Programme Specification 2025-26

1.	**Programme title**	MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice
2.	**Awarding institution**	Middlesex University
3a	**Teaching institution**	1 Middlesex University London
3b	**Language of study**	English

4a	**Valid intake dates and mode of study**

Mode of Study	Cohort	Delivery Location	Duration
Full-time (FT)	Semester 1	Hendon	1 Years
Full-time (FT)	Semester 2	Hendon	1 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 1	Hendon	2 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 2	Hendon	2 Years

4c	**Delivery method**	

5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body (if applicable)
N/A

6.	**Apprenticeship Standard** (if applicable)	N/A

7. Final qualification(s) available
Target Award Title(s)
MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice
Exit Award Title(s)
PGCert Criminology and Criminal Justice
PGDip Criminology and Criminal Justice

8. Academic year effective from	2025-26

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Applicants must have a minimum of a 2:2 undergraduate honours degree or above in the social sciences or a related discipline, or an equivalent qualification.

Applicants with other qualifications and/or substantial work experience in the field of criminology will also be considered under the Recognition of Prior Learning scheme. Past learning or experience will be mapped against existing programme modules and academic credit may be awarded towards the programme of study.

Overseas applicants should be competent in English and have achieved as a minimum IELTS. Overall, 6.5 with a minimum 6.0 in each component. We normally require Grade C GCSE or an equivalent qualification.

Applicants with a disability can enter the programme. The programme team have experience of adapting teaching provision to accommodate a range of disabilities and learning difficulties and welcome applications.

Applicants from the IMARC programme would need to receive relevant module(s) accreditation before entering on Term 2

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

Foster an in-depth understanding, critical awareness and engagement with major theoretical trends and debates in contemporary criminology and criminal justice, with attention to debates that have global and societal relevance and practical application.

Develop student's knowledge and understanding of a range of contemporary and international crime and offending types (i.e. terrorism & violent extremism, cybercrime and security, serious youth violence, drugs crime etc.) enabling them to critically analyse research, theory, policy and practice in respect of these.

Engage students in generating new ideas and radical, solution-focused suggestions at local, national and international levels that pertain to justice system responses and engage with comparative perspectives (in policing and security, the courts, prisons, probation and in youth justice).

Equip students with professional skills in conducting research (i.e. data collection & analysis) and building sophisticated understandings of criminal justice policymaking and its intersecting role with stakeholder organisations, community-based and civil society groups and with professional practice.

Build in-depth knowledge and understanding of professional practice within youth and adult justice systems and the wider range of sectors involved in attempts to create multi-agency and effective responses (e.g. schools, family intervention and support, community-based safeguarding services etc.)

11.	**Programme learning outcomes**

Programme - Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. Contemporary theories, concepts and debates relating to core criminology and criminal justice topics and new and emerging forms of crime

2. The major criminal justice institutions and their role in the justice process with a critical awareness of the social and ideological contexts in which certain legislative, justice system and policy reforms are implemented

3. The intersectionality of power in relation to crime and law and order responses (impacting gender, race, and class) and the way systems often intertwine with power and privilege and can marginalize certain groups of people

4. International and comparative justice perspectives

5. Different and mixed-method research methodologies used to explore criminology and criminal justice topics from traditional social science methods to contemporary styles, the contexts in which to apply them and the practical, ethical and moral underpinnings of conducting empirical research

6. Criminal justice policy-making and its intersecting role with societal challenges and priorities and with stakeholder organisations, community-based and civil society groups and with professional practice.

Programme - Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

7. Critically examine contemporary theoretical perspectives and global debates in criminology and criminal justice

8. Critically assess research, policy and practice scholarship from within criminology, criminal justice and intersecting disciplines that are advancing knowledge and generating solution-focused and social justice alternative ways of thinking

9. Analyse and interpret quantitative and textual data to deduce significant findings

10. Retrieve, synthesise and evaluate a wide range of information resources and research evidence and formulate structured arguments and conclusions based on evidence

11. Design and conduct an original empirical research project or a systematic workplace case study that is informed by wide and current understandings in criminology and criminal justice

12. Communicate knowledge and insights clearly in a form accessible to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

12. Teaching/learning methods

Students gain the knowledge and skills central to this programme through a range of teaching and learning methods. Weekly class sessions are on-campus and delivered as interactive and participatory and in which research-informed teaching is foregrounded.

