

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: DISSERTATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **6500LAWSTH** (116259)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Law
Teaching School/Faculty: St Helens College

Team	Leader
Lawrence Burke	

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 36.00
Total Delivered Hours: 35.00
Total Learning Hours: 360
Private Study: 325

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	5.000
Tutorial	20.000
Workshop	10.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	Essay - literature reviews to be incorporated into your dissertation (2,000 words).	20.0	
Dissertation	AS2	Essay - written dissertation on a selected criminal justice topic (excluding bibliography and footnotes, 10,000 words).	100.0	

Aims

To engage in the process of research using an eclectic mix of materials to facilitate your investigation, and presentation of your findings.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Identify a suitable topic for development into a ten thousand word dissertation by undertaking a substantial and advanced literature search and review associated with your topic.
- 2 Undertake sustained relevant research including the skills of: - Accessing and retrieving relevant information. Analysing and criticising information. Presenting and communicating effectively the product of independent research.
- 3 Demonstrate, through the writing of their dissertation, a critical awareness and understanding of the position and role of Criminal Justice Studies within one or more of its social, economic, political, policy, historical, philosophical, moral, ethical or cultural contexts.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Proposal	1
Dissertation	2 3

Outline Syllabus

Lectures will deal with generic dissertation matters.

Learning Activities

Lectures, research exercises, collective pooling, literature reviews. Tutorial direction review meeting with supervisor.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Reardon, D
Publishing Year	2006
Title	Doing Your Undergraduate Project
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Sarantakos, S

Publishing Year	2005
Title	Social Research
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	3rd edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bryman, A
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Social Research Methods
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	2nd edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gash, S
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Effective Literature Searching for Research
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	2nd edition, Aldershot: Gower
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Jupp, V, Davies, P and Francis, P (eds)
Publishing Year	2000
Title	Doing Criminological Research
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Strauss, A and Corbin, J
Publishing Year	1990
Title	Basics of Qualitative Research: Grounded Theory Procedures and Techniques
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Sage
ISBN	

Notes

Students may write a dissertation upon an agreed topic, contributing 36 credits to their final year of study. The Dissertation provides students with the opportunity to study a topic in depth by identifying and developing a research question and then carrying out a small piece of original, independent research and analysis under the supervision of a member of staff. The original research can take one of three forms: the collection and analysis of qualitative or quantitative data; the secondary analysis of an existing data set (such as the British Crime Survey or General Household Survey); or the analysis of primary documents within a clear analytical framework. Primary research into a new and unreported area is not required. Students should research using available materials from secondary sources that provide different perspectives.

In this module students will write a dissertation upon an agreed topic, contributing 36 credits to their final year of study. The Dissertation provides students with the opportunity to study a topic in depth by identifying and developing a research question in Criminal Justice Studies within one or more of its social, economic, political, policy, historical, philosophical, moral, ethical or cultural contexts and then carrying out independent research and analysis under the supervision of a member of staff.

Students opting to undertake their dissertation by beginning in term 1 will submit their literature reviews by a set date in late November and will then have 3 months to complete their research and submit their dissertation by the first set deadline (Group A).

Students opting to submit their Dissertation later in the year should attend the 12 credit module of Victims and Witnesses and be assessed at the end of semester 1. Any student failing to apply for the early submission will be added to the second group and be required to attend the 12 credit module in semester 1.

Dissertation supervision:

St Helens College HE provision includes dissertation modules on a number of its Honours Degree Programmes and the College has many years experience of delivering, supervising and assessing dissertations at this level. In the new College structure operational from August 1st 2010, all HE teaching staff will be managed in the new HE faculty. As a result of this, the delivery of dissertation modules on all programmes will be supervised and monitored by a small team consisting of a member of staff with considerable experience of delivering dissertation modules and the senior tutor for HE Quality who also has experience of supervising dissertations and of externally examining them for a number of universities.

This will assure consistency of delivery of the modules whilst allowing individual programme teams to ensure that dissertations reflect the specific content of the programme. This team will also conduct internal verification of the assessment of dissertations and be involved in double marking of a sample of dissertations.

Additional support will be offered to all students in researching, planning, referencing and production of dissertations by programme academic staff and specialist staff from the skills for Life unit.

The College keeps copies of all dissertations produced previously which can be made available to students when producing theirs.