



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION**

### ***BA (Hons) Childhood and Youth Studies with Criminology***

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships  
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

**July 2021**

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## COURSE SPECIFICATION

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>BA (Hons) Childhood and Youth Studies with Criminology</i></b>
Final Award	<i>BA (Hons)</i>
Exit Awards	<i>BA , DipHE, CertHE</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C2807S</i>
Mode of study	<i>Full time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>3 years, 4 years with placement</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>From September 2020 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Education and Sociology</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-humanities-and-social-sciences/school-of-education-and-sociology">https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-humanities-and-social-sciences/school-of-education-and-sociology</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/education-childhood-and-youth-studies/ba-hons-childhood-and-youth-studies-with-criminology/">http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/education-childhood-and-youth-studies/ba-hons-childhood-and-youth-studies-with-criminology/</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>N/A</i>
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	<i>Level 4, 5, 6</i>

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

As part of the Combined Honours Degree Programme:

**The Childhood and Youth Studies route of the Combined Honours Degree Programme:**

- To provide a framework allowing students to follow a flexible coherent programme of study across two subjects
- To enable students to study two subject areas and develop specialist interests and knowledge
- To provide an opportunity for students to create links between two different subject areas
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop key skills
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge required to maximise career and postgraduate study opportunities
- To give students a wide-ranging specialist knowledge of criminology and criminal justice.
- To build upon academic expertise in a range of areas to enable students to examine in detail some of the key contemporary issues in the field.
- To enable an understanding of real life applications of theory to problems of crime causation and crime solutions, and the subsequent development of new policies, practices and legislation.
- To facilitate students understanding of and competence in a range of qualitative and quantitative research skills for exploring crime and its management.
- To provide the opportunity to pursue specialist knowledge and interests through volunteering, placements and research.

The Education QAA benchmark statement requires the degree to provide students with the skills:

- To analyse, examine new concepts, apply theory, reflect, and communicate knowledge.
- Explore the key skills and knowledge required for working with children, young people and families
- Understand key aspects of this applied social science discipline
- Apply appropriate techniques of analysis to the subject area
- Research topics and devise and sustain arguments related to the subject area
- Discuss current research and scholarship related to the subject area
- Discuss current limits of knowledge in the subject area
- Communicate information in a manner appropriate to the subject and intended audience
- Complete an extended piece of independent enquiry in the subject area
- Take responsibility for their own learning in a combined honours degree programme
- Show initiative and be able to make and justify decisions
- Interrogate a variety of learning media to develop knowledge
- Be self-reflective

## Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

**A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	A range of classical and contemporary educational and criminology theories and concepts including international contexts and crime causation explanations, the ways in which agencies respond to crime, theories of punishment and punitive and rehabilitative approaches to sentencing those who offend.	Lectures, class based critical reading of applied theory, discussions.	Essays, article reviews/critique, presentations, use of different media i.e. posters, webpages, etc.
A2	Societal structures relating to the nature of the relationship between young people, families and community and criminal justice systems.	Class based discussion of the needs of Children and young people in contemporary context. Scholarship of leading authors in the field.	Essays, case studies, reflective ePortfolio based on placement experience.
A3	Interdisciplinary approach to working with young people and families within the context of main institutions of the UK welfare and education system, including technological contexts.	Lectures, seminars, placement experience	Essays, groups presentations, formative assessment through class based and tutorial based discussion.
A4	Key legislation and social policy including historical and contemporary perspectives which impact on the young person and their families.	Specific modules which focus on traditional and alternative curricula; lectures, seminars	Essays, article critiques/reviews , group presentations.
A5	Interdisciplinary approach to working with children, young people and families within real world contexts of main institutions of the UK welfare and education system taking into account the changing nature of the 'criminal justice state.'	Lectures, seminars, placement experience	Essays, groups presentations, formative assessment through class based and tutorial based discussion

