

Module code	LAW405	Level	4
Module title	Criminal Law and Evidence		
Status	Core		
Teaching Period	Autumn		
Courses on which the module is taught	LLB (Hons) Law		
Prerequisite modules	None		
Notional learning hours	200	Credit value	20
		ECTS Credits	10
Field trips?	N/A		
Additional costs	N/A		
Content notes	This module contains material that some students may find distressing, relating for example to the law on violent sexual offences. Students will be provided with a schedule of topics to be covered on the module at the outset of the module, and teaching materials will be uploaded at least 24 hours in advance so that students have advance notice of potentially distressing content.		

1. Module description

This module invites you to explore the fascinating world of criminal justice, challenging you to question how fair and effective the system is. You'll gain essential knowledge of criminal law doctrines and rules of evidence while investigating real-world issues like miscarriages of justice and hidden biases in the system. You will study a range of violent, non-violent, white collar, and cyber crimes, providing you with a broad understanding of the criminal law. You will actively engage in discussions about reform, specifically examining how technology and artificial intelligence might be harnessed to improve the system.

2. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

Decision-making (MLO 04)

Investigate and contrast different ideas, including your own, in order to recommend criminal justice reforms.

Communication (MLO 05)

Communicate your arguments and reasoning through academic writing.

Discipline Knowledge (MLO 07)

Explain and apply legal rules and principles in the area of criminal law.

Human and Environmental Impact (MLO 10)

Explore the impact of current policy and practice in the criminal justice system on people and justice.

3. Learning and teaching methods, and reasonable adjustments

Learning hours			200
Directed learning			48
Workshops/ classes/ seminars/ lead events	Supervision	Studio time	Other
48			
Guided/Self-guided learning			152

Delivery is through tutor-led lead events and follow-up workshops, both of which take place in person. Lead events introduce key topics, concepts, ideas and sources, providing the foundation for each week's learning. Workshops are experiential and active, giving you the opportunity to engage in role plays, simulations, group discussions and similar activities. These hands-on exercises are designed to deepen your understanding of the law while also developing transferable skills, including core lawyer competencies.

You are also expected to engage in substantial independent study, completing set readings and preparing for classes, including preparation for the practical exercises that take place during workshops. Weekly topics, readings and activities will be made available in advance to help you plan and make the most of each session.

Alternative arrangements will be made for individual students to complete in class activities where this is considered to be a necessary and reasonable adjustment.

Students seeking reasonable adjustments should consult the current Disability Policy: <https://www.regents.ac.uk/policies>

4. Assessments and weighting, reasonable adjustment, and feedback methods

Assessment component 1: Essay, 70%, 2,000 words ($\pm 10\%$)

You will write an essay that draws on academic literature, case law and relevant policy documents to explore options for reforming the criminal justice system in England.

Assessment component 2: MCQ Exam, 30%, 60 minutes

Substantive subject knowledge will be principally assessed by way of a 1 hour, closed-book multiple choice examination. The format of the questions in this exam will mirror the format of knowledge-based questions on the centralised, national examination for qualification as a

solicitor in England and Wales. This will provide valuable experience and training for those who wish to pursue this or similar routes into the legal profession.

Mapping of assessment tasks:

Assessment components	MLO 04	MLO 05	MLO 07	MLO 10
Essay	X	X		X
MCQ Exam			X	

The above assessment components are summative. Students will have the opportunity for formative assessment and feedback before each summative assessment.

5. Indicative resources

College of Legal Practice. (2024) *Criminal Law*. Sydney: College of Law.

Justice Committee (2025) *Leadership of the Criminal Cases Review Commission*. HC 749, 2024–25. London: House of Commons.

Mr Bates vs The Post Office (2024) [TV drama]. ITV1, 1–4 January.

Munday, R. (2022) *Evidence*, 11th edn, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ormerod, D. & Child, J. (2025) *Smith, Hogan, and Ormerod's Essentials of Criminal Law*, 6th edn, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

The Secret Barrister: Stories of the Law and How It's Broken (2019) London: Picador.

NB: This list of indicative resources is illustrative only and subject to change. A full list of resources will be provided on the module Blackboard site and updated from time to time.