and concepts to a range of issues relevant to the fields of sociology and criminology;
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of research strategies that are relevant to the study of sociology and criminology;
3. Critically analyse data and information relevant to the study of sociology and criminology;
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

FHEQ L6 Ordinary Degree

1. Show proficiency in using sociological and criminological theories and principles in the analysis and solution of complex problems.
2. Demonstrate critical evaluation of research strategies associated with sociology and criminology.
3. Proficiently use and communicate approaches to the evaluation of qualitative and quantitative data relevant to the study of sociology and criminology.
4. Acquire, organise and communicate information, ideas and arguments, showing an understanding of the significance and limitations of knowledge in the field of sociology and criminology.
5. Critically evaluate and apply sociological and criminological theory and principles to a range of issues.

Honours Degree: In addition to an Ordinary Degree students will:

6. Apply skills, concepts, theoretical and empirical knowledge, and methods appropriate to the study of sociology 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

The structure and content are shown below. Level 4 modules are designed to assist students in their transition into Higher Education and to develop a solid foundation of sociological and criminological knowledge and understanding. Level 5 builds on the knowledge and understanding acquired in Level 4. The ways that differing social groups experience crime is explored in 2CL001, 2CL002. Students studying at York St John University will have the choice of these two modules hence their designation as electives. This provides students with a degree of specialising in a way that maintains the coherence of the programme overall.

Code	Semester	Level	Module Title	Credits	Module status*

1SC001	1	4	Introduction to Sociological Thought	20	C
1SC002	1	4	Investigating Sociologically	20	C
1SC004	2	4	Identity, Discourse and Ideology	20	C
1SC006	2	4	The Sociology of Deviance	20	C
1CL002	1	4	Fundamentals of Criminological Theory	20	C
1CL005	2	4	Crime and Deviance in a Contemporary World	20	C
2CL002	1	5	Quantitative approaches to research	20	C
2SC002	2	5	Designing Sociological Investigations	20	C
2SC004	1	5	Social Inequalities: Contemporary debates	20	C
2SC006	1	5	Violence and Reconciliation	20	C
2CL004	2	5	Gender, Sexuality and Crime	20	C
2CL005	2	5	Ethnicity, Crime and the Criminal Justice System	20	C
3SC011	1	6	Advanced Social Theory	20	O
3SC005	1	6	Sociology of Murder	20	O
3CL005	2	6	Crime and Popular Culture	20	O
3CL006	1	6	Sex Work	20	O
3CL007	2	6	Youth, Crime and Justice	20	O
3SC006	2	6	Youth and Resistance	20	O
3SC002	1+2	6	Sociological Investigation	40	CA
3SC010	2	6	Death and Mortality	20	O
3CL008	2	6	Prisons and Penology	20	O
3SC022	6	2	Technology and Society	20	O
3SC026	6	2	Health, Illness and Society	20	O

***C**: Compulsory, **CP**: Compulsory for progression to the next level, **CA**: Compulsory for award, **O**: option or **E**: elective.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

We endeavour to 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. Sociology and Criminology are rich and varied disciplines 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.

Level 6 aims to further develop students' criticality as they examine a number of specialist modules that allow a detailed examination of issues that students may have captured students' interest earlier in their studies. The programme's research theme culminates in Level 6 with students undertaking independent study (3SC002). The aim of this module is to enable students to demonstrate that they are working autonomously and are able to make best use of York St John University facilities.

Although learning about the discipline of both sociology and criminology 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.

YSJU 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 Criminology 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 a specialist module that will allow you to reflect upon a range of possible future careers. Guest speakers 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.

All of your written assessments will have a word count that reflects the university guidelines. In level 4, assessed written assignments will require you to write 3,000 words. The word count for written work in level 3 is 4,000 words. The extended word count in level 6 will allow you to explore issues in greater depth in the final year of your studies. You will be given assessment criteria that will vary depending on the assessment task. Assessment will be phased in such a way as to avoid assessment deadlines producing an unnecessary burden. .

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](#)

Further Information

Further information on the programme of study may be obtained from:

- Admissions entry profile (Admissions)
- Programme validation document (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Regulations (Registry – Academic Quality Support)
- Student programme handbook (school)
- Module handbooks (school)

revised July 2017

QSC PASP approved deletion of 3SC001 and addition of 3SC010 and 3SC011 – Nov 2017

3CL010 removed from the offering from 18/19 onwards. Rob Creasy informed Quality. Nov 2018.

28.5.10 QSC PASP approved option modules 3SC022 and 3SC026.