Programme Specification

1	**Awarding body**	University of London
2	**Teaching Institution**	**Birkbeck College**
3	**Programme Title(s)**	**Cert HE Criminology**
4	**Programme Code(s)**	UEHCNLGY
5	**UCAS code**	n/a
6	**Home Department**	LAW
7	**Exit Award(s)**	n/a
8	**Duration of Study** (number of years)	1 – 4 Years

9	**Mode of Study**	FT	x	PT	x	DL	

10	**Level of Award (FHEQ)**	4
11	**Other teaching depts or institution**	N/A
12	**Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details**	N/A
13	[*QAA Benchmark Group*](#)	Criminology

14	**Programme Rationale & Aims**

The School aims to provide education in criminology and criminal justice that is critical, questioning and creative. It is designed for students from a range of different backgrounds. It seeks to enable students to develop the relevant skills and knowledge and applicable to the study of criminology and criminal justice.

The Criminology Certificate of Higher Education programme aims to:

1. Introduce students to key themes, concepts and debates in criminology and criminal justice.
2. Develop student's knowledge in a range of general and specialist criminology topics for research, personal interest and/or employment purposes.
3. Enable student to develop their critical, intellectual and research skills.
4. Offer an access course that will enable students to pursue further higher education.
5. Provide a flexible mode of study that is sensitive to the particular needs of mature and part time students.

15	**Entry Criteria**

This is an open access programme (i.e. no formal qualifications are required). All modules are taught at university level, so students must be fluent in English reading, writing and speaking.

16	**Learning Outcomes**

1. A clear understanding of major concepts, principles, policies, theories and methods relevant to criminology and criminal justice.

2. An understanding of the major criminal justice institutions, their functions and their operation.

3. An ability to place criminological and criminal justice studies, policies and institutional practices in their historical, ethical, social, political, cultural and economic context. In particular we aim to encourage students to interrogate the interface between the theory and practice of criminology and criminal justice.

4. An appreciation of social scientific methods which can be used to identify, locate and analyse scholarly, policy and practical developments in the field.

5. An understanding of multi-disciplinary approaches to the study of crime and criminal justice and an ability to make use of a range of theoretical and methodological frameworks in the social sciences and humanities.

6. Confidence in a range of subject specific and transferable skills that can prepare students for employment or further studies. These include skills in writing and problem solving, IT literacy, group work, independent research, analysis and critique, oral presentation, independent research, critique, and problem solving; and

7. The ability to exercise sound academic judgement, take personal responsibility for their course of study and demonstrate initiative.

17	**Learning, teaching and assessment methods**
	The School of Law employs a variety of teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved. In particular we promote student learning through lectures; seminars; virtual learning environments; student led study groups facilitated by the school; private tutorials; web based independent skills tutorials; weekend and pre-sessional skills workshops; public lectures and research seminars.
	The modules are taught in weekly in the evenings and via "Saturday" Schools. Classes usually run for 12 weeks from October – December, , January – March or April – July.. Each class meeting lasting three hours in the evening or full day Saturdays.
	We employ a diversity of assessment tools including independent research essays, exams, group work, reflective journals, skills workbooks, and creative and critical thinking exercises. Each modules ususally includes two to three assessments, such as a short practice essay, plus two loners essays or one essay and one exam.

18	**Programme Description**
	The Criminology Certificate in Higher Education (Criminology) is designed to introduce students to a range of topics in the field and to build students' skills, knowledge and confidence in the subject. Students are required to complete four core modules:
	• Understanding Crime
	• Criminal Justice Process
	• Sociology of Crime
	• Psychology of Crime

19	**Programme Structure**			
Part-Time Programme: Students would normally take 1-3 modules per year over 2-4 years.				
Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Status***
4	FFCN014S4	Understanding Crime	30	CORE
4	FFCN907S4	Criminal Justice Process	30	CORE
4	FFCN905S4	Sociology of Crime	30	CORE
4	FFCN906S4	Psychology of Criminal Behaviour	30	CORE

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	**Programme Director**	Sarah Lamble
21	**Start Date** *(term/year)*	September 2008
22	**Date approved by TQEC**	Spring 2008
23	**Date approved by Academic Board**	Summer 2008
24	**Date(s) updated/amended**	July 2013