

This module is designed to provide students with practical experience of working for an organization in the field of criminology and the criminal justice. Students on the module undertake a criminology-related work placement, such as social, community, educational, charitable, governmental, non-governmental, or campaigning organisations, for 80-120 hours of placement activity spread over the term. By carrying out this placement, students will gain hands-on skills and knowledge on criminological professional practices and get work experience in the field which will boost their employability. Students are expected to be put to work in a manner appropriate for Masters' level, to allow the placement provider to the benefit from their particular skills and experience. The actual tasks included in the placement will be agreed between the student, the module convener and the organization.

The module allows flexibility - 80-120 placement hours - for the following reasons: because of the different nature of placements (in some cases more training time is required to learn in the role and meet objectives set by the organisation); students need flexibility as the required hours may be set by the organisation (and if we are not flexible this might make it harder for students to secure a placement).

A specific number of placement hours must be agreed with the module convener ahead of the student beginning the placement. This is so that the tutor is able to make sure, on one hand, that the student will undertake enough placement time to allow them to complete the module assessment to a satisfactory level and, on the other hand, to make sure that they are not taking on too many placement hours that might get in the way of their studies.

The agreement on a number of placement hours is also important in the case of Tier 4 international students, as this way the tutor can make sure that the placement is not in violation of the terms of their visa.

The assessments on the module will require students to critically reflect on their work and to make the connections between theory learnt in other modules to their professional practice.