

BSc in Criminology and Sociology

COURSE SPECIFICATION FORM

for new course proposals and course amendments

DEPARTMENT OF: School of Law			Academic Session: Valid from 2012-13		
Course Code:	CR2016	Course Value:	0.5 Unit	Status:	Optional
Course Title:	Crime and the Law			Availability:	Autumn
Prerequisites:	Year 1 core programme			Recommended:	N/A
Co-ordinator:	Rita D'Alton Harrison				
Course Staff	Rita D'Alton Harrison				
Aims:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To provide students with an understanding of the interface between criminological study and the criminal law To examine how key events in policy, society and the media affect the changing and developing criminal law To provide a critical perspective on key issues and debates within criminal law and explore how these impact upon the study of criminology 				
Learning Outcomes:	<p>On successful completion of the course, students will have developed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An understanding of the criminal law and its impact upon criminology An awareness of the changing patterns and nature of crime and judicial responses to crime Knowledge and understanding of jurisprudential philosophies justifying punishment 				
Course Content:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction: what is crime? Theoretical foundations of crime and punishment – why criminalise? The building blocks of crime: <i>actus reus</i> and <i>mens rea</i> Homicide I: murder - always a clear-cut case? Homicide II: manslaughter Non-fatal offences against the person Sexual offences Theft and Fraud – what is dishonesty? When is a crime not a crime? The difficulties of inchoate offences Course review 				
Teaching & Learning Methods:	<p>Lecture (1 hour per week)</p> <p>Seminar (1 hour per week)</p>				
Key Bibliography:	<p>Herring, J (2008) <i>Criminal Law: Text, Cases and Materials</i>. Oxford: OUP</p> <p>Martin, J and Storey, T (2007) <i>Unlocking Criminal Law</i>. London: Hodder Arnold</p> <p>*Ormerod, D (2008) <i>Smith and Hogan Criminal Law</i>. Oxford: OUP</p> <p>Simester, A and Sullivan, R (2007) <i>Criminal Law: Theory and Doctrine</i>. Oxford: Hart</p>				
Formative Assessment & Feedback:	<p>Feedback on summative essay</p> <p>Verbal feedback on seminar presentations</p>				
Summative Assessment:	<p>Exam: 2 hour exam: 2 questions out of 6 (50%)</p> <p>Coursework: 1,800-2,000 word essay (50%)</p> <p>Deadline: TBA</p>				