

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: RESEARCH APPRECIATION IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **4007LAWCJ** (107777)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Law  
Teaching School/Faculty: Law

Team	Leader
Matthew Millings	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ4  
**Credit Value:** 12.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 18.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 120  
**Private Study:** 102

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	11.000
Seminar	5.000
Workshop	2.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	2500 Word Research portfolio.	100.0	

### Aims

- To introduce the key practical and methodological issues that impact upon research into crime and criminal justice
- To develop an appreciation of the variety of approaches to conducting social research and how in practice they are organised
- To introduce and reflect upon a diverse collection of research material examining different aspects of the criminal justice system

- To equip students with the ability to explore the methodological strengths and weaknesses of research material(s)

- To prepare students for the core Level 2 module LAWCJ2067 Researching Criminal Justice' of the BA Criminal Justice single and joint honours courses

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Investigate an array of diverse information resources.
- 2 Demonstrate a basic understanding of research concepts, methodology and terminology.
- 3 Demonstrate information retrieval skills.
- 4 Demonstrate analytical abilities.
- 5 Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of competing research strategies.

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

CW	1	2	3	4	5
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## **Outline Syllabus**

*Introduction - Sources of Research Information*

*Official Statistics - issues of validity and the 'dark figure'*

*Researching Words and Seeking Understanding - Qualitative Research in Criminal Justice*

*Researching Numbers and Exploring Relationships - Quantitative Research in Criminal Justice*

*Introduction to the basics of data analysis*

*Introduction to Researching Offenders and Victims*

*Introduction to Researching the Police*

*Introduction to Researching Courts and Sentencing*

*Introduction to Researching Punishment*

*Introduction to Researching Youth Crime*

## Learning Activities

11 Lectures (11 hours) and 11 Seminars (11 hours)

## References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Bell, J
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Doing Your Reseacr Project
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Guide for First-Time Researchers in Education and Social Science.
<b>Edition</b>	3rd Ed.
<b>Publisher</b>	Open University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Jupp, V, Davis, P & Francis, P
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2000
<b>Title</b>	Doing Criminological Research
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London, Sage.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	King, RD & Wincup, E
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2000
<b>Title</b>	Doing Research on Crime and Justice
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Oxford, Oxford University Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Walliman, N
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2001
<b>Title</b>	Your Research Project
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Step-by-Step Guide for the First Time Researcher
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London, Sage.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Bryman, A

<b>Publishing Year</b>	2008
<b>Title</b>	Social Research Methods
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	3rd
<b>Publisher</b>	Oxford: Oxford University Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

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## Notes

The module aims to give students an introduction to the nature and methods of research used in the examination of issues around crime and criminal justice. The sessions seek to build a foundational knowledge of the concepts, methods and theory of social research that will be developed in the Level 2 module 'Researching Criminal Justice' LAWCJ2067. The core concern with this module therefore is to encourage students to develop the skills necessary to locate and examine sources of criminal justice research/literature. By identifying and discussing different approaches to conducting research, exploring their strengths and weaknesses and critically reflecting upon the findings generated; students will evidence the ability to meaningfully engage with criminal justice research. To this end the assessment for the course has been designed to be as useful as possible to help develop a level of methodological appreciation that will contribute to further study.