**BSc in Criminology and Sociology**

**COURSE SPECIFICATION FORM**

*for new course proposals and course amendments*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT OF: School of Law</th>
<th>Academic Session: Valid from 2012-13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course Code:</strong> CR2016</td>
<td><strong>Course Value:</strong> 0.5 Unit</td>
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<td><strong>Status:</strong> Optional</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Title:</strong> Crime and the Law</td>
<td><strong>Availability:</strong> Autumn</td>
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<td><strong>Prerequisites:</strong> Year 1 core programme</td>
<td><strong>Recommended:</strong> N/A</td>
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<td><strong>Co-ordinator:</strong> Rita D’Alton Harrison</td>
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<td><strong>Course Staff</strong> Rita D’Alton Harrison</td>
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**Aims:**

1. To provide students with an understanding of the interface between criminological study and the criminal law
2. To examine how key events in policy, society and the media affect the changing and developing criminal law
3. 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:**

On successful completion of the course, students will have developed:

1. An understanding of the criminal law and its impact upon criminology
2. An awareness of the changing patterns and nature of crime and judicial responses to crime
3. Knowledge and understanding of jurisprudential philosophies justifying punishment

**Course Content:**

1. Introduction: what is crime?
2. Theoretical foundations of crime and punishment – why criminalise?
3. The building blocks of crime: actus reus and mens rea
4. Homicide I: murder - always a clear-cut case?
5. Homicide II: manslaughter
6. Non-fatal offences against the person
7. Sexual offences
8. Theft and Fraud – what is dishonesty?
9. When is a crime not a crime? The difficulties of inchoate offences
10. Course review

**Teaching & Learning Methods:**

- Lecture (1 hour per week)
- Seminar (1 hour per week)

**Key Bibliography:**


**Formative Assessment & Feedback:**

- Feedback on summative essay
- Verbal feedback on seminar presentations

**Summative Assessment:**

- **Exam:** 2 hour exam: 2 questions out of 6 (50%)
- **Coursework:** 1,800-2,000 word essay (50%)
- **Deadline:** TBA

The information contained in this course outline is correct at the time of publication, but may be subject to change as part of the Department’s policy of continuous improvement and development. Every effort will be made to notify you of any such changes.