

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CRIMES OF THE POWERFUL  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5003LAWCJ** (107794)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

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

Team	Leader
Noel Cross	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5  
**Credit Value:** 24.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 34.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 240  
**Private Study:** 206

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	22.000
Tutorial	10.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	coursework - 3000 word assignment - semester 1 week 13	50.0	
Exam	AS2	exam - 2 questions	50.0	2.00

### Aims

*To analyse the social construction and various definitions of crime.*

*To analyse the relationship between these definitions and the various sources of power within society.*

*To consider critically the crimes that can occur as a result of imbalances of power within society.*

*To analyse the ways in which the criminal justice process responds to different types of crimes of the powerful.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Appreciate the social construction of crime, and critically evaluate the various definitions of crime put forward.
- 2 Understand why some crimes are regulated rather than prosecuted.
- 3 Appreciate the various sources of power in society, and how they assist in the commission of detected and undetected crime.
- 4 Show critical awareness of the different kinds of wrongdoing that can be thought of as 'crimes of the powerful', including domestic, sexual and racial violence (individual power), corporate and white-collar crime (power exercised by corporations and businesses), and state crime (occurring when states violate domestic or international laws).
- 5 Show critical awareness of how 'crimes of the powerful' are regulated by the criminal justice process, and how they might be more effectively regulated in future.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Coursework	1	2	3
Exam	4	5	

## Outline Syllabus

*Introduction: competing definitions of crime and power*  
*Crime, unemployment and poverty*  
*Corporate crime*  
*Occupational crime*  
*Organised crime*  
*Racial crime*  
*Domestic violence*  
*Sexual violence*  
*The police: culture, crime and miscarriages of justice*  
*Terrorism and the 'war on terror'*  
*Crimes of the state*  
*Cybercrime*

## Learning Activities

22 lectures (22 hours): listening, note-taking, critical reflection

10 tutorials (10 hours): reading, discussion and presentation of material

Private study: reading, researching information sources (including electronic sources)

Assessment: researching, planning and writing the essay

## References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Bowling, B.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Violent Racism.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Oxford: Clarendon.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Box, S.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1983
<b>Title</b>	Power, Crime and Mystification.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London: Tavistock.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Croall, H.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2001
<b>Title</b>	Understanding White Collar Crime.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Buckingham: Open University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Dobash, R.E., and Dobash, R.P.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1992
<b>Title</b>	Women, Violence and Social Change.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London: Routledge.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Green, P., and Ward, T.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2004
<b>Title</b>	State Crime
<b>Subtitle</b>	Governments, Violence and Corruption.
<b>Edition</b>	

<b>Publisher</b>	London: Pluto Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Muncie, J. and McLaughlin, E. (eds.)
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2001
<b>Title</b>	The Problem of Crime
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	(2nd ed).
<b>Publisher</b>	London: Sage/Open University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Nelken, D. (ed.)
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1994
<b>Title</b>	White Collar Crime.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Aldershot: Dartmouth.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Nelken, D.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2007
<b>Title</b>	'White Collar and Corporate Crime', in Maguire, M., Morgan, R., and Reiner, R. (eds.), The Oxford Handbook of Criminology
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	(4th ed.).
<b>Publisher</b>	Oxford: Oxford University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Ruggiero, V.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2000
<b>Title</b>	Crime and Markets
<b>Subtitle</b>	Essays in Anti-Criminology.
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Oxford: Clarendon.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Scraton, P. (ed.)
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1987
<b>Title</b>	Law, Order and the Authoritarian State.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	

<b>Publisher</b>	Milton Keynes: Open University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Slapper, G., and Tombs, S.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1999
<b>Title</b>	Corporate Crime.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London: Longman.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Stanko, E.A.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	1990
<b>Title</b>	Everyday Violence.
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	London: Pandora.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Ruggiero, V.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2006
<b>Title</b>	, Understanding Political Violence
<b>Subtitle</b>	A Criminological Approach.
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Maidenhead: Open University Press.
<b>ISBN</b>	

## Notes

This module is designed to examine closely the social construction of crime. It aims to provide a balance between theoretical perspectives and empirical, practical knowledge about the imbalances in society. It also aims to examine critically the relationship between these power imbalances and crime (reported and unreported), as well as the criminal justice system's responses to different 'crimes of the powerful'.