

Programme Specification

Programme Title and Name of Award	BSc (Hons) Criminology with Forensic Investigation (with integrated foundation year)		
Academic Level	6	Total Credits	480
Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification	Not Applicable		
Date of Professional Body Accreditation	Not Applicable	Accreditation Period	Not applicable
UCAS Code	L613		
HECoS Code	100484 Criminology (50%) 100388 Forensic (50%)		
Criteria for Admission to the Programme	<p>The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the Applicant Information pages of the University website for more information. For APL, please refer to the University website. Please note that APL will not be permitted at Level 3 on this programme. Students who have studied an alternative Level 3 programme but have a confirmed fail in a core module on that programme with a mark in the range 35-39%, may be considered for transfer onto Level 4 of this programme. In these circumstances, normal university procedures apply and, provided that you meet the entry requirements and any pre-requisites for the alternative programme, then a transfer may be considered subject to space being available on that programme.</p> <p>https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/foundation-courses/</p> <p>Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage: https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/criminology-with-forensic-investigation-with-integrated-foundation-year/</p>		
Teaching Institution	University of Cumbria		
Owning Department	Business, Law, Policing & Social Sciences		
Programme delivered in conjunction with	Institute of Science, Natural Resources and Outdoor Studies (SNROS)		

Principal Mode of Delivery	Blended Learning
Pattern of Delivery	Full Time (Level 3 delivered full-time only) This programme may also be made available on an infill part-time basis at the discretion of the academic programme
Delivery Site(s)	Fusehill Street, Carlisle
Programme Length	Full time: 4 years (Minimum) / 8 years (Maximum)
Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR)	Upon successful completion of this programme, you may receive a Diploma Supplement/Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).
Exit Awards	You may be awarded one of the following Exit Awards if you fail to achieve the requirements of the full programme. BSc Criminology with Forensic Investigation (420 credits) DipHE Criminology with Forensic Investigation (360 credits) CertHE Criminology with Forensic Investigation (240 credits) FdCert Social Sciences (120 credits)
Period of Approval	1 August 2020 to 31 July 2026

Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change
- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible
- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time
- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others
- Confident in your digital capabilities
- Able to manage your own professional and personal development
- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment
- A leader of people and of places
- Ambitious and proud

Programme Features

What happens after a crime is committed? How do we make sense of crime, offending and victimisation and how can the use of forensic investigation enhance our understanding of it? If you ever wanted to know this, the BSc (Hons) in Criminology with Forensic Investigation brings together two interrelated study strands into one-degree programme. Your understanding of diverse forms of crime and disorder, but also social harms, exclusion and division, and their connections to offending and victimisation will be enhanced by the study of the criminal justice sector and the place of forensic science in criminal investigations.

The integrated foundation year (Year 0) provides the opportunity for you to settle into University life and gain the confidence and skills to succeed in your chosen degree through participating in a supportive academic, personal and professional development programme. One of the key features of the Law and Social Science foundation year entry route is its wide applicability to a range of potential careers and/or opportunities for further study. The foundation year modules will serve to provide you with an excellent grounding in a range of law and social science subject areas including sociology, criminology, law, psychology, policing and investigation, consequently the activities and assessments have been designed to include varying levels of choice when it comes to the focus of the work you undertake, for example: in a number of modules you will have an opportunity to identify a population or contemporary issue of your choice as the focus of your research

You will explore the nature and the relationship between crime, society and police taking modules in Families, Communities and the Criminal Justice System, Professional Practice in the Community and Contemporary Issues and the Media along with students from other programmes and departments. You will be investigating key contemporary issues relating to your subject area through the lens of the media and analysing the role and influence the media has on society's appreciation of these issues. Through investigating the work of community groups, you will gain an appreciation of the roles within and requirements of organisations as well as developing key employability skills such as reflective practice in a work context. There is an opportunity within this module to further enhance key skills through undertaking volunteering with a community group of your choice linked to your degree area. You will also take a subject specific module that introduces you to Criminology as a discipline, legal systems, the Police service and investigative practice and intelligence gathering; along with two further university-wide modules that prepare students for study in Higher Education. The foundation year offers a good introduction to understanding a range of social and community settings in society and contemporary issues. You will develop problem solving skills, knowledge and a grounding in essential academic skills whilst nurturing career aspirations.

Throughout the integrated foundation year you will have the opportunity to develop your professional skills by developing key soft skills such as communication, team working, self-management and organisation. During the generic university wide modules, you will make links with the careers team to discuss your skill development and to help you reflect on how these link to your employability and gradueness. This will be accompanied by working on your digital skills profile, ensuring you have access to the universities MOOC's and 'Linked in Learning' to help build upon your current level of IT literacy.

Moving into the BSc programme at Level 4 (year 2), the applied nature of the programme means that you will focus on how Criminological approaches and Forensic Investigation are used in the real world, to inform policy and practice and more generally to enhance your understanding of a constantly changing global world. This will include exploring the relationships between power, crime and social change, policing, youth justice, race, ethnicity, gender and the impact of globalisation on understanding crime and deviance. You will also be focussing on how forensic science is applied in the real world, within criminal investigations such as processing crime scenes and analysing exhibits in the laboratory.

The teaching team comes from a range of backgrounds, bringing with them a wealth of expertise and research from community, voluntary sector, policing and criminal justice settings. Tapping into

this expertise, you will be given a range of opportunities to explore the professional application of theory in simulated situations based on real world scenarios. This includes engaging in multi-agency risk management procedures and determining the approaches that are followed by different criminologically informed professions. You will learn in environments, which replicate the relevant workplace setting. The use of specialist facilities is embedded within your programme to provide you with a realistic experience of your professional context. A focus on professional competency and readiness for work is embedded within your programme so that, on completion of your studies, you can operate confidently and effectively in your chosen careers and be active in your personal and career development.

