REDEFINE
WITH A MASTERS
MSc CRIMINOLOGY
REDEFINE AT STIRLING
Our MSc Criminology establishes clear connections between conceptual theories of crime and justice, and applied examples of how they affect contemporary societies. The course has an international focus that goes beyond UK or Scottish borders, making it appealing for a diverse student cohort.

Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on the need for a strong critical understanding of how research is framed, used and developed which is delivered via modules in data analysis and research design, as well as criminological and socio-legal research methods. With elective modules in specialist subjects such as rehabilitation and criminal justice work; drug policy and interventions; and criminalisation, social control and human rights, students can acquire and develop a range of skills which will significantly enhance both their confidence in criminology and their employability.

The course content encourages pursuit of innovative and socially just responses to the problem of crime from crimes in the streets or at home, to crimes of the powerful, crimes across borders, the much newer phenomenon of online crime or the drug problem.
IS CRIMINOLOGY FOR ME?

Criminologists are interested in how activities are defined as criminal, explanations for crime, punishment and who gets punished, and the relationship between criminal justice and social justice.

Criminologists consider how and why people stop offending and leave crime behind, advancing understanding of how communities can enable desistance and recovery, and working with governments to try to achieve positive systems-change.

Through this course, you’ll have the intellectual space and opportunities to explore concepts of criminal justice, the social contexts of crime, and a variety of criminological theoretical perspectives as well as applied insights into drug interventions and rehabilitation. Creative, participatory and reflexive approaches to teaching and learning feature in this course. The course is ideal for those who are keen to continue their studies at postgraduate level, as well as for practitioners who wish to consolidate existing experience and training with a Masters qualification.

RESEARCH AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As a Masters graduate in criminology, you’ll have the opportunity to pursue a number of career routes in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Graduates in criminology can go onto roles in the police, prison service, probation and community justice, courts, human rights advocacy, youth work, women’s justice and recovery services, victim support, surveillance, intelligence services, services for individuals or families affected by drug use, drug policy and information organisations and various charities and social enterprises.

With a combination of specialist theoretical and methodological knowledge, as well as critical-analytical skills, the course is also a great platform for those considering research and policy-related roles.

You can find out more about funding opportunities at: stir.ac.uk/scholarships
1. Our academic teaching staff offer expert guidance - we’re ranked 1st in Scotland and 3rd in the UK for Criminology (Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019).

2. Our course showcases international perspectives on criminology and criminal justice, which go beyond a UK focus.

3. This course offers interdisciplinary insights into poignant and pressing current social issues such as terrorism, ethical uses of technology in criminal justice, the issues faced by women in criminal justice, drug policy reform, emergence and regulation of psychoactive substances or tracing the links between poverty and imprisonment.

4. You will gain a critical understanding of how research is framed, used and developed, and by whom, in criminology. Our academics are members of an internationally leading research centre, the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR). Our research features in the media and is used by policymakers and practice leaders.

5. Specialist modules in rehabilitation and criminal justice work as well as drug policies and interventions can help to build your professional knowledge and skills and shape your future career.
The course is designed to be flexible and to suit the needs of our students. Our selection of core and elective modules is designed to suit those both new to criminology and those with a background in the subject.

If students don’t have a background in Social Science, then Research Design and Process becomes a core module. For those students, taking Quantitative Data Analysis and/or Qualitative Data Analysis modules is highly recommended.

Semester 1

Core modules:
- Criminological Perspectives
- Dissertation

Elective modules:
- Rehabilitation and Criminal Justice Work
- Reflexivity and Observation
- Research Design and Process
- Quantitative Data Analysis
- Social Network Analysis

Semester 2

Core modules:
- Socio-legal Research Methods

Elective modules:
- Criminalisation, Social Control and Human Rights
- Reflexivity and Observation
- Drug Use, Policy and Interventions
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Advanced Data Analysis
- Comparative Social Research
- Policy Analysis and Evaluation
- Advanced Data Management
- Using ‘Big Data’ in Social Research

For further information on course content visit: stir.ac.uk/1kc
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of a second class Honours degree (2:1 preferred) in a relevant subject or equivalent is required. Applicants without these formal qualifications but with relevant work or life experience are encouraged to apply.

TUITION FEES AND FUNDING

Details of tuition fees can be found at: stir.ac.uk/1kc

Funding opportunities at the University of Stirling can be found on our scholarships finder. For details, please visit: stir.ac.uk/scholarships

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

If English is not your first language you must have one of the following qualifications as evidence of your English language skills:

- IELTS: 6.5 with 6.0 minimum in each skill
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): Grade C or above
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): Grade B or above
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): 60 with 56 in each component
- IBT TOEFL: 90 with no subtest less than 20

If you do not meet the required score, you may be able to register for one of our pre-sessional English courses. For more information, visit: stir.ac.uk/1b4

CONTACT INFORMATION

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stir.ac.uk
stir.ac.uk/1kc

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Photography: For a list of photographers who have contributed to the University of Stirling photo library, contact: marketingtools@stir.ac.uk

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