CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT KENT

What causes crime rates to rise or fall, and who benefits? How should we deal with offenders and how can crime be prevented? Criminal Justice and Criminology gives you the chance to study the growing area of criminal justice practice, as well as the development and implementation of ‘crime policy’.
WHY STUDY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY AT KENT?

**Inspirational teaching**
Great teachers inspire and challenge. Whether they are lecturing on criminal law or sparking discussion on contemporary policing, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life. They share their research and welcome your opinions and ideas.

**World-leading research**
We are home to world experts in specialist areas across the social sciences, with one of the most dynamic research cultures in Europe. The books and articles we write and the debates we are involved in help to shape your course and the topics you are studying.

**Academic support**
University is different from school. You need to be self-motivated and well organised to succeed. We help you by assigning you an academic adviser, running a peer mentoring programme and offering help with academic skills, such as essay writing.

**Student community**
You benefit from access to the services and facilities run by both Kent Union and the Medway campus union, GK Unions. Societies and social events are run by students for students, to help you make the most of university life.

**Analytical skills**
Being confident in working with data and making sense of it is a great skill that appeals to employers. You can benefit from the expertise of the Q-Step Centre at Kent by studying social analytics and quantitative research skills as part of your degree.

**Excellent resources**
Access more than 1 million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Drill Hall and Templeman Libraries. Our expert subject librarians are on hand to help you find your way around and get the most from our collections.

**Professional recognition**
The Criminal Justice and Criminology programme has been officially recognised by Skills for Justice, the skills council and standards-setting body for the justice sector, as providing education of outstanding quality and relevance.

**Friendly campus**
Our Medway campus reinvents a former naval base as a 21st-century study space, with exceptional facilities and support. Close to the towns of Rochester and Chatham, with their fascinating histories, there is plenty to do both on and off campus.

**Career success**
Employability is a priority at the University of Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and developing an argument. We help you to develop a great CV and present yourself effectively to potential employers.
Stimulating programme

Our Criminal Justice and Criminology programme gets straight to the heart of contemporary crime policy by analysing policing, the courts, punishment and prevention. Taught by experts in classical and contemporary theory, you are challenged to come up with innovative ways of addressing key issues such as youth crime, drugs and crime and overcrowded prisons. You can opt to take a placement year, perhaps working with the police, the probation service or customs and excise, gaining valuable experience and discovering how the theories you have learnt work in practice.

Independent rankings

The Times Good University Guide 2019
• Criminology at Kent ranked 6th overall

National Student Survey 2018
• Over 93% of Kent final-year students studying Law and related subjects such as Criminology who completed the survey were satisfied with the quality of their course.

Research Excellence Framework
• Based on our results in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research was ranked 2nd in the UK for research power.

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement

This TEF award was issued in June 2017. It lasts up to three years and may be subject to change.
Collins Konadu-Mensah is in the final year of his Criminal Justice and Criminology degree.

Why did you choose Kent?
I’m from London and I liked the fact that Medway isn’t too far from home and the course was perfect for me.

So what was it about the course that attracted you?
I was thinking about a career in law so wanted to understand the criminal justice system as a whole, the police, the courts, probation services and the prison system. On this degree, you look ‘behind the scenes’, at the psychology behind why people offend. It’s not just about learning the theory, it’s about understanding how it applies to real-life situations.

How is the course going?
It’s going well, I’ve really grown in confidence.

Have you had a favourite module?
As part of one module I worked for four months as a volunteer in a young offenders’ institution. At first, the young offenders didn’t speak to me very much, but once they got to know me, it was easier and they began to tell me their stories. I found working with and speaking to them very interesting and being able to think about their stories in relation to theories I was studying, such as differential association, was very valuable.

I also took a module on criminal law, where we looked at the legislation in regard to crimes such as murder and sexual offences, and discussed how the court system operates. I am currently working on my dissertation, which I am really enjoying.

Tell us about your dissertation.
I am focusing on drill music, looking at whether there is a relationship between drill music and gang violence. I am analysing lyrics as well as signs and symbols in videos that could contain hidden messages for gang members. It’s a huge and fascinating subject that touches on so many areas, I’m looking at the environment the music came out of, the lives of the people producing the music, issues of freedom of expression and whether the music could be said to encourage violence. It’s a challenging but fascinating piece of work.

What about your lecturers?
They are friendly and if you are unsure about anything they will point you in the right direction.

And your fellow students?
There’s a good team spirit, we all get along. Our seminar groups are quite small so there’s a relaxed atmosphere which makes it easy to ask questions. The teachers make it interactive so everyone is involved.

What about the facilities on campus?
The library is great, it has a silent, zone, a group study area and an informal area. It has long opening hours, which is good for me because I like to study at night.