During your studies in Criminology with Forensic Investigation you will work along-side serving professionals from Cumbria Constabulary and Northwest Ambulance Service during a mock Major incident exercise based upon real world industry-based skills learned in our crime house. You will also gain hands-on experience in our state-of-the-art laboratories using the latest Forensic evidence enhancement techniques, working alongside highly skilled academics. Leadership and creativity are also key themes, all of which are designed to give you the required skill set to enhance your employability and succeed at interview.

You will be learning in small lecture and seminar groups alongside your peers on the Criminology with Forensic Investigation, Criminology with Applied Psychology and Criminology programmes. This gives you the opportunity to share ideas and experiences, maximising your knowledge and exposure to varying teaching methods. You will learn in environments, which replicate the relevant workplace setting. The specific focus on applying research methods to real world problems from the first year of your degree will enhance your subject knowledge and provide you with the tools applicable to a range of criminal justice and allied careers. Support for employability and volunteering is embedded within your programme to provide you with a realistic experience of your professional context. A focus on professional competency and readiness for work ensures that, on completion of your studies, you can operate confidently and effectively in your chosen careers and be active in your personal and career development.

The programme builds upon existing links and established interconnections between the various subject groups involved, and the broader professional community. The department and programme staff are members of British Society of Criminology, British Sociological Association, and Association of Legal Studies, and have an ongoing and collaborative working relationship with, amongst others, the Police, Probation, Law Society, Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, the British Psychological Society, and a number of voluntary and commercial organisations.

What is distinct about studying for a Criminology degree at the University of Cumbria is an embedded programme focus on the Cumbrian region. Famous for its beautiful scenery, lakes and mountains, Cumbria is a very popular tourist destination with 23 million people visiting a year. And yet, although not on the scale of larger urban areas, it still experiences the whole range of crime and social harm, while the geographical terrain, isolated communities and rurality present a number of unique challenges to implementation of law enforcement policies, strategies and meeting victim's needs.

Throughout the programme, you will explore issues of green and environmental crime and will be encouraged to consider the associated forensic concerns. Cumbria has one of the few nuclear power stations in the country, which can attract protest and activism. The controversial 'sport' of fox-hunting, now illegal, has a long history in Cumbria. Hunting, both legal and illegal, remains a point of contention for rural communities, attracting protesters and saboteurs. These phenomena matter and you will be invited to consider these and other intersecting themes critically and criminologically throughout the programme.

Studying Criminology with Forensic Investigation at the University of Cumbria allows you to develop an appreciation and understanding of the global, national and local perspectives on crime. We look at

the ways in which policies and legislation at each of those levels shape responses to crime and the role of the different actors within the criminal justice systems and the polity.

Your study of Forensic Investigation encompasses a wide range of topics. Many people imagine that it will involve time dressed in white overalls, processing crime scenes. Although evidence collection and crime scene management is one of the roles of a forensic investigator, equally important is the analysis and interpretation of the evidence, and the applications of these skills to ensure authenticity and evidential value. You will gain hands-on practical experience of your subject whilst focusing on how forensic science is applied in the real world, within criminal investigations such as processing crime scenes and analysing exhibits in the laboratory.

In the first year of the programme you will study a range of modules designed to introduce you to core theoretical concepts in criminology, policing and social science. You will study how crime, social justice and victims interlink. You will study the criminal justice system in England and Wales and learn about the individual roles and responsibilities within the key organisations. Your bespoke forensic modules will introduce you to crime scene and investigation and forensic evidence and you will become familiar with the fundamentals of analytical and investigative principles.

The second and third years build on these critical Criminology foundations and deepen your skills in Forensic Investigation, you will be introduced to the key concepts underpinning forensic investigation, from crime scene to court. Emphasis is placed on quantitative techniques to analyse and interpret evidence.

Criminology with Forensic Investigation is an extremely varied, interdisciplinary programme, constantly growing, evolving and developing to deal with new forms of crime and the challenges they present to the criminal justice system and law enforcement. Feeding your passion for all things forensic, a focus on professional competency and readiness for work is embedded within your programme so that, on completion of your studies, you can operate confidently and effectively in your chosen careers and be active in your personal and career development.

A degree in Criminology with Forensic Investigation will enable you to engage with diverse forms of crime and harm and explain their presence in social structures and institutions in society. You will be able to boost the criminological understanding by espousing a scientific approach to evidence and investigation. You will be able to apply that knowledge to criminal justice policy and the criminal justice system and explore new and innovative ideas and strategies aimed at reducing social harm, criminality and meeting the needs of victims.

This programme seeks to incrementally increase your subject knowledge alongside your academic development and further seeks to ensure that at the point of leaving you have those employability skills to be best position yourself for your chosen career or with the skills necessary to move forward to Postgraduate study. In all cases, the programme seeks to ensure you are prepared for lifelong learning. To achieve this, Criminology with Forensic Investigation will equip you with the academic, research, analytical and problem-solving skills suited to a wide range of careers within both the criminal justice system and some commercial settings.

