

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice

About the course

A stimulating and demanding programme, involving intensive learning in small groups, the MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice will equip you with an advanced understanding of crime and criminal justice, comprising courses in criminological theory, the study of criminal justice, and training in research design and methodology.

The MSc is comprised of three components:

1. Core course and compulsory research methods course

The compulsory core course runs weekly for the first eight weeks of the first two terms.

Explanation and understanding in criminology

In the first term, this theme develops understanding of the organising categories and central claims of a range of modern criminological perspectives of crime and social control. It will equip you to recognise the main problems, questions, dichotomies and ideas that have shaped modern criminological thought, and to understand the nature of 'theory' and 'explanation' within criminology.

Understanding criminal justice

The second half of the course offers you a thorough grounding in the criminological understanding of criminal justice/penal institutions and processes. The core themes of classic research on these processes are introduced, before you are introduced to contemporary issues and controversies in criminal justice and punishment. The course introduces you to competing theoretical perspectives on the criminal justice process and encourages you to think about the role of the state/criminal law in the regulation of human behaviour and the place and limitations of criminal justice interventions in producing safe societies.

Research design and data collection

This course is focused on the challenges and the opportunities that different methods of data collection have for validity and reliability of data. Methods include experiments and quasi-experiments; questionnaires and survey research; field research, and the collection of written documents. The scientific method, theory testing and research design will also be discussed. Ethical concerns are given special emphasis.

2. Optional subjects

You will take five optional modules over the first and second terms of the year. Option courses run for eight weeks in each term. Recent option modules have included:

Race and gender



Sentencing

Public and private policing

Research Methods

Prisons

Comparative, Criminal Justice, Security and Human Rights

Politics of Crime Control

Comparative and Transnational Justice

Criminal Justice, Migration and Citizenship

Crime and the Family

Violence and Civilisation

Criminal Justice in Transitional Settings

Risk, Security and Criminal Justice

The Death Penalty

Youth Justice

You will be expected to spend at least 50 hours studying each week during term, and to undertake some further study during vacations. During Michaelmas and Hilary term students you will be advised to divide your time between the core course and your other courses as follows:

At least 18 hours per week preparation for the core course

At least 10 hours per week preparation for each option/compulsory course

4.5 to 6 hours per week in seminars (90 minutes for each course)

3. Dissertation

In addition to the options you take, you will write a dissertation during Trinity term. This will be researched and written independently, with only minimum guidance from your dissertation supervisor. This is also supported by a compulsory but non-assessed criminology research workshop.

Assessment

In addition to the dissertation submitted at the end of Trinity Term there are two unseen examinations of the core course.

The research methods courses are examined by means of an assessment to be submitted at the end of the term. These courses also have some term-time assignments which are assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Each option is examined by means of an assessed essay, also to be submitted at the end of the term in which the option runs.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver each course in accordance with the descriptions set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

9 months

Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	£8,460	£2,933	£11,393
Overseas	£15,295	£2,933	£18,228

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the 2016-17 academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Tuition and college fees are payable each year for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay tuition and college fees).

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2016-17 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673	£3,177	£3,565
Accommodation	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002	£5,627	£8,006
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187	£1,429	£2,915
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960	£718	£1,280
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661	£418	£880
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410	£265	£547
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894	£11,636	£17,191

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2016-17, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 2% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/living-costs.

21 October 2015