

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING AND OFFENDING
Status: Definitive
Code: **6012CRIM** (115952)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Victoria Cooper	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 12.00
Total Delivered Hours: 24.00
Total Learning Hours: 120
Private Study: 96

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Runs Twice - S1 & S2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12.000
Workshop	12.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	2500 words	80.0	
Test	AS2	Online discussion: 500 words Essay	20.0	

Aims

1. To introduce students to the cyclical patterns between housing, homelessness, re-offending and (re)imprisonment.
2. To critically assess the housing inequalities facing ex-offenders and prison leavers, and evaluate resettlement projects established to tackle these inequalities.
3. To critically assess re-housing strategies surrounding 'unsuitable' and 'inappropriate' tenants in the community.
4. To critically interrogate crime control strategies, such as the Crime and Disorder

Act 1998, that criminalise activities associated with homeless peoples' daily routines.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically assess housing, homelessness and re-offending in relation to poverty, insufficient housing and lack of housing support upon leaving prison.
- 2 Critically analyse common assumptions and prejudices that stigmatise homeless populations as perpetrators of crime.
- 3 Critically evaluate the limits of official and state level knowledge concerning homeless peoples' experience of crime, violence and victimisation in society and engage with alternative studies by prison and homeless charities.
- 4 Critically engage with the gender divide in levels of welfare provision between families experiencing homelessness (mostly headed by single females), compared to welfare provision to rough sleepers and ex-offenders (mostly single men).
- 5 Critically engage with key texts and authors within housing, homelessness and prison studies.
- 6 Negotiate, select, plan and deliver an online blackboard discussion and an essay that critically engages with the course content.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Essay: 2500 words	1	2	3	6		
Online discussion: 500 words	1	2	3	4	5	6

Outline Syllabus

Overview: Provide a contemporary analysis demonstrating the links between the homelessness, hidden homelessness, people becoming homeless upon leaving prison and re-offending.

Explanations of re-offending and homelessness: Introduce some of the indicative causal explanations surrounding homelessness and re-offending.

Policy and Practice: Introduce some of the key studies of charities and government agencies in tackling the social inequalities facing young people, prisoners and homeless people. Amongst others, these include: Crisis, NACRO, Supporting People, Youth Justice Board, the Social Exclusion Unit and the Howard League for Penal Reform.

Learning Activities

Note-taking, reading, online participation, general contribution to classes, effective working within groups, preparation of essay drafts for final essay assessment, as well as use of Blackboard and the participation in an online discussion.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Alexander, K.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Blocking the fast track from prison to rough sleeping
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Rough Sleepers Unit
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Clapham, D. and Hutson. S.
Publishing Year	1999
Title	Homelessness
Subtitle	Public Policies and Private Troubles
Edition	
Publisher	London: Cassell
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	DeClerk, P.
Publishing Year	2005
Title	The Necessary Suffering of the Homeless'
Subtitle	pp 161-176 in Divided Cities by R. Scholar (Eds,)
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford: Oxford University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Howard League for Penal Reform
Publishing Year	2005
Title	Young, Neglected and Back
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Howard League for Penal Reform
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Porteus, D.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	The Wrong Kind of Victim: Young People and Street Crime
Subtitle	p14-24 in Children as Victims by Kennison, P. and Goodman, A. (Eds)
Edition	

Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Social Exclusion Unit
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Reducing Re-offending by Ex-Prisoners
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	SEU: London
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Wardhaugh, J.
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Subcity
Subtitle	Young People Homelessness and Crime
Edition	
Publisher	Aldershot: Ashgate
ISBN	

Notes

This module will establish the links between homelessness, insufficient housing and re-offending. As well as guide students through the relevant legislation and policy programmes that have both a negative and positive impact on homelessness and ex-offenders, this module will also provide students with a deep understanding about governance strategies of the state in relation to crime control prevention strategies and the privatisation of public space. Bringing these disparate research areas under one module, students will acquire a deep-seated understanding of types of crime as caused through poverty and, how appropriate housing can reduce re-offending.