CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY

Medway
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

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’.

Criminology engages with the questions that inform ongoing political, economic and social issues. You gain the knowledge to analyse criminological theory and criminal justice practice, alongside wider cultural meanings and economic impact. You also look at the key elements of contemporary crime policy: policing, the courts, criminal law, punishment and prevention.

Our 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.

Inspiring teaching
Your studies take place within an inspiring environment where we encourage you to become an independent thinker. Our academics challenge you to reach your full potential, encouraging you to ask questions, analyse complex data and draw your own conclusions.

Supportive community
Our lecturing staff are friendly and approachable, and always happy to meet with students to discuss any aspect of their studies. You have your own Academic Adviser for guidance on intellectual matters and pastoral support throughout your degree. The School also provides a dedicated Student Support Officer and the University has a specialist Student Learning Advisory Service.

Professional practice
Our option to take a year in professional practice provides you with the opportunity to gain relevant workplace experience during your degree. Students on this programme spend the third year of a four-year programme gaining practical skills in the workplace. For further information, see p10.

A successful future
The demand for criminal justice practitioners is growing nationally and internationally, so this choice of subject can open up an exciting range of career options. To enhance your employment prospects, we make sure that you graduate with a good set of transferable skills and encourage you to do voluntary work to gain experience of the workplace. For more information, see p8 or visit www.kent.ac.uk/employability.
**World-leading research**

The School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research has a particularly strong research reputation. Based on our results in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, our research was ranked 2nd in the UK for research power and joint 3rd for research intensity. Of the research submitted, 99% was of international quality.

Staff are internationally recognised for their wide-ranging expertise in criminological theory and criminal justice policy, as well as their research interests in cultural criminology, policing and security, imprisonment, racist violence, night-time economies, terrorism, drug use, youth crime and female offenders.

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**A global outlook**

Kent is known as the UK’s European university and has partnerships with prestigious institutions in Europe and around the world. We encourage our students to develop their studies in an international context and there are many opportunities to study or work abroad.

We also have an international community on campus, with 42% of academics coming from outside the UK and students representing 158 different nationalities.

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**Independent rankings**

**School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research**

- **The Times Good University Guide 2017**
  - 2nd overall; 1st for research quality; 2nd for graduate prospects

- **National Student Survey (NSS) 2016**
  - 91% of Kent students studying Law and related subjects such as Criminology were satisfied with the overall quality of their course

- **Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)**
  - Of students taking Law and related subjects such as Criminology who graduated from Kent in 2015, 94% were in work or further study within six months.

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**University of Kent**

- **National Student Survey (NSS) 2016**
  - 1st in London and the south-east
  - 4th highest score for overall student satisfaction

- **The Guardian University Guide 2018**
  - 22nd in the UK
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our modern, shared campus at Medway provides a stunning location for your studies. As well as outstanding teaching and learning facilities, the campus has a real sense of community.

Students within our School come from a variety of backgrounds. There are always a number of mature students with work experience, as well as students from overseas. This mix means you not only learn from your lecturers, but from the experiences of your peers.

Social facilities
The campus has two large social areas – the Student Hub and Cargo – each offering a bar, a bistro and a live performance space. The Student Hub is in the centre of campus and Cargo is at Liberty Quays (our student village). There are also several cafés across campus.

The University contributed £3m to the development of Medway Park – a multi-sport, state-of-the-art sports facility close to campus. Students can join at special rates to use its sports halls, swimming pools, squash courts, health suites and athletics track.

Five minutes’ walk from campus, the Dockside retail outlet offers a range of shops and restaurants and a multiplex cinema. Bluewater shopping centre is also within easy driving distance with good bus and train links.

Good location
The Medway campus is quick and easy to reach from central London. Travel to London from stations at Gillingham or Chatham takes about 50 minutes. There is a high-speed train to London St Pancras from nearby Ebbsfleet International that takes under 20 minutes. You can take the Eurostar from Ebbsfleet and be in Paris in just two hours.

There is also a free regular shuttle bus between the Medway and Canterbury campus, which operates seven days a week during term time.

Live by the riverside
If you join Kent as a full-time student, you could be living in an attractive new ‘waterside village’ on the banks of the River Medway. Our student flats have modern, fully fitted kitchens and en-suite study bedrooms linked in to the University’s computer system. The development has its own social area, convenience store and fast food outlets.

