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Title: Youth Justice
Status: Definitive
Code: **7035LAWCJ** (119457)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

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

Team	Leader
Noel Cross	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 24
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 176

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Non Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Tutorial	12

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	YJ Essay	5000 word essay	100	

Aims

To develop an analytical approach to understanding the treatment and experiences of young people within, and at the hands of, the criminal justice system; to consider the historical basis of the youth justice system and how political influence has played a significant role in the current development of youth justice policy; and to enable critical comparison of youth justice policy in different countries worldwide.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 critically reflect upon the systems in place that deal with young people in criminal justice systems around the world, the values that underpin their operation, and the experiences of those that pass through them
- 2 critically examine the historical basis of current youth justice policy in England and Wales.
- 3 critically evaluate the influence of political changes on youth justice policy, in England and Wales and elsewhere.
- 4 clearly demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between current legislation and youth justice service delivery in England and Wales.
- 5 to critically determine the criteria that should be utilised to judge effectiveness and impact within a coherent approach to youth justice service delivery, nationally and internationally.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

5000 word essay	1	2	3	4	5
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Outline Syllabus

Youth Crime in context

- *Persistent young offenders and general trends in youth crime*
- *Young people as victims of crime*
- *Perceptions and realities: media representations of 'youth crime'*

Youth Justice in context

- *the origins and emergence of a juvenile justice system*
- *the punitive shift and hardening of attitudes towards young offenders*
- *the rise of managerialism and professionalisation of youth justice through the development of Youth Offending Teams (YOTs)*
- *new solutions to an age-old problem; non-custodial penalties, anti-social behaviour orders, referral orders, and Youth Offender Panels (YOPs)*

Challenges for Contemporary Youth Justice

- *critical reflection upon the expansion of the anti-social behaviour agenda*
- *the morality of imprisoning young people*
- *seeking alternative youth justice solutions within the 'community'*
- *referral orders and the appeal of restorative youth justice*

Youth Justice in a Global Perspective

- *France and Scotland: models for a more welfarist approach to youth justice?*
- *The USA: the politics of mass juvenile incarceration*
- *Scandinavia: a tolerant approach to youth crime*
- *Japan: corporatism and populism in youth justice*

Learning Activities

Students will evaluate and analyse information relating to the topics. They will critically consider policy and legislation in relation to young people. Participate in discussion and group exercises to assess seriousness of offences and assess suitability of sentences.

Students will also engage in self-directed study based upon critical reflection on course materials provided.

Dedicated assessment guidance built into the teaching programme

Notes

This module aims to give students a critical, theoretically-informed grounding in the study of youth justice, both nationally and internationally. In particular, it will focus upon the links between theory, policy and practice in the delivery of youth justice systems, in England and Wales and elsewhere. Students will be expected to show critical understanding of the significance and practical role of such key theoretical models as welfarism, punitivism, managerialism and rights-based approaches, and their role in postmodern societies.