Our aim is to prepare you for success in the field of forensic investigation interfacing with criminal justice institutions facing novel challenges and supply you with a skill set necessary to those who wish to pursue professional careers within these. The research and practical skills the programme offers are highly valued by a breadth of potential employers. That will open up a wealth of potential employment opportunities in organisations, across the public and private sector, in business and within a range of charitable organisations, all of which, in various different forms, engage in practices within the methodological principles offered by criminology and forensic investigation.

The University of Cumbria employability strategy 'My Career Enriched' recognises the need to embed employability throughout the curriculum. The Criminology with Forensic Investigation programme adopts the Career Ahead Employability Award as its employability framework. Within, the employability modules you will be able to achieve the Bronze Award at the end of level 4 Becoming a

Criminologist, and may then progress, utilising your work or volunteering experiences, to Silver, and Gold or Platinum Award by the end of your programme.

The Criminology with Forensic Investigation Programme offers a degree of flexibility in the way you complete your studies with the possibility of interim awards after successfully completing the equivalent of one, two, or three years' full-time study.

Aims of the Programme

The overall aims of the Programme are:

1. To provide a supportive transitional route into higher education equipping students with the skills essential for successful participation in academic study
2. Develop students' inter-disciplinary knowledge through an exploration of theoretical concepts in a range of contexts applicable to Criminology and Forensic Investigation
3. Develop the academic personal and professional skills required to work in the context of Criminology and Forensic Investigation
4. Develop an understanding of the place of the individual in society and the nature of society, including crime and criminality in their local, national and global contexts
5. Critically explore major concepts and theoretical approaches in relation to crime, social harm, policing, youth justice, race, ethnicity, gender, victimisation, criminal justice, penal practice and processes of criminalisation.
6. Encourage students to engage critically with contemporary social problems as they interact with crime, deviance and harm and to apply both knowledge and practical skills to their potential amelioration.
7. Develop a critical and reflective approach to the ongoing study of forensic investigation and the justice system whilst acquiring scientific knowledge and skills relevant to competence as a practitioner in forensic investigation, and to those organisations concerned with the collection or analysis of forensic evidence.
8. Encourage you to critically consider the application of key elements of criminological theory, social policy and research to a range of different practical and professional contexts but most specifically those drawn from the discipline of forensic investigation.
9. Stimulate you to evolve your intellectual capacity, research, analytical and cognitive skills through the acquisition of knowledge, problem solving and reasoning where you will take responsibility for your learning and develop into a sound, independent learner.
10. Develop a familiarity with the justice system and an appreciation of the importance of the continuity of evidence from crime scene to court.
11. Develop an awareness of professional and ethical standards and practices (including quality assurance) and understanding the importance of adhering to them.
12. Provide a coherent programme of study that develops your knowledge and learning alongside the skills required to pursue a career in criminal justice, law enforcement, forensic investigation and associated fields.

Level Descriptors

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At Level 3: (Usually Year 0 undergraduate), you will be able to:

- Recognise the breadth of the field of study and apply the skills of manipulation of knowledge to make informed judgements within routine contexts and with guidance.
- Begin to work beyond defined contexts
- Apply established approaches to solving well defined problems, showing emerging recognition of the complexity of associated issues and communicate outcomes effectively in an appropriate format
- Within a defined context and under guidance, evaluate personal and workplace experience and manage information and data from a range of sources appropriate to the field of study.
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At Level 4: (Usually Year 1 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply a systematic approach to the acquisition of knowledge, underpinning concepts and principles and deploy a range of subject specific, cognitive and transferable skills.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving well defined problems and communicate outcomes in a structured and clear manner.
- Identify and discuss the relationship between personal and workplace experience and findings from books and journals and other data drawn from the field of study.

At Level 5: (Usually Year 2 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply and evaluate key concepts and theories within and outside the context in which they were first studied.
- Select appropriately from and deploy a range of subject-specific, cognitive and transferable skills and problem-solving strategies to problems in the field of study and in the generation of ideas effectively communicate information and arguments in a variety of forms.
- Accept responsibility for determining and achieving personal outcomes.
- Reflect on personal and workplace experience in the light of recent scholarship and current statutory regulations.

At Level 6: (Usually Year 3 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To critically review, consolidate and extend a systematic and coherent body of knowledge.
- Critically evaluate concepts and evidence from a range of resources.
- Transfer and apply subject-specific, cognitive and transferable skills and problem-solving strategies to a range of situations and to solve complex problems.
- Communicate solutions, arguments and ideas clearly and in a variety of forms.

- Exercise considerable judgement in a range of situations.
- Accept accountability for determining and achieving personal and group outcomes.
- Reflect critically and analytically on personal and workplace experience in the light of recent scholarship and current statutory regulations.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 120 credits of study (FdCert) you will be able to demonstrate:

K1. The ability to apply and explain of the theories, models, concepts and principles of human behaviour, organisations and communities that underpin the context of Criminology (Level 3)

K2. Knowledge of the theories, concepts and contexts of criminology and Forensic Investigation (Level 3)

After 240 credits of study (CertHE) you will be able to demonstrate:

K3. The development of criminology as a distinct area of study and inquiry, and its multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary nature including how crime, deviance and victimisation are socially, legally, and politically constructed and theoretically explained

K4. Describe and discuss the development, philosophy and ethics of forensic investigation in England and Wales

K5. The different sources of information about crime and victimisation, both quantitative and qualitative, and how they are produced - including their location in particular legal and political frameworks - and how they can be interpreted and identified

K6. Different approaches crime, deviance, harm and victimization including relationships between power, crime and social division, and the impact of globalisation

After 360 credits of study (DipHE) you will be able to demonstrate:

K7. Alternative theoretical and empirical approaches within Criminology and Forensic Science, and contemporary debates about the content and scope of criminology and forensic science

K8. Apply key theoretical approaches in Criminology and Forensic Investigation to a range of practical and professional contexts

K9. Evaluate the impact of cultural, societal and legislative issues on forensic and investigative practice and make ethically sound judgements in relation to research carried out by others or oneself

K10. An understanding of principles of research design, data collection and analysis

After 420 credits of study (BSc) you will be able to demonstrate:

K11. Develop a critical understanding of the challenges of Forensic Investigation, and the ability to analyse, key concepts and theoretical approaches to Criminology

K12. An ability to understand, summarise and critically analyse information from a wide variety of sources influencing the development of forensic and criminological theory.

