

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Comparative Criminal Justice  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6020LAWCJ** (127175)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Justice Studies  
Teaching School/Faculty: Justice Studies

Team	Leader
Kate Bates	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 20  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 24  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200  
**Private Study:** 176

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Seminar	12

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	ASS1	Students will be required to submit a 4000 word project.	100	

### Aims

*The overall aim of this module is to examine the practices, policies, and philosophies of criminal justice in different cultural and geographical contexts and provide an overview of different types of criminal justice systems around the globe. It will trace the evolution of different criminal justice systems and assess their legal doctrines and applications of punishment. Comparative criminal justice studies identify four major legal traditions that each have their own respective body of laws: Common law; Civil law; Socialist law; and Sharia law. This module will focus upon the different*

*types of societies that use these laws, their methods of legal enforcement and their different types of punishment, such as capital, corporal, and carceral. It will study the different types of legal tradition and analyse the issues they solve and create. It will use this information in order to learn not only more effective ways of enforcing laws, but also to identify the problems that may arise within a system due to its methods.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an advanced and theoretical understanding of the four major legal traditions
- 2 Critically evaluate how different legal traditions work through each stage of the criminal justice process
- 3 Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different systems of criminal justice
- 4 Compare and contrast different approaches to, and understandings of, criminal justice in a globalised context, using theoretical ideas as a platform

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

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

4000 word project	1	2	3	4
-------------------	---	---	---	---

## **Outline Syllabus**

*An introduction to comparative criminal justice: crime across the countries*  
*The historical-political approach to comparative criminal justice*  
*The four major legal traditions: Common law; Civil law; Socialist law; and Sharia law*  
*The Common Law model: courts, criminal procedure, policing, and punishment*  
*The Civil Law model: courts, criminal procedure, policing, and punishment*  
*The Socialist model: courts, criminal procedure, policing, and punishment*  
*The Sharia model: courts, criminal procedure, policing, and punishment*  
*Alternative models of criminal justice*

## **Learning Activities**

Lectures  
Seminars

## **Notes**

Comparative criminal justice is a subfield of the study of criminal justice that compares justice systems worldwide and examines how concepts of law and punishment vary from country to country. It studies the similarities and differences in structure and goals, as well as the history and political stature of different systems.

Research on comparative criminal justice systems focuses on the various ways nation states attempt to maintain social order and accomplish justice, and examines the ways different countries and jurisdictions deal with the main stages and elements in the criminal justice process, from policing through to sentencing. This module will therefore provide students with a critical understanding of the development of alternative justice processes across the globe.