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PENAL SYTEMS

CRM305	Term 1	20	09	2024/5
Code	Term	Credits	SCQF Level	Year

Social and Applied Sciences
Faculty

Description

This module provides knowledge and understanding of the prison system, the experience of imprisonment and penal policy and practice in the UK and Internationally.

Aims

To provide the student with the opportunity to explore developments in penal policy and practice, the lived experience of imprisonment and considers alternatives to imprisonment.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module the student should be able to:

1. Collaborate with other students in discussion and presentation to critically assess and evaluate penal policy in modern British society.
2. Critically analyse the problems and effects of imprisonment.
3. Evaluate the realities and challenges involved in custodial punishment for different groups. (e.g. foreign nationals, minority ethnic, prison officers)
4. Critically examine the complex nature of attitudes to imprisonment and challenge thinking

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Indicative Content

- 1 **Contemporary developments in Penal Theory, Policy & Practice**
Penal institutions in contemporary society. The crises of legitimacy in penal institutions. Reorganisation and reform. Privatisation of the prison system.
- 2 **Prison Life The Reality**
'Doing time' the actuality of prison life, the 'total institution'? Strategies for survival, regime activities, 'banged up' prisoners, prison staff and civilian staff. Dealing with social exclusion. Stratification and power within prisons.

3 Challenges and realities for differing groups

Different experiences of prison due to specific protected characteristics and or status and location. Examining penal policies/programmes aimed to support difference.

4 Attitudes to imprisonment

Why do we have prisons? Why are they at the centre of penal policy? Are they culturally 'acceptable'? Does this differ across cultural and spacial contexts. Abolitionism or reform

Teaching and Learning Method	Hours
Lecture	20
Tutorial/Seminar	10
Supervised Practical Activity	0
Unsupervised Practical Activity	1
Assessment	30
Independent	139

Guidance Notes

Guidance Notes

SCQF Level - The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework provides an indication of the complexity of award qualifications and associated learning and operates on an ascending

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Credit Value – The total value of SCQF credits for the module. 20 credits are the equivalent of 10 ECTS credits. A full-time student should normally register for 60 SCQF credits per semester.

Disclaimer

We make every effort to ensure that the information on our website is accurate but it is possible that some changes may occur prior to the academic year of entry. The modules listed in this catalogue are offered subject to availability during academic year 2024/5, and may be subject to change for future years.