Excellent study resources
The Drill Hall Library is well stocked with printed books, journals and electronic information, and offers free high-speed Wi-Fi provision. You also have access to a range of study support services, such as IT support, library support and public PCs and printers.

In addition to the study support offered within the School (see p2), the University has a dedicated Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS). It provides advice on all aspects of effective learning and study skills, and is available from the moment you arrive. See www.kent.ac.uk/learning for more information.
Barbara Blackwell is in her second year studying Criminal Justice and Criminology.

What attracted you to studying at Kent?
I always wanted to study something related to crime. I looked at quite a few different options but when I came to a Kent Open Day, I just fell in love with the course. I liked the fact that, especially in your second and third years at Kent, you have the chance to delve into the areas that you enjoy the most.

How did you find the move into university studies?
I found that I got the hang of it quite quickly. The lecturers explained the difference between A level and degree work and the materials were nicely written, which helped to bridge the gap.

How are your studies going?
At degree level, you do a lot more research on your own. I like that because it gives me the chance to bring in other areas that I’m interested in. To be honest, it often feels like you’re not doing any work, because you’re enjoying what you’re doing so much.

You also get the chance to link the most practical elements to the theory. The course has so many different aspects to it; areas I didn’t even know existed. For instance, in one module, I was able to look at how the media presents crime today.

How would you describe the other students at Kent?
In the first year everyone is settling in. It’s really good because the group work gives you the chance to get to know the other students really well. In the seminars, everyone values what you say, even if they don’t completely agree. I have a good group of friends now and we meet up in the evenings and revise together.

Which parts of your course do you enjoy the most?
That’s a tough question: I love it all! I think if I had to choose one module, it would be Crime and Punishment in England, 1750-1900. I’ve always been obsessed with history and we looked at the punishments such as prisons, deportation and the death penalty. There was a time when the body was punished, or the person was shamed in public. It helps you to see how society has changed.

What kind of general skills are you developing?
This course has changed the way I think. You open up to new ideas, so when I watch the news, I think about the situation differently now. The presentations and essays also help you to develop communication skills. Employers want people who can understand what they’re doing and explain it in a very clear way. I’ve learnt how to be more confident when I’m doing a presentation. And the essay deadlines mean you have to learn time-management skills as well.

Any career plans?
The good thing about this course is that you can go into all kinds of areas. The police gave me training for my volunteer post so I’m hoping to get a job with them. If not, criminal psychology has always sounded interesting to me and I’m also tempted by the idea of doing research and becoming a lecturer.

Any advice for students thinking of coming to Kent?
At university you experience lots of things for the first time; it’s so much fun. So stay open minded and enjoy it!
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job. Many career paths can benefit from the analytical and writing skills you will develop during your studies.

More than 95% of our 2015 graduates found a job or a study opportunity within six months of graduation.

Good career prospects

A degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology can lead to a wide range of careers within the criminal justice system, including crime prevention, the probation service, the prison service, courts, the police, community safety, youth justice, social services, and drug and alcohol services. Some of our students have gone on to postgraduate courses to become lawyers. Others have gone into postgraduate research or jobs with voluntary sector organisations.

For those who wish to stay in Medway, there are many opportunities available locally – studies of regional employers show that there is an unmet demand for graduates in the Medway area.

Gain transferable skills

As part of your learning experience at Kent, we help you to acquire key skills that will be useful when you are seeking future employment. You learn to analyse information, to seek imaginative solutions to problems, demonstrate logical thinking and be sensitive to the values and interests of others. Analysing complex data, getting to grips with challenging ideas, writing well, gaining confidence and experience in expressing your ideas in front of others; all are important skills and ensure that our graduates will be strong candidates whatever career they wish to go into.

Kent’s Q-Step Centre

Kent’s Q-Step Centre can help you to improve your skills in handling data and statistics and using numerical evidence. These are all skills that are highly prized in the job market; for more information, visit www.kent.ac.uk/qstep

Careers advice

The University’s Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, how to apply for jobs, how to write a good CV and how to perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. It also provides up-to-date information on career opportunities before and after you graduate.

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, please see www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Alex Green graduated with a BA in Criminal Justice Studies* and went on to work as a placement co-ordinator at a local authority council.

What attracted you to Kent and to this programme in particular?
I chose to study at Kent as I heard it had a really good reputation in the social sciences. It also seemed to be involved in lots of extra activities to encourage and support its students.

I was attracted to my particular programme as I have always been interested in policing and the study of criminal activity. The course had such a varied module choice, it was difficult to get bored.