Seminar sessions are based on weekly readings, pre-set activities and information retrieval tasks relevant to syllabus topics. Student-led small group work activities are embedded, in which students present as a team in a role play situation, such as acting as a senior leadership team within a local probation service, a prison, a drugs treatment service etc. giving students experience of engaging in teamwork and practice-based practical exercises. Field trips and guest speakers enrich the learning experience and ensure insights are gained from the field. Middlesex University's London location provides a unique dimension and opportunities for national and international students to experience criminal justice relevant field-visits, such as to the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey) where criminal justice proceedings are observed, the Royal Courts of Justice, local prisons in London and the South East, walking trips to explore crime and surveillance in the city, trips to the Koestler Exhibition at the Southbank Centre etc.

Learning is as also supported through directed independent study, the provision of handbooks, reading lists and web-based materials. Individual or small group tutorial sessions are encouraged.

Approx. number of timetabled hours per week (at each level of study, as appropriate), including on-campus and online hours

FT 8 hours per week on campus

PT 4 hours per week (on average)

Approx. number of hours of independent study per week (at each level of study, as appropriate)

FT 43 hours per week

PT 21.5 hours per week (on average)

Approx. number of hours on placement (including placement, work-based learning or year abroad, as appropriate).

FT / PT 29 timetabled hours for seminar sessions (12 x 2 hours) + 5 hours individual supervision = Total 29 timetabled hours)

Independent hours: 523

Placement hours: 48

13. Employability
13a Development of graduate competencies
13b Employability development

A range of graduate competencies are developed throughout the programme which positions students well for the workplace and professional employment settings they go onto. Students are taught to locate their study within its wider interdisciplinary context, integrating understandings

from criminology and criminal justice, law, the social sciences, policing, health sciences and policy studies etc. and are encouraged to articulate feasible solutions to the type of complex global, national and local issues and problems they are grappling with. With this, students are able to demonstrate their contribution to creating genuine impact and ideas for social change and is evidence they are operating with a strategic entrepreneurial mindset, leadership and innovation and independent learning.

Different modules on the programme develop students' professional skills relevant to real world workplace settings, ethical practice and professional integrity. The independent research dissertation project or the placement or work-based experience students undertake, develops their competencies in leading research initiatives, or a professional projects and evidences planning and organizational skills. It enables them to demonstrate exercising authority in shaping the direction of academic work, they influence they make with relevant stakeholders building effective communication, insight, and expertise.

Small group and team work in class sessions builds students confidence and interpersonal and collaboration skills that are critical in workplace and employment environments. It facilitates knowledge exchange, applies critical thinking and advanced problem-solving skills within teams, respectfully challenging peers to ensure creative, positive outcomes.

The core 'Research Strategies in the Social Sciences' module builds students capabilities and technological agility, through the experience and competence gained with using computer-assisted data analysis tools, SPSS and NVIVO. Other modules, such as 'Terrorism and Violent Extremism', 'Cyber Safety, Security and Practice', AI, Ethics and Digital Society' etc. also incorporate knowledge and awareness and use of cutting-edge tools and platforms to enhance research, innovation, and professional practice. Students are able to demonstrate they are adapting to and are competent in the world of rapid and changing technological landscapes, including the emergence of generative AI, understanding and utilising new technologies or techniques that are transformative to the field and ensuring that technological solutions are applied ethically and effectively.

13c Placement and work experience opportunities (if applicable)

N/A

13d Future careers / progression

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14. Assessment methods

Students' knowledge, understanding and skills are assessed by:

Individual seminar and recorded presentations

Range of written assignments

Project and portfolio work

Policy reports

Research briefings

Empirical research or analysis of data

Contribution to online discussion boards

Case studies

Observation

15. Programme Structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

Structure is indicative for Part-time routes.

Students must take all of the compulsory modules and choose following programme requirements from the optional modules.

Non-compensatable modules are noted below.

Available Pathways
Not Applicable

Year 1 FT and PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4611	Compulsory	Youth Crime and Justice 2025-26	30 at Level 7
CRM4633	Compulsory	Global Criminology: From Theory to Practice 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4629	Compulsory	Research Strategies in Social Sciences 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4634	Compulsory	Criminal Justice, Courts and Prisons 2025-26	30 at Level 7
CRM4636	Compulsory	Terrorism and Violent Extremism – Transformations and Responses 2025-26	15 at Level 7

Year 1 FT Optional Modules

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4624	Optional	Policing and Investigate Psychology 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4618	Optional	Drugs and Crime 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4637	Optional	AI, Ethics, and Digital Society 2025-26	15 at Level 7
SSC4806	Optional	Climate Justice 2025-26	15 at Level 7
LEX4815	Optional	International Criminal Law 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4635	Optional	Cyber Safety, Security and Practice 2025-26	15 at Level 7
CRM4623	Optional	Short Term Placement 2025-26	15 at Level 7

