

## Module specification

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Module Code	PSYON707
Module Title	Mental Disorder and Crime
Level	7
Credit value	15
Faculty	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100387
Cost Code	GAPS

## Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
MSc Forensic Psychology	Core

## Pre-requisites

None

## Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	15 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
<b>Total active learning and teaching hours</b>	<b>15 hrs</b>
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	135 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	<b>150 hrs</b>

For office use only	
Initial approval date	18/05/2021
With effect from date	September 2021



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Date and details of revision	21/02/2024 – updated assessment strategy from May 2024 onwards.
Version number	2

## Module aims

To critically explore the nature of mental disorder; the relationship between mental disorder and crime, and the challenges that arise from the legal framework for managing mentally disordered offenders.

## Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Critically analyse the relationship between mental disorder and crime
2	Provide a critical historical account of how mental disorder has been identified and managed
3	Critically assess the processes and the challenges associated with identifying and managing mentally disordered offenders

## Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

1. Essay (1000 words): Students to critically explore the link between mental disorder and crime.
2. Critical Appraisal (2000 words): Historical overview of how a specific mental disorder is identified and managed (including treatment), and critically assess the process and challenges of this within offender populations with that specific mental disorder.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1	Written Assignment	30
2	2, 3	Written Assignment	70

## Derogations

None



## Learning and Teaching Strategies

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The overall learning and teaching strategy will include a series of lectures with accompanying media devices. There will be a mix of supporting notes/along with directed study for students to complete as they work through the material and undertake the assessment tasks. The use of a range digital tools within the virtual learning environment together with additional sources of reading will also be utilised to promote breadth and depth of learning.

## Indicative Syllabus Outline

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- Classification systems (DSM, ICD)
- Major illnesses and personality disorder
- Forensic processes and assessment
- Pharmacological treatments
- Correlates of mental disorder
- Mental Health Acts
- Bedlams and Asylums
- Health and legal provisions (incl. Community Treatment Orders)
- Mental disorder and the secure estate

## Indicative Bibliography:

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Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

### Essential Reads

Prins, H (2015) *Offenders, Deviants or Patients? An Introduction to Clinical Criminology*. London: Routledge

### Other indicative reading

Bonta, J., Law, M. and Hanson, K.(1998). 'The prediction of criminal and violent recidivism among mentally disordered offenders: a meta-analysis'. *Psychological Bulletin*, 123(2), p.123.

Canter, D. (2017). *Criminal Psychology*. London: Routledge

Davies, G and Beech, A (2017) *Forensic Psychology: Crime, Justice, Law and Interventions*. Chichester: British Psychological Society and John Wiley and Sons

Hare, R.D (1996) 'Psychopathy: A clinical construct whose time has come'. *Criminal Justice and Behaviour*, 23(1) pp. 25-54

Lorber, M.F (2004) 'Psychophysiology of Aggression, Psychopathy and Conduct problems: A meta-analysis'. *Psychological Bulletin* (4)130, p.531-552.

Lurigio, A (2011) 'People with serious mental illness in the Criminal Justice System: Causes, consequences and correctives'. *The Prison Journal* 91(3) pp66-86

Prins (2005) 'Mental Disorder and Violent Crime: A Problematic Relationship'. *Probation Journal* 52(4) pp.333-357.

Silver, E., Felson, R.B and Vaneseltine, M (2008) 'The Relationship between mental health problems and violence amongst criminal offenders' *Criminal Justice and Behaviour*, 35(4)pp. 405-42.

Tyler, N., Miles, H.L., Karadag, B. and Rogers, G. (2019) 'An updated picture of the mental health needs of male and female prisoners in the UK: prevalence, comorbidity, and gender differences'. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 54(9), pp.1143-1152.

Yu, R., Geddes, J.R and Fazel, S (2012) 'Personality disorders, violence and anti-social behaviour: A systematic review and meta-regression analysis'. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 26(5), 775-792

## **Employability – the University Skills Framework**

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Each module and programme is designed to cover core Graduate attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave the University having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment. The programme is designed to cover all attributes and each module may cover different areas.

### **Core Attributes**

Engaged  
Enterprising  
Ethical

### **Key Attitudes**

Commitment  
Curiosity  
Resilience  
Confidence  
Adaptability

### **Practical Skillsets**

Digital Fluency  
Organisation  
Leadership and Team working  
Critical Thinking  
Emotional Intelligence  
Communication