K13. Intellectual capacity and cognitive skills through the acquisition of forensic legal knowledge, problem-solving and reasoning

K14. Knowledge, understanding and critical analysis of criminology and law in contemporary society

After 480 credits of study (BSc Hons) you will be able to demonstrate:

K15. Detailed knowledge and specialist understanding of an area of forensic investigation that forms the basis of your empirical dissertation.

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 120 credits of study (FdCert) you will be able to demonstrate:

- S1.** An understanding of the academic, personal and professional skills needed to succeed in higher education (Level 3)
- S2.** Effective problem-solving skills for working with people across a range of contexts (Level 3)
- S3.** specific skills, techniques and competencies needed to work across a range of stakeholders and contexts (Level 3)

After 240 credits of study (CertHE) you will be able to demonstrate:

- S4.** An ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, collect and present materials using information technology, interpret and draw inference from statistical data.
- S5.** Understanding of self-development, self-motivation and time management to achieve against agreed timescales
- S6.** An ability to plan work and manage time, reflect on own strengths, limitations and performance, taking responsibility for setting targets and implementing plans for independent and collaborative working and personal and professional development.

After 360 credits of study (DipHE) you will be able to demonstrate:

- S7.** Develop professional values and understanding of anti-discriminatory practice, moral and ethical issues, legal principles, social divisions and diversity within the criminal justice sector.
- S8.** A range of transferable generic academic skills and capabilities to promote life-long learning, the transferability of these to employment including study skills, time management independent learning, reflective practice, communication, team working, working effectively within a multi-disciplinary team, research and leadership skills.
- S9.** Data analysis, including indexing and retrieval of both quantitative and qualitative data as well as identifying the most important arguments or evidence in a text and recording and/or representing these.

After 420 credits of study (BSc) you will be able to demonstrate:

- S10.** Apply a range of innovative and creative problem-solving skills to a range of theoretical and practical contexts within the societal landscape with the focus on the core elements of Criminology and Forensic Investigation

After 480 credits of study (BSc Hons) you will be able to demonstrate:

- S11.** Formulating researchable problems within Criminology & Forensic Investigation critically evaluating evidence from a range of sources and drawing appropriate conclusions.
- S12.** Challenging existing knowledge and constructing evidence-based arguments.

External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

At the centre of the University's mission is the provision of an accessible and outstanding student experience and we aim to ensure as many people as possible benefit from the transformational opportunities provided by higher education. Our Corporate Strategy demonstrates the University's firm commitment to accessible higher education, in terms of widening participation and access. It also recognises that the University has a regional commitment to an area with significant pockets of low participation, low educational aspiration and attainment in higher education.

The Foundation Year is designed for students who have the ability to study for a degree but do not have the qualifications to enter directly onto a three-year (FT) honours degree. It therefore attracts many students from non-traditional educational backgrounds and under-represented groups.

This programme has been designed in line with the QAA [Subject Benchmark Statement for Criminology](#), the [Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences Component Standards](#), the [QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Forensic Science](#) and [The Quality Framework for Learning and Development in the Justice, Community Safety and Legal Sector](#)

- [UoC Strategic Plan](#)
- [University of Cumbria Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy](#)
- University of Cumbria BLPSS Departmental Business Plan
- [University of Cumbria Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes](#)
- [University of Cumbria Collaborative Provision Strategy](#)

Graduate Prospects

The dual focus on criminology and forensic investigation will give you a range of transferable skills such as critical thinking, analytical and communications skills. You will be attractive to employers both inside and outside the criminal justice sector.

The development of generic transferable skills will be underpinned by formal knowledge of criminological and forensic processes. You will develop an ability to analyse forensic problems and use appropriate scientific and professional skills to solve them.

You will also gain criminological expertise and skills to give you the competitive edge in applying for careers in organisations allied to the criminal justice system and related fields, or for postgraduate studies.

Academic staff utilise their links with professionals in a range of forensic and criminal justice institutions, prisons, courts, approved premises / probation and the police, and community-based services such as victim and offender focused charitable organisations. These collaborative relationships will provide you with outreach, engagement and volunteering opportunities which you can avail yourself of during your degree. Such exposure will focus your insight into your future career of choice and enhance your employability through developing professional networks.

Research with our alumni shows our graduates have gone into varied careers from Probation, Prison Service, UK Border Agency, Police work Private Forensic Providers, Victim Support and Drug and Alcohol work. A significant number have also gone into research and/or moved into postgraduate study - some have combined work and PG studies.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated

As a student at the University of Cumbria, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy.