What did you find particularly inspiring or interesting?
The lecturers were really smart and obviously knew their subject areas very well. I particularly enjoyed the modules on youth justice and probation, which have laid the foundations for my career path.

Could you describe your career path since leaving Kent?
In the first year after graduation, I slipped into a sales role, which came up as an opportunity pretty quickly. However, it wasn’t what I had studied for and shortly after that I landed a job working for a local authority council.

I went on to a job as a work experience placement co-ordinator, working with agencies and businesses to secure work placements and apprenticeships for young people – many of whom are from troubled backgrounds, struggle in mainstream school and need extra support outside their immediate circle.

How do the particular skills that you learnt in your degree help you at work?
I found that learning about the criminal justice system, as experienced by particular groups and classes, helped me to develop an insight into the problems faced by different groups in society.

What’s a typical working day like for you?
A typical day might involve responding to messages, setting up interviews, visiting students at their colleges to see how they are progressing and perhaps meeting with them and their parents to discuss what they are looking for in terms of work experience.

I also contact new businesses to seek placement opportunities and visit placement providers to ensure they provide a durable environment for young people to work in. My time is also spent supporting and maintaining existing relationships with the young people I have placed.

Do you have any plans for your future career?
One day I hope to open up my own business in the creative industry. Although this is some way off the subject I studied, I have no regrets about my degree at Kent as it landed me a job I love and has taught me the value of self-discipline and hard work.

Do you have any other memories of Kent that you would like to share?
My happiest memories are making lifelong friends, meeting new and interesting people and spending three years learning about subjects that interest me.

Any advice for potential students?
Get stuck into everything and anything the University has to offer, whether it be social or work-related. Most importantly, enjoy it and if the work pressure gets too much, ask for help.

*The Criminal Justice Studies degree has since been renamed Criminal Justice and Criminology.
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.

Criminal Justice and Criminology with a Year in Professional Practice

www.kent.ac.uk/ug/365

This four-year degree programme includes the option of a year in professional practice at the end of Stage 2, depending on academic performance. Students taking this route gain essential workplace skills and networks during their third year.

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 order 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 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 are normally 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.

Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

**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:

- Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice (SO329)
- Introduction to Sociology (SO306)
- Legal Process for Criminal Justice (LW312)
- Reading Law (LW314).

You then choose one of the following modules:

- Introduction to Contemporary Britain: Economic, Political and Social History from 1900 (SO326)
- Social Problems and Social Policy (SA311).

**Stages 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)
- Research Methods in Sociology (SO647)

You can also choose optional modules from:

- Britain on Film (SO752)
- BSc Social Sciences Dissertation (SO551)
- Contemporary Issues in Policing: Concepts, Theories, Debates (SA557)
- Criminal Justice Practice (SO705)
- Criminal Law (SO758)

- Drugs, Crime and the Criminal Justice System (SO654)
- Forensic Psychology (SP627)
- History of the Police and Policing (SO675)
- Prisons, Probation and Offender Rehabilitation (SO619)
- Social Justice Practice (SO686)
- Social Policy and Everyday Lives (SO749)
- Social Policy in Global Contexts (SO757)
- The Sociology of Urban Life (SO759)
- Victims and Crime (SO754)
- Welfare Histories, Welfare Futures: Social Policy in Historical Context (SO545)
- Women and Work: Britain 1850-1975 (SO669)
- Women, Crime and Justice (SO618)
- Young People and Violence (SO751)
- Youth, Crime and Criminal Justice (SO650).

You can also choose ‘wild 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 p11.
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come to an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see for yourself what it’s like to be a student at the University of Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject talks, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation. For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal.

The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, tours of the campus, including University accommodation and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day.
More information
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
To download another subject leaflet, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

On the web
For updates and news stories from the School, please see:
www.kent.ac.uk/sspssr
www.facebook.com/KentSSPSSR
www.twitter.com/sspssr
www.youtube.com/sspssr

Self-guided tour
We can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

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

Location
Medway

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programmes
Single honours
• Criminal Justice and Criminology (M900:K)
• Criminal Justice and Criminology with a Year in Professional Practice (M900:K)

Offer levels
BBC at A level, IB Diploma 34 points overall or 14 points at HL.
BTEC Extended Diploma with Distinction, Merit, Merit.
Successful completion of an Access course.
Mature students may be accepted on the basis of motivation and experience.

Required subjects
GCSE Mathematics, grade C or grade 4.

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 2017. 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/termsofcondition

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