



UNIVERSITY OF
LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

School of
Law



BA (Criminal Justice)

LM028

ul.ie/law



Why study Criminal Justice at UL?

Become an expert in Criminal Justice. The BA (Criminal Justice) is administered by the School of Law which boasts considerable expertise in the criminal justice area. The Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies was established at the School of Law in 1997 and is a national centre of excellence for criminal justice research. Students of criminal justice in the University of Limerick will thus be taught by experts in the area who have published widely both nationally and internationally on criminal justice topics. The expertise of these staff is complemented by the first class credentials of the teaching faculty from the other disciplines (i.e. Sociology, Politics, Public Administration, Psychology and Management) which contribute to the programme.

As a result of its strong research profile in criminal justice areas, the School of Law has developed important links with key criminal justice stakeholders. The School of Law provides accreditation and quality assurance for the national Garda training programme (BA in Applied Policing) in Templemore. Researchers from the Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies have also been involved in research with the Inspector of Prisons, the Irish Prison Service and the Department of Justice. These links ensure that the School of Law is always at the cutting edge of developments in the criminal justice system.

What will you Study?

The BA (Criminal Justice) is a four-year, inter-disciplinary degree programme. In each semester, you will study a combination of modules from Law, Sociology, Politics and Public Administration. An exposure to each of these disciplines ensures that you will develop a comprehensive understanding of the criminal justice system and how it reacts to and regulates the society within which it operates. To further enhance your learning during the programme, you will study some Psychology modules which will aid in understanding human behaviour and the motivations of those who commit crime along with the behaviours of other actors in the criminal justice system such as police, judges and juries. Modules in Management will also give you core skills which are essential for future administrative roles within the criminal justice sector.

A key learning experience within the programme is the eight-month co-operative work placement which you will undertake at the end of Year 2. Co-op will give you a unique and invaluable opportunity to gain practical experience working in social impact and community work placements. Through these placements, you will put your learning to practical use and build networks with potential future employers. It is also possible to spend some of this work placement period abroad.

In your final year of studies, you will have an option to complete a final year project under the supervision of one of the members of faculty within the School of Law on a criminal justice issue of your choice. This will provide you with an opportunity to work independently on a criminal justice topic which is of particular personal interest to you, under the supervision of an expert in that specific area.

Semester 1

LA4001 Legal System and Method
LA4211 Criminal Law 1
SO4001 Intro to Sociology I
PA4001 Introduction to Public Administration I
PO4051 Introduction to Politics and International Relations I

Semester 2

LA4032 Criminal Procedure
LA4222 Criminal Law 2
SO4032 Intro to Sociology II
PA4022 Introduction to Public Administration II
PO4052 Introduction to Politics and International Relations II

Semester 3

LA4430 Constitutional Law 1
LA4068 Crime and Criminal Justice
SO4073 Classic Sociological Theory
PA4012 Para-governmental Organisations
PO4013 Government and Politics of Ireland

Semester 4

LA4440 Constitutional Law 2
LA4042 Administrative Law
SO4036 Contemporary Sociological Theory
PM022 Principles of Organisational Behaviour
PO401 Government and Politics of the EU

Semester 5

Co-operative Work Placement

Semester 6

LA4040 Law of Evidence
LA4058 Human Rights
SO4078 Inequality and Social Exclusion
SO4006 Sociology of Deviance and Social Control
PA 4018 Public Policy Processes

Semester 7

LA4021 Child Law
LA4017 Advanced Lawyering 1 (Alternative Dispute Resolution)
MG4045 Change Management
PS4031 Psychology and Everyday Life

Elective

LA4013 Media Law **OR**
LA4033 Law of the European Union 1

Semester 8

LA4002 Jurisprudence
LA4109 Law and Criminology
PA4038 Public Administration in Democratic States
PS4032 Psychology and Social Issues

Elective

LA4088 Final Year Project **OR**
LA4044 Law of the European Union 2

Follow on study

Students who complete the BA (Criminal Justice) have a variety of options for postgraduate study and professional education courses both within the University of Limerick and beyond. Importantly, BA(Criminal Justice) graduates are eligible to complete the School of Law's LLB (Graduate Entry) programme in one year instead of two. This programme allows individuals with an undergraduate degree in any discipline to obtain a law degree in two years. However, BA(Criminal Justice) students will have sufficient credits in law to complete the LLB (Graduate Entry) programme in one year*, thereby obtaining a law degree in one year after completion of the BA(Criminal Justice). This is an ideal postgraduate option for graduates who wish to pursue a career within the legal profession.

Graduates on the programme may also opt to complete the MA in Criminal Justice and Human Rights offered by the School of Law.

Alternatively, you may decide to choose a career in the legal profession or policing and pursue professional education and training for acceptance into these professions

*Please note that to qualify for the option of completing the LLB (Graduate Entry) in one year, BA(Criminal Justice) students must complete LA4033 (Law of the European Union 1) and LA4044 (Law of the European Union 2) in the 4th year of their degree.

Career Prospects

The BA (Criminal Justice) prepares students for a wide variety of careers within the criminal justice sector and beyond. Graduates may opt for careers in policing, the legal profession, the private security industry, courts administration or the prison service, as well as within organisations which work in the prevention of crime and/or the support of victims and communities affected by criminal activity. You may also decide to pursue careers in related areas such as the civil service, research or journalism.

Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to hold at the time of enrolment the established Leaving Certificate (or an approved equivalent) with a minimum of six subjects which must include: Two H5 (Higher level) grades and Four O6 (Ordinary level) grades or four H7 (Higher Level) grades. Subjects must include Mathematics, Irish or another language, and English.

Note: Grade F6 in Foundation Mathematics also satisfies the minimum entry requirements. Foundation Maths is not reckonable for scoring purposes. For certain electives, additional special qualifications specific to individual subjects or disciplines may be determined by the respective departments in accordance with Academic Council regulations.

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We welcome applications from Mature Students. Mature applicants must apply through the Central Applications Office (CAO) by 1 February.



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