We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, whether encountered on campus or at a distance, on placement or in the workplace. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

The programme learning and teaching strategy has been developed with reference to the University of Cumbria Learning and Teaching Plan:

1. To place student learning at the heart of what we do
2. To promote learning partnerships
3. To embrace innovative approaches to learning, teaching and assessment
4. To continue to recruit well qualified, high quality staff
5. To provide staff development opportunities appropriate to a University focused on student learning
6. To ensure quality provision through robust review and enhancement processes

Integrated foundation year

We want to motivate you in your foundation year studies through a variety of teaching and learning approaches that support different learners' needs and help to integrate you into university life. Transferable skills are central to learning opportunities and assessment. You are encouraged to reflect on your skills development in learning and personal contexts to develop an ability to make appropriate choices and decisions. Challenging and authentic tasks will stretch your capabilities in real world learning and assessment resulting in a deeper approach to learning. The modes of assessment introduce you to the type of assessments you will encounter as you progress through your degree. You will undertake a range of assessments including written assignments, reports and essays, oral presentations and poster presentations, portfolios and set exercises such as producing a DVD news report. There is a strong emphasis on formative assessment in all modules to assist with the learning process.

The foundation year modules utilise a full range of University digital resources and learning technology where suitable for example, through the University's virtual learning environment (Blackboard). Vocational practice opportunities form an essential part of the programme and encourages you to make meaningful links between the underpinning theoretical concepts within the subject area.

During the integrated foundation year, you will be taught with students on a range of programmes within your department and students from other departments. You will be working in groups and teams to achieve solutions to set problems, researching case studies and delivering events. A module leader leads each module, as the lead tutor with over-arching responsibility for that module. However, one of the strengths of this programme is our team-taught approach to delivery. You will be taught during a module by more than one tutor and this ensures subject specialists teach your topics. You will experience the different delivery styles you will encounter as you progress through the programme. Moreover, on modules that you share with other programmes you will meet staff from your chosen degree programme. In some modules such as Professional Practice in the Community guest speakers from local industry and organisations will give talks on their role and

practice within the wider community bridging the link between social theory and practice explored during the module.

Learning and Teaching

In line with the University's Quality Handbook the programme is designed to ensure that, you develop understanding and a critical appreciation of criminological and social science theory and research and its uses in a changing social world, and a critical understanding of forensic investigation, its processes and the legal systems.

Learning and Teaching methods include lectures, seminars, debates, group work activities, presentations, micro-teaching, poster presentations, portfolios and examinations. The use of a virtual learning Environment [VLE] provides a platform for communication, discussion and collaborative working. Teaching delivery facilitates the enhancement of I.T. skills, life-long learning and an appreciation of cognitive and transferable skills. Throughout your degree you will have opportunity to access various self-study opportunities through the VLE, such as LinkedIn Learning. These will give you an opportunity to familiarise yourself and develop proficiency in career-relevant software and applications.

A range of teaching learning and assessment methods are deployed across the programme. The programme develops knowledge acquisition, critical skills and independent thinking through varied teaching methods. Additionally, graduates need to be capable of assimilating and organising information quickly and effectively and be self-learners, capable of keeping up to date with new developments. The learning and teaching methods are designed to produce graduates who meet these criteria.

You also will have laboratory classes, which give the hands-on practical skills required of a Forensic Scientist and a deep understanding of the relevant laboratory standards required for you to work within in both the Criminal Justice and private sectors. This will include simulated crime scene experience using our crime house and a major incident exercise. Our Crime Scene Investigation module is predominantly practical, and you will learn all the skills required of a Crime Scene Investigator whilst working in real world settings. Simulated crime scenes range from investigating volume crimes such as household burglaries to Major Incident events with multiple crime scenes in a high-pressure environment. During your sessions, you will use real world crime scene kits, state of the art crime scene technologies whilst working within the industry quality standards of ISO17020

Problem based learning features heavily in core modules shared across the criminology programmes. This enables you to share your learning with students from different criminology disciplines / working towards different criminology careers. Together you can explore how different professionals apply theory in simulated crime scenarios that are informed by real world events.

The programme team are very aware of the variety of ways in which students learn, therefore, to maximise access to learning on the programme, and to ensure that as many learning styles as possible are accommodated, a range of learning and teaching strategies are adopted.

The delivery schedule uses a mixture of yearlong and semester long modules where shorter bursts of academic activity are interspersed by slower paced modules with activities that are more reflective. E.g. In Year 2 Becoming a Criminologist, a year-long module allows time to understand the impact of crime on society that the Crime and Deviance module explains, alongside specific study of the make-up of the Criminal Justice System in a dedicated module. Both approaches allow for periodic formative assessment and feedback towards the development of summative assessments with the opportunity to balance coursework across the academic year.

In recognition of the fact that initially students are challenged by different styles of teaching and learning in higher education, the pattern of your contact hours is designed to provide plentiful contact during levels 3 and 4, (48 hours per 20 credit module). This level is then reduced to 36

hours at levels 5 and 6, as your independent study skills are developed, culminating with a significant element of independent study at level 6.

Finally, the dissertation module demands sustained independent study and research with minimal class contact but increased direct tutor supervision.

Summative and Formative Assessment

You will be assessed on your achievement of the programme learning outcomes, which, in turn, are achieved by meeting the learning outcomes of the modules. The assessment of the programme learning outcomes will be achieved through assessment at the module level. Selection of the methods for assessment will be determined by the requirements of each individual module and the rationale for selection of those methods will be left to the module specifications.

A key aspect of the programme is that you are able to convert your learning by critically reflecting on practice and experience, in line with the QAA benchmark statements (2.1). This is achieved through both formative and summative reflection throughout the programme. You are expected to be able to demonstrate a range of cognitive and intellectual skills together with techniques specific to criminology and forensic science. You should also be able to demonstrate relevant personal and interpersonal skills.