**B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Appreciate the complexity and diversity of social situations.	Use of VLE based stimulus material to represent diverse populations, lectures, seminar based discussion of literature and student research	Reflective ePortfolio (placement), essays, group presentations
B2	Gather, retrieve, analyse and synthesise information in order to make reasoned arguments	Seminar based research activities, dissertation supervision Formative feedback in class, article critiques, further reading.	Summative and formative assessment in written submissions Dissertation.
B3	Understand the significance and limitations of theory and research	Lecture based teaching presenting balanced critical arguments, seminar discussion & debate	Essays, group presentations, dissertation.
B4	Reflect on own value system.	Seminar discussion of related literature and contemporary issues, dissertation supervision	Written work; essays & reports
B5	Accommodate new principles and understanding of to include multiple and competing perspectives to criminological issues through critical thinking.	Focused modules of study to prepare students for dissertation/ empirical major project. Lectures and seminar based reading	Dissertation proposal, article critique

**C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Contribute to and work within an inclusive environment that respects the values and interests of others whilst studying and working with young people and their families.	Both taught and role modelled through the school ethos and teaching approaches. Child centred, needs led discussions which are	Presentations, case studies, professional practice placement & reflective writing in ePortfolios.

		inclusive and sensitive to individual differences	
C2	Analyse and interpret a range of theories and research in the area of child development and criminological ideas.	Teaching of theory and application of theory to the lives of children and young people; lectures, seminar discussions, in class reading of related literature	Essays and oral assessments specifically focused on social needs and issues.
C3	Understand the ethical implications when studying and working with children, young people and their families.	Focused teaching on research methods, some students undertake empirical project in 3 <sup>rd</sup> year, seminar discussion of related reading	Essays and reports.
C4	Construct an effective social research proposal(s).	Scaffolded learning and assessment, tutorial support as students' progress over 3 years of study.	Attainment at levels 4,5 & 6 through written and oral assessment forms
C5	Understand the need to work collaboratively to meet the needs of children, young people and families to promote the health, welfare and safety of young people and identify strategies to manage this effectively.	Focused teaching through research with children module, in class research activities	Dissertation/ major project proposal
C6	Apply learning to real world contexts with children and young people, including technological contexts.	Discussions, group work, reflective writing and formative feedback.	Essays, case studies, interventions, major projects/ dissertations.

**D. Transferable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Interpret a range of primary and secondary sources of data including numerical sources	Reflective activities identifying areas of strength/ need, targeted and detailed feedback, formative assessment	Essays, article reviews, empirical dissertations, presentations, discussions, reports, posters.
D2	Communicate and present in a variety of contexts and modes including the appropriate use of ICT	Teaching and learning which engages active participation of students	<b>Written forms of assessment;</b> essays, reports, posters, web pages, animations, <b>Oral forms of assessment;</b> group presentations, group debate
D3	Work as a member of a team and demonstrate self-reflective skills to consider the effectiveness of the team.	Lectures, seminars, group work, work placements, simulations	Group presentations and reflective self-review. Development of ePortfolios with reflective accounts and employability enhancement.
D4	Undertake independent study, demonstrate skills of time planning and management and take responsibility for own critical review using self-reflection as tool for future learning.	Teaching of research skills from 1 <sup>st</sup> assessments to dissertation, drawing mainly on secondary sources. Primary sources through reflective ePortfolio on placement, and for empirical major project students in 3 <sup>rd</sup> year learning	Requirement to use IT; word, PPT, VLE, turnitin, and other forms within some option units. Employability focused activities through identified units at levels 4,5,& 6, assessed through successful self-directed study

D6	Use critical thinking to present a range of theoretical positions and a well-informed opinion in order to engage with problem solving activities	Scaffolded approach to self-directed study	Ability to manage deadlines, commit to longer term pieces of work i.e. reflective ePortfolio and dissertation
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## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides;

- A personal tutor for each student throughout their studies;
- A Wellbeing and Diversity Co-ordinator;
- Learning Development Tutors;
- Buddy Mentors for first year students;
- Practice supervisors within the work placement
- A dissertation supervisor in their third year

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

## Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2020 - 2030](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Education Studies \(2019\)](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for Criminology \(2019\)](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

## Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course



may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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