

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6004HUMPSY** (118937)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology  
Teaching School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology

Team	Leader
Susan Giles	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 24.00  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 48.00  
**Total Learning Hours:** 240  
**Private Study:** 192

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Summer

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	48.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	CW 1		50.0	
Essay	CW 2		50.0	

### Aims

*This module aims to enable students to apply psychological theories and concepts to an explanation of criminal behaviour; To critically discuss psychological processes occurring in various legal settings; To examine the psychologist's role and function in agencies involved with the offender.*

### Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO1 Assess the contribution of psychological theories and concepts to explaining criminal behaviour.
- LO2 Evaluate some of the research studies that have been carried out to examine psychological theories of criminal behaviour.
- LO3 Critically discuss psychological processes occurring prior to and during courtroom interactions.
- LO4 Analyse and evaluate the psychologist's role and function in agencies involved with the offender.

### Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Essay 1	LO 1	LO 2
Essay 2	LO 3	LO 4

### Outline Syllabus

*Appreciation of psychological and sociological perspectives; historical; biological and biosocial approaches; personality and crime and critique of this approach.*

*Learning to offend, social influence and situational determinants of behaviour as causes and control.*

*The offender as a rational decision maker; personal construct theory approaches.*

*Mental disorder and crime; personality disorder, the 'bad or mad' controversy.*

*Aggression and dangerousness.*

*Adult and juvenile sentencing; context and associated psychological factors.*

*Forensic psychology; the psychologist as expert witness; gathering and gaining evidence.*

*The use of hypnosis in police investigations. Decision making in legal settings.*

*Methods of collecting research evidence; the use of simulation studies. The work of the psychologist in custodial settings; social skills in training and group work.*

*Psychology in police education, and the prison service.*

### Learning Activities

Students read and discuss psychological theories of criminal behaviour and explore the role of Forensic Psychologists in the Criminal Justice System. Students research and prepare two coursework essays.

### References

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Davies, G., Hollin, C., and Bull, R.

<b>Publishing Year</b>	2008
<b>Title</b>	Forensic Psychology
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.
<b>ISBN</b>	

<b>Course Material</b>	Book
<b>Author</b>	Brown, J., and Campbell, E.
<b>Publishing Year</b>	2010
<b>Title</b>	The Cambridge Handbook of Forensic Psychology
<b>Subtitle</b>	
<b>Edition</b>	
<b>Publisher</b>	Cambridge University Press
<b>ISBN</b>	

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### Notes

This module examines the explanations put forward by psychological theories to explaining criminal behaviour. This module examines psychological processes related to courtroom interaction. It also analyses the role of the psychologist in agencies working with the offender.