A variety of assessment methods are used to ensure you have achieved the outcomes related to knowledge and understanding, including:

- Essays
- Exams
- Portfolios
- Case Studies
- Reports
- Presentations – Oral and Posters
- Assignments
- Practicals
- Dissertation

Formative assessment is an integral part within each module and formative feedback is a developmental tool providing the opportunity for you to obtain advice, comment and opinion at an early stage in the assessment process enabling you to participate in and develop your ideas and strategies. Formative assessment allows you to practice the requirements for summative assessment better enabling you to assess your own strengths and areas for improvement. Formative feedback can take a number of forms including short essays, research exercises, peer reviews, presentations, mock examinations and on-line activities, such as blogs and wikis, or lab exercises. These also provide the opportunity for the discussion of ideas in a critical and constructive way.

Assessments are chosen to examine your ability to integrate theory and practice, and to think critically in relation to theory, empirical research and practice. Subject specific, professional and transferable skills (negotiation, communication, time management, presentation, report writing) are developed within classroom-based and independent learning activities. Most modules assess a variety of skills, either directly or indirectly through the assessment work for the module. The dissertation module enables you to study and research into a specific topic in depth and develops further the capacities for self-managed learning and critical thinking. Critical reflection and challenge are embedded across the programme within both formative and summative assessment.

Wherever possible and appropriate these assessments are based on real-world case study materials drawn from student experience, provided by tutors, or where such data is unavailable or

inappropriate, simulations. As a result, the analysis and evaluation of case study material plays a large part in the assessment process.

You will also be encouraged to participate and contribute to a wide range of non-core activities within the university community that may involve activities arranged by the Student Union and The UCSU Criminology Society and Forensic Society.

Student Support

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

As a student of the University of Cumbria, you will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be supported to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

Induction

Induction takes place during Welcome Week prior to the start of the programme. All foundation year students will share a common induction programme to provide the opportunity for you to meet with other students in your subject area and those from other level 3 foundation programmes who share common university-wide modules. You will undertake a series of activities designed to form cohesion amongst your peer group, to familiarise you with the University and introduce you to a range of support services who are there to help you settle into university life and help you progress through your studies. You will be shown how to use our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which is called 'Blackboard' and how to submit assessments using 'Turn it In'. You will attend centrally organised sessions, Student Life and Help is at Hand.

During the induction week you are allocated a Personal Tutor, as are all students at the University, but in addition foundation year students will receive dedicated supported from the level 3 Student Transition Advisors also be supported by their subject area lead.

Transitioning to level 4: Progressing students will not be required to attend all induction activities at level 4, but will be invited to activities that will enable them to meet and feel fully integrated with their new cohort such as introduction to programme structure, modules and assessments and team building activities. In addition, the students will be invited by the programme leader to mentor and support new students in other activities such as campus tours and general tips and guidance on being a UoC student.

Personal Tutoring

You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. They will support your learning and development, including through tutorials, Progress Reviews and other support as outlined in the Personal Tutoring Policy. The team are aware that employers value experience so, in collaboration with your Personal Tutor, you are encouraged and supported to think about the subjects/ environments you are interested in working with and how to get involved with local support groups or projects. By narrowing down your preferences it will allow you to focus on specific employers and voluntary organisations. To further support you with finding a voluntary role the programme leader in conjunction with the Student Union and Cumbria Council for Volunteering (CVS) organises a yearly 'Volunteer Fair' at the University where a range of organisations with links to the criminal justice system showcase their volunteering opportunities.

Personal Development Planning

Alongside your Personal Tutor you will be given additional support to scaffold, monitor and map your learning and in particular their graduate/transferrable skills. The Career Ahead 3 awards are embedded in the programme at all levels and throughout we will be encouraging you to take up voluntary work in the criminal justice field. In the first year we embed skills of time management, group/teamwork, lab skills, independent thinking, presentation skills and engaged thinking. In the second year these skills are developed further and you are supported to do this with more analytical work such as portfolios and a research proposal on a topic chosen by you. In the third year, your personal development is the platform upon which you will complete your research proposal in your specialism by writing up your work and presenting your findings at Poster Symposium held at the University.

You will also be supported and given the opportunity to complete a Personal Development Plan. This is a facilitated process and can be embedded within the programme and available through Pebblepad.

Library and Academic Support (based in Information Services)

You will also meet your dedicated Student Transition Advisor who is part of our award-winning Library and Academic Support service. They will run sessions on expectations for studying in higher education and show you around the library and learning resources. Dedicated named Student Transition Advisors will be working with foundation year students to provide additional one-to-one support and workshops during the first year and will be there to signpost students to other services they may need.

Module leaders will collaborate with Library and Academic Advisors to ensure that your reading and resource lists are current, and items are available via the library discovery tool OneSearch. In order to maximise access, availability and usefulness, ebooks and electronic journal titles will, in most cases, be prioritised. You can access a wide range of electronic and print content using [OneSearch](#) and you can find out more about key texts, databases and journals for your subject by accessing the library's [subject resources webpages](#). Where appropriate, module reading and resource lists will be made available to you electronically using the University's [online reading and resource list system](#).

The [Skills@Cumbria](#) service can help support your academic skills and success throughout your programme. The service is delivered by a team of professional Library and Academic Advisors. It includes a suite of [online self-help resources](#) accessible 24/7 via the University's website and Blackboard site. It also provides group and individual advice and guidance accessible through and alongside your course and by different means such as face to face, email or virtual. Visit [skills@cumbria](#) for more details.