Year 1 FT Dissertation Options

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4617	Optional	Dissertation 2025-26	60 at Level 7
CRM4631	Optional	Work Based Project 2025-26	60 at Level 7

Year 2 PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4629	Compulsory	Research Strategies in Social Sciences 2026-27	15 at Level 7
CRM4611	Compulsory	Youth Crime and Justice 2026-27	30 at Level 7
CRM4633	Compulsory	Global Criminology: From Theory to Practice 2026-27	15 at Level 7

Year 2 PT Optional Modules

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4624	Optional	Policing and Investigate Psychology 2026-27	15 at Level 7
CRM4618	Optional	Drugs and Crime 2026-27	15 at Level 7
CRM4637	Optional	AI, Ethics, and Digital Society 2026-27	15 at Level 7
SSC4806	Optional	Climate Justice 2026-27	15 at Level 7
LEX4815	Optional	International Criminal Law 2026-27	15 at Level 7
CRM4635	Optional	Cyber Safety, Security and Practice 2026-27	15 at Level 7
CRM4623	Optional	Short Term Placement 2026-27	15 at Level 7

Year 2 PT Dissertation Options

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
CRM4617	Optional	Dissertation 2026-27	60 at Level 7
CRM4631	Optional	Work Based Project 2026-27	60 at Level 7

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

16. Programme-specific support for learning
A wide range of academic and learning support services are available to students on the MSc. Criminology and Criminal Justice. An introduction to the library, on-line resource collections and the on-line learning blackboard MyMDX are provided at the induction event. Academic skills and writing workshops are held at different points throughout the programme covering the use of the library catalogues, searching databases and developing good practice in academic writing. Ongoing advice, information and support is available from the Learner Enhancement Team (LET). Students are encouraged to take full advantage of these university-level support schemes and facilities during their studies. The library holds copies and electronic versions of core texts and recommended reading on the MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice. Material not in stock but required for individual research/dissertations can be obtained via the British Library on completion of a request form. The UK Libraries Plus Scheme also provides access to local participating libraries. Students can apply to join this scheme at the library enquiries desk. Additional workshops are organised within Criminology and Sociology to develop students' computer aided data analysis skills.

17. HECos code(s)	000000: Not applicable

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	

19. University Regulations
This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: [Policies	Middlesex University](#)

20. Reference points

21. Other information *(if applicable)*

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A1	Business strategy and leadership, and emerging issues and developments in contemporary global supply chain management practice;
A2	Core concepts, techniques and contemporary practice of procurement and operational excellence, analytics, supply chain management strategies and planning, and logistics across a variety of business sectors;
A3	Current issues of global concern such as sustainability, ethics, and social responsibility and how these relate to leadership, contemporary operations, supply chain and logistics practice;
A4	Current developments and insights into areas such as project management, and international trade and multinational organisations;
A5	Research philosophy, methodology, methods, data analysis for both primary and secondary research or experiential learning and reflection on effective business decisions, leading to the development of informed decision-making processes

Skills

B1	Critically analyse, review, evaluate and apply theoretical perspectives and core concepts of strategy, leadership, procurement and operational management;
B2	Critically review and apply supply chain management and sustainable logistics strategies;
B3	Critically review the role of emerging technologies, quantitative modelling and analytics, specialised quantitative decision-making and problem-solving techniques used in supply chain management and their application to real-world supply chain problems and systems;
B4	Present well-reasoned, reflective, and, where appropriate, creative arguments that demonstrate advanced understanding of global supply chain management decisions in contemporary practice, particularly within the contexts of global trade, multinational organizations, or project management;
B5	Develop and justify the research process, critically review relevant literature and practices in global supply chain management, and effectively plan, structure, and manage a research or practical project at an advanced level, resulting in well-informed business decisions and the enhancement of decision-making processes.
B6	gain insight from experiential learning and reflection on effective business decisions, leading to the development of informed and evidence-based decision-making processes.

Programme learning outcomes - Highest level achieved by graduates

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Module Title Level 7	Module Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6
Operations and Procurement Excellence	MGT4928	x	x	x			x			x		
Strategic Leadership	MGT4642	x		x			x					
Managing Projects or Trade and the Multinational Enterprise	MGT4926 ECS4580			x	x					x		
Supply Chain Planning and Analytics	MGT4929		x	x					x	x		
Supply Chain Management Strategies	MGT4230		x	x				x	x			
Sustainable Logistics	MGT4931		x	x				x	x			
Applied Dissertation	MGT4949					x	x	x	x	x	x	
Postgraduate Placement or Business Transformation Project	MGT4940 MGT4941											x