And the social life?
I’ve really enjoyed the social aspect of university. I’ve joined numerous societies, including boxing and the Christian Union. I’m a member of the Afro-Caribbean Society, and have learnt a lot about different countries in Africa; there are also parties and you get to try lots of different food!

I’m a student ambassador, which means I often speak to prospective students about Kent and coming to university in general. I’ve enjoyed it and it’s really increased my confidence and helped with my communication skills.

What are your plans for the future?
I haven’t completely decided. I’m thinking of a career in law, either as a solicitor or a barrister, or working in international development, perhaps for a relief agency. Either way I think I’d need to do some further study, either a Master’s in law or in international development.

What advice would you give to somebody considering Kent?
Come with an open mind and get involved in university life. Join societies, they’re a great way to meet people. Be organised, ready to learn and prepared to work hard – it’s a great degree, you’ll enjoy it!
Not sure which degree to choose? Here’s a guide to the programmes on offer at Kent.

Criminal Justice and Criminology
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/365
Criminal Justice and Criminology looks at the key elements of contemporary crime policy: policing, the courts, punishment and prevention. The modules address many issues in criminal justice including poverty, hate crime, illegal drug use, restorative justice, the care of victims, community safety, domestic violence, political responses to crime, anti-social behaviour, penal policy, social justice and human rights.

It is also possible to spend a year studying abroad at a partner university or to spend a year working in professional practice at the end of Stage 2, depending on academic performance.

Students who opt to spend a year in professional practice gain essential workplace skills and invaluable experience of working in an area related to criminal justice. You spend 900 hours (approximately 30 hours per week for 30 weeks) in a relevant professional placement setting, such as the police, the probation service or customs and excise. You undertake assessment in the form of reflective portfolios while developing a range of transferable skills and professional networks.

Studying part-time
It is possible to study the Criminal Justice and Criminology degree on a part-time basis. You study the same modules as students on the full-time programme, but take two years to complete Stage 1, and four years to complete Stages 2 and 3.

Canterbury programmes
Our Canterbury campus offers a single honours degree in Criminology, as well as joint honours degrees combining Criminology with Cultural Studies, Law, Social Policy or Sociology. To download a subject leaflet for one of these degrees, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

International students
If you need to extend your existing academic qualifications or ability in English to be able to study at university level, Kent’s one-year International Foundation Programme (IFP) gives you the opportunity to do so. The IFP can provide progression to the criminal justice and criminology programmes. For details see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Teaching and assessment
Teaching methods include lectures and small group seminars, each lasting an hour.

On average, you have four lectures and four seminars a week if you are taking the degree full-time, or two of each if you are taking it part-time. Seminar groups normally involve no more than 15-20 students and give you the opportunity to discuss a topic in detail.

You explore the subject using a variety of approaches, including case-study analysis, group projects, presentations and individual tutorials.

Most modules are assessed by coursework (50%) and written examinations (50%). Some modules take the form of an extended dissertation. Both Stage 2 and Stage 3 marks count towards your final degree result.
Year Abroad/Year in Professional Practice

At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience by spending a year studying overseas or in professional practice.

The year abroad/in professional practice usually takes place between Stages 2 and 3 of your degree course.

Year abroad
Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally. You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

We work with a wide range of partner universities in many countries, which currently include Belgium, Canada, Finland, China (Hong Kong), Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain and the USA. At the majority of our partner universities you study in English.

You need to have reached certain academic standards in Stages 1 and 2 in order to participate. Your year abroad is assessed on a pass/fail basis and doesn’t count towards your final degree classification. See www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html for more information.

Year in Professional Practice
What happens when the ideas and approaches you learn during your degree programme are applied in practice? How does the context affect the appropriate responses? Taking a placement year in professional practice gives you the opportunity to find out.

As well as providing valuable work experience, spending a year in professional practice allows you to evaluate career options and increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate.

If you decide to do a professional practice year, you will need to find a suitable placement and be interviewed, but we provide advice and support to help you. Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and employers may offer expenses or a salary. The year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

You develop a broad understanding of key aspects of criminal justice and criminology, before tailoring your programme to the areas that you find particularly interesting.

Note: Stage 1 of your degree is the first year for full-time students, Stage 2 is the second year and Stage 3 is the third year. Part-time students spend two years completing each stage. If you decide to spend a year studying abroad or in professional practice (see p9), you do this between Stages 2 and 3.

Module information
Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. The details below are correct at the time of publication (June 2019). See www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

To read a description of any of the modules listed, please go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and type in the module code.