IT and Technical Support

Technology is an invaluable asset when it comes to studying, so it's important you know how to make the most out of the excellent [facilities](#) we have available. Our aim is to ensure you can access university electronic resources from anywhere or any device, whether on or off campus. The [Student Hub](#) is your one-stop gateway to all university systems, Outlook email, and OneDrive.

Whether you consider yourself a computer expert or you're not confident about your IT skills, we're always around to ensure you get the level of support you need. We have a wealth of information and support available on the [website](#) and have a dedicated IT Service Desk where you can talk to someone by phone or log your question online from anywhere, at any time.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services offer a wide range of support, including careers and employability, financial help, counselling, health and wellbeing and support for disabled students and those with specific learning requirements. We also offer mentoring by trained students which you can request at

any point during your studies. We know that you want to get the most out of your programme, make the best use of your time and find or continue in the career you always dreamed of. Access university support and facilities easily and quickly via the [website](#) and/or via the Student Services guidance tile on the [Student Hub](#).

In addition to the range of guidance above, you have the opportunity to further develop your personal, academic and professional skills by taking part in a number of initiatives coordinated and delivered by professional services advisers:

Student Transition Advisor Support (level 3)

During the first year of your programme (year 0), you will have access to support from dedicated Student Transition Advisors. These advisors will provide you with individual academic and pastoral support alongside the academic team to ensure you reach your full potential whilst you are on this programme. In particular, they will help you to adjust adjustment to university study, assist you in the navigation of the academic environment, policies, expectations and signposting to a wide range of services. They also work with you and your Personal Tutor to help you to develop your own strategies for effective study and provide additional one-to-one and group support in academic writing and numeracy skills.

A key feature of the foundation year programme is the additional student support that are built into the modules in particular the Essential University Skills 1 and Essential University Skills 2 modules that have an additional 12 contact hours included to enable staff to provide additional individual and group tutorials facilitated by the Student Transition Advisors.

Headstart

During the UNIF3003 Essential University Skills 1 module students will have the opportunity to progress through the University's Headstart programme that helps with the transition to studying at university and develops the academic skills needed to become a successful student. Learning at university, academic writing, and referencing are the key topics introduced in the module and previous students have told us how useful they have found the online resources and activities. Time is allocated during the module for students to complete this programme and tutors are available to support students should you need it. Student Transition Advisors and the Headstart team will provide support and advice as required for students undertaking voluntary work with children and/or families.

Head Start Plus

Head Start Plus is an online skills development course, designed to support students who are about or who have just started study at level 5 or 6 (3rd and 4th year undergraduate). This course is particularly recommended to students who may not have studied at HE level for some time or who are transitioning into the higher HE levels. The course provides a useful refresh on academic skills and practice and an insight into the expectations of tutors at those levels.

This course is free and available via the Open Education Platform powered by Blackboard. To access the course, follow the link to <https://openeducation.blackboard.com/cumbria> and set-up a free account with Open Education. Once logged on, select the course free of charge and work through it at your own pace.

Peer Mentoring @ Cumbria

You will be allocated a student Mentor who will be in touch to offer a non-judgemental and friendly hand and to help with various aspects of your student experience, from making friends to settling in, to helping you understand the expectations of academic study and dealing with assessment worries.

These are level 4, 5 or 6 students on the same degree programme who have completed the foundation year and who are able to offer a unique source of support in helping you through the

transition into university study. They undergo specific training that gives them an excellent opportunity to widen their skill-set.

Mature Students' Events

Whether it is a coffee morning, lunchtime gathering or a social event, there are events happening throughout the year to link you up with other mature students who will also be juggling a number of commitments alongside their studies.

Help is at Hand Events

Keep a look out for these interactive events on campus around October and January. You are encouraged to attend these as they highlight the range of support available and give you the opportunity to talk to people from Finance, Accommodation, the Students' Union, the Wellbeing and Disability Team etc.

Career Ahead+

In addition, in UNIF3004 Essential University Skills 2 you will complete an additional qualification Introduction to Careers Ahead (Bronze Award) which is the University's Employability Award that is accessible to all of our students regardless of level or programme of study. Time is provided during the module to complete this initial award with staff at hand to help if you need it. Available free through the Careers Team, the award gives students the opportunity to make their graduate CV stand out. Based on what employers look for in an ideal candidate, this award works with students to identify any gaps in their skill set and reflect on their experiences. It also offers the opportunity to participate in exclusive programmes and activities with real life employers. The University of Cumbria's employability award is split into three stages: Bronze, Silver and Gold, with a further Career Ahead + Platinum level. Students' engagement in extra curricula activities such as volunteering, project and charity work and peer mentoring are recognised within Career Ahead. To find out more or to register email careerahead@cumbria.ac.uk

Programme Curriculum Map					
Academic Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Module Status*	Programme Outcomes achieved
3	UNIF3003	Essential University Skills 1	20	Compulsory	K1, K2, S1
3	UNIF3004	Essential University Skills 2	20	Compulsory	K1, K2, S1
3	UNIF3010	Contemporary Issues and the Media	20	Compulsory	K1, K2, S2
3	UNIF3020	Families, Communities and the Criminal Justice System	20	Compulsory	K1, S2
3	UNIF3014	Professional Practice in the Community	20	Compulsory	K1, S1, S3
3	UNIF3011	Introduction to Policing, Criminology and Law	20	Compulsory	K2, S3
4	CRIM4126	Crime and Deviance	20	Compulsory	K3, K5, S4, S5
4	CRIM4127	Criminal Justice System	20	Compulsory	K4, S4, S5, S6
4	CRIM4128	Crime Stories	20	Compulsory	K6, S4, S5, S6
4	CRIM4129	Becoming a Criminologist	20	Compulsory	K7, S4, S5, S6
4	HSOS4101	Crime Scene Investigation	20	Compulsory	K5, S4, S6
4	HSOS4104	Forensic Evidence	20	Compulsory	K5, S4, S6
5	CRIM5113	Explaining Crime	20	Compulsory	K8, K9, S8,
5	CRIM5114	Prisons and Punishment	20	Compulsory	K8, K9, S7
5	CRIM5116	Bringing Offenders to Justice	20	Compulsory	K8, K9, S7

5	CRIM5117	Social Exclusion	20	Compulsory	K7, K8, S7, S8
5	HSOS5103	Science and Justice	20	Compulsory	K9, S7, S8,
5	HSOS5106	Exploring Research	20	Compulsory	K10, K11, S8, S9
6	CRIM6115	New Challenges in Criminology	20	Compulsory	K12, S10, S11, S12
6	CRIM6116	Inequalities in the Criminal Justice System	20	Compulsory	K14, S10, S11, S12
6	HSOS6101	Miscarriages of Justice	20	Compulsory	K13, K14, S10, S11, S12
6	HSOS6102	Death Investigation	20	Compulsory	K13, K14, S11, S12
6	HSOS6106	Dissertation	40	Compulsory	K13, K14, K15, S10, S11, S12

Notes

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.

Transfer within Programmes - You may have the potential to transfer onto another programme. This will be considered on a case by case basis and advice given.

* Key to Module Statuses

Compulsory Modules	Must be taken although it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
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Programme Delivery Structure:				
Module Code	Module Title	Delivery Pattern	Method(s) of Assessment	Approximate Assessment Deadline
		Autumn Semester / Spring Semester / Extended Spring Semester / Year-Long		
UNIF3003	Essential University Skills 1	Autumn	Written assignment (50%) Presentation (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
UNIF3004	Essential University Skills 2	Spring	Written assignment (50%) Presentation (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
UNIF3020	Families, Communities and the Criminal Justice System	Spring	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 2
UNIF3014	Professional Practice in the Community	Spring	Portfolio (100%)	Mid-End Semester 2
UNIF3010	Contemporary Issues and the Media	Autumn	Written Assignment (40%) Set Exercise (DVD News Report) (60%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
UNIF3011	Introduction to Policing, Criminology and Law	Autumn	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 1
Students exiting at this point with 120 credits would receive a FdCert Social Science				
CRIM4126	Crime and Deviance	Autumn	Written Assignment (50%) Project Work (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
CRIM4127	Criminal Justice System	Spring	Written Assignment (50%) Set Exercise (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2

CRIM4128	Crime Stories	Year-Long	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 2
CRIM4129	Becoming a Criminologist	Year-Long	Written Assignment (50%) Oral Assessment/Presentation (50%)	End Semester 1 End Semester 2
HSOS4101	Crime Scene Investigation	Year-Long	Set Exercise (100%)	End Semester 2
HSOS4014	Forensic Evidence	Autumn	Practical Skills Assessment (50%) Portfolio (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
Students exiting at this point with 240 credits would receive a CertHE in Criminology with Forensic Investigation				
CRIM5113	Explaining Crime	Autumn	Written Assignment (50%) Oral Assessment/Presentation (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
CRIM5114	Prisons and Punishment	Spring	Written Assignment (50%) Set Exercise (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
CRIM5116	Bringing Offenders to Justice	Year-Long	Set Exercise (50%) Report (50%)	End Semester 1 End Semester 2
CRIM5117	Social Exclusion	Autumn	Report (50%) Set Exercise (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
HSOS5103	Science and Justice	Spring	Written Assignment (30%) Set Exercise (70%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
HSOS5106	Exploring Research	Spring	Written Assignment (60%) Project Work (40%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2

Students exiting at this point with 360 credits would receive a DipHE in Criminology with Forensic Investigation

CRIM6115	New Challenges in Criminology	Autumn	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 1
CRIM6116	Inequalities in the Criminal Justice System	Spring	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 2
HSOS6101	Miscarriages of Justice	Spring	Portfolio (60%) Written Exam (40%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
HSOS6102	Death Investigation	Spring	Oral assessment /presentation (40%) Written Assignment (60%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2

Students exiting at this point with 420 credits would receive an Ordinary BSc in Criminology with Forensic Investigation

HSOS6106	Dissertation	Year-Long	Oral assessment/presentation (20%) Dissertation (80%) Set Exercise (Pass/Fail)	End Semester 1 End Semester 2
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Students exiting at this point with 480 credits would receive a BSc (Hons) in Criminology with Forensic Investigation

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning

Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods

- Module Evaluation
- Programme Validation and Periodic Review
- Annual Monitoring
- Peer Review of Teaching
- External Examiner Reports
- Student Success and Quality Assurance Committee
- Level 3 Management Group

Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.

- Staff Student Forum
- Module Evaluation Forms
- Programme Evaluation: National Student Survey, UK Engagement Survey
- Module/Programme/Personal tutorials
- Meetings with External Examiners

Date of Programme Specification Production:

March 2019

Date Programme Specification was last updated:

March 2024

For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website:-

<https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/criminology-with-forensic-investigation-with-integrated-foundation-year/>