1. **Title of the module**

Critical Perspectives on the Criminal Justice System (LAWS8700/ LW870)

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Kent Law School

1. **The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 credits (10 ECTS Credits)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None, though a general background in either law or another discipline related to criminal justice is assumed.

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

LLM in (Specialisation); LLM in Law; PG Diploma in (Specialisation); PG Certificate in Law

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module, students will be able to:**
2. Critically engage with sources to analyse key debates in criminal justice.
3. Demonstrate a systematic awareness and understanding of the main theoretical perspectives on contemporary criminal justice
4. Critically examine the complex relationship between law and criminal justice.
5. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the interaction between the different agencies involved in the criminal justice system.
6. Critically apply the theoretical and legal perspectives explored on the module to demonstrate deeper insights into the operation of the modern criminal justice system.
7. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module, students will be able to:**
8. Critically present relevant knowledge and understanding in the form of reasoned argument in written assessment.
9. Critically identify and evaluate complex legal and policy problems according to their social, political and legal context.
10. Demonstrate a comprehensive ability to carry out independent further research from a variety of sources informing a sustained and detailed argument.
11. Critically summarise detailed theoretical and legal material, analysing and critically evaluating different positions that arise in the literature surveyed.
12. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module seeks to provide the student with a critical appreciation of the key debates and controversies in contemporary criminal justice. While England and Wales is the focus of study, throughout the module comparisons will be made with other jurisdictions to provide deeper insights. The module will provide a grounding in the relevant theories, which will then be applied in analysing the institutions of criminal justice.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Ashworth A. & M. Redmayne, The Criminal Process (most recent edition)

Hall, S. et al. Policing the Crisis (2nd Ed, Macmillan 2013)

Lacey, N, Reconstructing the Criminal Law (most recent edition)

McBarnet, D. Conviction: law, the state and the construction of justice (Macmillan 1981)

Padfield N., Text and Materials on the Criminal Justice Process (most recent edition)

Sanders, A., R. Young & M. Burton, Criminal Justice (most recent edition)

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 20

Private study hours: 180

Total study hours: 200

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1 Main assessment methods

100% coursework, comprising, either:

An Essay, 5000 words (100%)

An Essay, 4000 words (80%) and individual presentation, approx. 10 minutes (20%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Reassessment instrument: 100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| **Learning / teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Combined Lecture/seminars | x | x | x | x | x |  | x |  |  |
| Private Study | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (100%) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| **Or** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (80 %) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Individual Presentation (20%) | x | x | x | x | x |  | x |  | x |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

**a) Accessible resources and curriculum**

1. Preference will be given to electronic resources that meet minimum accessibility standards and support the use of assistive technologies.
2. Module outlines will be made accessible before the module starts.
3. Prioritised reading lists will be made available sufficiently in advance to accommodate the provision of alternative formats and support those with a slow reading speed.
4. In accordance with the KLS school-level statement on Lecture Capture, the lecture/seminars will not be recorded, as they are heavily discussion-based.

**b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (Annex B Appendix A, section b (1) and (2)) have all been considered in order to support all students in their assessments on this module.

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered:**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The module allows students to familiarise themselves with both theoretical and practical insights into the treatment of criminal justice at an international level. Students are also able to select an international comparative study as an assessment. Students are strongly encouraged throughout the module to make use of international reports and articles where appropriate.

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**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| 27/01/2019 | Major | September 2019 | 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,  17 |  |
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