1. **Title of the module**

SOCI6870: The Politics of Criminal Justice

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

Law, Society and Social Justice: School of Social Policy, Sociology & Social Research

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

6

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

30 (15 ECTS)

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

Autumn and spring

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

None

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

Optional module to BA (Hons) Criminal Justice & Criminology BSc (Hons) Social Sciences (Medway)

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Critically assess how and why crime has become such an important issue on the political agenda

8.2 Understand and critically analyse different political perspectives on criminal justice

8.3 Analyse the implications of political agendas for criminal justice policy making

8.4 Critically analyse the criminal justice policy making process

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Demonstrate skills in written communication, utilising research, empirical data and information technology

9.2 Apply critical judgement to problems and debates

9.3 Independently access a range of suitable library and web-based resources for final year study and make judgements about the merits of the material obtained

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module traces the way in which criminal justice and criminal justice policy have become increasingly politicised in recent years. It utilises topics such as terrorism, dangerous offenders, penology and capital punishment to highlight the interaction between popular opinion, research, policy formation and the criminalisation of particular groups within society. The module will analyse the manner in which crime has become such an important issue on the political agenda, as well as examining the important role that pressure groups (such as NACRO and the Howard League for Penal Reform) have played in mediating political rhetoric and policy.

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

Annison, H. (2015) Dangerous Politics: Risk, Political Vulnerability and Penal Policy Oxford: Clarendon Press

Barton, A. and Johns, N. (2012) The Policy Making Process in the Criminal Justice System London: Routledge

Hobbs, S. and Hamerton, C. (2014) The Making of Criminal Justice Policy London: Routledge

Jones, T. and Newburn, T. (2007) Policy Transfer and Criminal Justice Maidenhead: Open University Press

Newburn, T. and Rock, P. (eds.) (2006) The Politics of Crime Control Oxford: Oxford University Press

Pratt, J. (2007) Penal Populism. London: Routledge

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Hours: 300

Total Contact Hours: 44

Private Study Hours: 256

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Essay - 2,500 essay: 50%

Exam – three hours: 50%

* 1. Reassessment methods

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 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Lectures | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |  |  |
| Seminars | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (2,500 words) |  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Examination (3-hour) | ✓ | ✓ |  |  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division/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

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

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

Medway

1. **Internationalisation**

Although the module is explicitly concerned with the criminal justice policy-making process in England and Wales, the syllabus does include a number of topics that focus in the issue of internationalisation. For example, subjects such as the transfer of policies from other nations and an international comparison of penal cultures are central to the structure of the module.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**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) |
| EAP | Minor | September 2021 | 13,14 | No |
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