COURSE SPECIFICATION FORM

Department/ School	LAW		
With effect from Academic Session	2015/16	**Availability** (Please state which teaching terms)	Term 1
Course Title (max 70 characters) *Please also give short title where applicable (30 characters max)*	Sentencing and Penal Policy	**Course Unit Credit Value**	15 credits
Course Code	CR3029	**Course JACS Code(s)**	M200; M270; L437
Academic level	☐ Level 4	☐ Level 5	☒ Level 6
	☐ Level 7 (Masters level)	☐ Level 3 (Sub-HE)	

Programme(s) for which the course is chiefly intended.

Programme	Course status (i.e. Mandatory or Optional)	Indicate whether or not a fail in the course is **condonable** or **non-condonable**	**Co-requisites**	**Pre-requisites**
BSC Criminology & Sociology	Optional	condonable	N/A	N/A
LLB Law	Optional	condonable	N/A	N/A
BSc Criminology & Psychology	Optional	condonable	N/A	N/A

UG programmes only: If a course unit is optional, please indicate, where applicable, what group/basket of options this course unit belongs to. e

Learning Outcomes:

(Describe no more than 6 outcomes that students should be expected to achieve by the end of the course)

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. (max 50 words) Demonstrate an understanding of why we sentence and how it fits into the criminal justice system
2. (max 50 words) Demonstrate a critical understanding of what principles are adopted when sentencing
3. (max 50 words) Demonstrate a critical understanding of what principles are adopted when sentencing;
4. (max 50 words) Demonstrate an understanding of how penal policy operates in the UK and how it compares to other jurisdictions
5. (max 50 words) Demonstrate an understanding of the penal crisis;
6. (max 50 words) Evaluate critically the central ideas of penal policy;

Course Summary:

Please outline the course aims and content, max 300 words

This course aims to introduce students to sentencing and its key principes and the current issues relevant to the sentencing scholar. The course then considers the need for a defensible penal policy by reviewing the current penal crisis, the effects of expansionism, the need for reductionism and the desire to abolish. The course requires students to critically evaluate a particular area of sentencing and to develop a policy paper to propose reform to current penal policy.

The course content focuses on an introduction to sentencing and it then looks at the sentencing process and sentencing principles. The focus then moves to look at the different

	types of sentences available along with the potential for discrimination in sentencing. Students then explore the role of victims in the sentencing process. The students then move on to penal policy and consider the current penal crisis. We then move on to three key areas in penal policy which includes expansionism (looking at the US), reductionism (looking at the Scandanavaian countries) and then finally students look at the potential climate for abolisihing the prison altogether. Finally students will be reminded of the need for a defensible penal policy by looking at the warnings from history
Teaching & Learning Methods:	The total number of notional learning hours associated with this course are __150_____ These hours will normally be divided between the following activities:

Type of Activity	**Check the boxes where applicable**	**Hours per week ***	**Number of weeks ***	**Total Hours**
Lectures	☒	2	10	20
Seminars	☒	1	9	9
Tutorials	☐	type here	type here	type here
Project Supervision	☐	type here	type here	type here
Demonstration	☐	type here	type here	type here
Laboratory classes	☐	type here	type here	type here
Practical Classes and Workshops	☐	type here	type here	type here
Supervised time in Studio/Workshop	☐	type here	type here	type here
Field trips	☐	type here	type here	type here
External Visits	☐	type here	type here	type here
Work Based Learning	☐	type here	type here	type here
Placement	☐	type here	type here	type here
Study Abroad	☐	type here	type here	type here
Individual Supervisory Sessions	☐	type here	type here	type here
Guided Independent Study	☒	10	12	121
Other (please include detail)	☐	type here	type here	type here

Completion of the Total Hours column is compulsory.

** Completing these fields is optional, but is useful for planning and reporting purposes.*

Reading list materials:	**<u>Books and other reading list materials to be purchased by students (where applicable):</u>** *Please list* Cavadino, M. Dignan, J. and Mair, G. (2013) The Penal System: An Introduction. Fifth Edition. London: Sage

Core/essential reading list material (print, electronic, etc.) for the course (6-10 titles only):

Please list

Ashworth, A. (2015) Sentencing and Criminal Justice. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (published in July 2015).

Ashworth, A. and von Hirsch, A. (2004) Proportionate Sentencing. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Christie, N. (2000) Crime Control as Industry. London: Routledge.

Easton, S. and Piper, C. (2012) Sentencing and Punishment: The Quest for Justice. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Garland, D. (2001) Mass Imprisonment: Social Causes and Consequences. London: Sage.

Home Office (1990) Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public white paper Cm 965

Liebling, A. (2004) Prisons and their Moral Performance, Oxford: Oxford University Press, Oxford

Mathiesen, T. (2000) Prison on Trial, Hants: Waterside Press.

Ruggiero, V. (2010) Penal Abolitionism Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Rutherford, A. (1993) Criminal Justice and the Pursuit of Decency. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Formative Assessment *(assessment which does not contribute to the marks awarded for the course unit)* & **Feedback on this assessment:**

On what activities (e.g. coursework, seminars etc) will students receive feedback? What will the main modes of feedback be for each activity?

Activity	**Mode of feedback**
Group activity- essay plans	Verbal and written feedback to essay plans
individual activity-How to make penal policy- reading a policy paper	written feeedback
click here and type	click here and type
click here and type	click here and type

Summative Assessment (assessment which contributes to the final marks awarded for the course unit):

Method	**%**	**Typical KIS sub-categories** *(See Guidance notes)*
Coursework	100	e.g., Essay, Report, Dissertation, Portfolio, Project Output, Set Exercise 1 x essay and 1 x policy paper
Practical Exam(s)	type here	e.g., Oral Assessment, Presentation, Practical Skills Assessment, Set Exercise click here and type
Written Exam(s)	type here	e.g., Written Exam, Set Exercise click here and type

Please list all assessments, indicating length (i.e. word count), hours, KIS sub-category, etc. Please also indicate whether the assessment is completed individually or as a group.

Method of Assessment (coursework, practical or written exam)	**%**	Detail (length, hours, group/ individual)	KIS Sub-Category

Coursework Essay	50	2500 words	type here
Coursework Policy paper	50	2500 words	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here
click here and type	type here	type here	type here

Name and email of course leader/ contact:	Robert Jago r.jago@rhul.ac.uk
Signatures of HoDs in the sponsoring departments to certify that the Department Boards have agreed to the above proposal and that resources are being made available in the department(s) to support it.	
Name: Rosie Meek	Department: Law Date: 4/3/15
Name: click here and type	Department: click here and type Date: click here and type
Date proposal considered by PAP: click here and type Signature of Chair: click here and type	☐ Course approved ☐ Course **not** approved
Comments: click here and type	

Version: Sep 14

The information contained in this course specification 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.