Stage 1
Stage 1 covers the first year of your degree and lays the foundation for the rest of your studies. You take the following compulsory modules:

- Foundations in Sociological and Criminological Research 1 (SA313)
- Foundations in Sociological and Criminological Research 2 (SO344)
- Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice (SO329)
- Legal Process for Criminal Justice (LW312)
- The Politics of Social Policy (SA312)
- Reading Law (LW314)
- Sociological Perspectives and Concepts (SO345)
- Understanding Contemporary Britain (SO343).

Stage 2 and 3
Stages 2 and 3 represent the second and final years of your degree programme.

You take the following modules during Stages 2 and 3:

- Crime and Punishment in England, 1750-1900 (SO706)
- Issues in Criminal Justice (SO651)
- Doing Qualitative Research (SO647)
- Contemporary Issues in Policing: Concepts, Theories, Debates (SA557)
- Criminal Justice Practice (SO705)
- Criminal Law (SO758)
- Dissertation (Stage 3 only) (SO551)
• Drugs, Crime and the Criminal Justice System (SO654)
• Emotions and Society (SO753)
• The Politics of Criminal Justice (Stage 3 only) (SO687)
• Prisons, Probation and Offender Rehabilitation (SO619)
• Restorative Justice: Concepts, Issues, Debates (SO681)
• Social Ethics (SO556)
• Social Justice Practice (SO686)
• Social Policy and Everyday Lives (SO749)
• Social Policy in Global Contexts (SO757)
• Victims and Crime (SO754)
• Welfare Histories, Welfare Futures: Social Policy in Historical Context (SO545)
• Women, Crime and Justice (SO618)
• Young People and Violence (SO751)
• Youth, Crime and Criminal Justice (SO650).

You can also choose elective modules from another subject area.

**Year in Professional Practice**

If you meet the academic requirements at Stages 1 and 2, you have the option of gaining workplace experience during your degree. Students can spend a year between Stages 2 and 3 gaining practical skills in a related work environment. For further information, see p9.
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They will assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support
The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our Academic Peer Mentoring scheme, first-year students can request to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

Peer mentors will help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They can help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice
Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent's Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you to increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics, from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing
You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

The team is committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:
- arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
- discussing exam access arrangements
- helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
- applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“Peer mentoring is open to absolutely everyone. We’ve signed up to be peer mentors and we really do want to help, so take advantage of it.”

Evangeline Agyeman
Peer mentor
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t thought much beyond university, we can help you to achieve success in the future.

Build your CV
Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as analysing information, thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems, and working independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are widely valued by employers in all sectors.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
• join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
• volunteer in the community
• work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
• represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
• learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards: we work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Experience work
As part of your degree programme, you can choose to spend a year in professional practice, developing your skills and contacts (see p9). As part of your degree, you can also take the Kent Student Certificate for Volunteering Platinum Award, which allows you to develop transferable skills in leadership, mentoring, project management and working within teams and organisations.

Find a great job
Your degree can lead to a wide range of rewarding career paths in both the public and private sectors. For instance, you could go on to work in:
• crime prevention
• the probation service
• the prison service
• courts
• the police
• community safety
• youth justice
• social services
• drug and alcohol services.

Some of our students have gone on to postgraduate courses to become lawyers, others into postgraduate research or jobs with voluntary sector organisations.

We support you with tailored employability events, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: over 95% of Kent graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017).
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:
- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- experience our teaching at a taster lecture*
- find out about student finance, other study opportunities and extra-curricular activities such as Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You will be able to visit our student accommodation at Liberty Quays, chat to current students and discover the fascinating history of our Medway campus.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the autumn and spring terms and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

*Programme of events varies according to subject.
COME AND FIND OUT MORE (CONT)

Informal visits
If you can't make it to an Open Day or Applicant Day, you can still visit us. We run tours of the campus throughout the year. If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you're coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information on studying at Kent. Find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/international

Self-guided tours
If you prefer to explore on your own, you can download a self-guided walking tour at www.kent.ac.uk/informal or pick up a copy from us.

Explore online
For the latest information on studying Criminal Justice and Criminology at Kent, please see:
www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr
www.facebook.com/KentSSPSSR
www.twitter.com/sspssr
www.youtube.com/sspssr

Contact us
If you would like more information on Kent's courses, facilities or services, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Location
Medway

Award
BA (Hons)

Programme type
Full-time and part-time

Degree programmes
Single honours
• Criminal Justice and Criminology (M900:K)

Offer levels
Single honours
BBC at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or 14 points at HL; BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma with Distinction, Merit, Merit.

Required subjects
GCSE grade C/4 in Mathematics

Flexible entry
The School is committed to widening participation and has a successful tradition of admitting mature students. We welcome applications from students on accredited Access courses.

Year abroad/placement year
See p9.

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest course information, see:
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2019. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit