

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Covert Techniques - Legislation and Operational Capability
Status: Definitive
Code: **7106PSCPD** (126557)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
Daniel Silverstone	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 21
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 179

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: S1 & S2 & Summer

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	19
Workshop	2

Grading Basis: 50 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	2500 Word Essay	60	
Presentation	AS2	10 Minute Presentation	40	

Aims

The programme will initially consider the governing legislation and procedures relating to the deployment of covert techniques and will critically assess the argument and balance between privacy against safety and security.

Students will assess the various covert methods and technical equipment that is currently available and will examine the relevant law, procedures and guidance that govern the use of covert techniques in both reactive and proactive investigations.

The programme will evaluate the regulations, benefits and risks of managing the product from covert activities together with the authorisation processes and levels of governance, scrutiny and accountability that are in place.

NOTE - This module is only available for the closed client group of officers and staff employed by law enforcement agencies who have the current level of vetting, as required by their respective employer, to be deployed in this area of investigation.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically assess the current legislation and procedures relating to the use of covert techniques by law enforcement agencies
- 2 Compare and evaluate the balance of views between the right to privacy against the requirement for safety and security
- 3 Critically assess the type of techniques and technical equipment available, how these may be used in both reactive and proactive investigations and how the product from such deployments is effectively managed
- 4 Evaluate and measure the Governance, scrutiny and accountability that is in place to manage the use of covert techniques and equipment by public authorities

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

2500 Word Essay	1	2	3	4
10 Min Presentation and Poster	1	2	3	4

Outline Syllabus

The Current Legislation – Background & Rationale

Privacy -v- Safety & Security

Covert Methods and Technology

Covert Capability in Reactive and Proactive Investigations

The Management of Product from Covert Techniques

The Authorisation Processes, Governance, Accountability & Scrutiny

Learning Activities

Lectures and workshops (with some online activity where necessary).

One of the key themes running through this module will be the development of the skills and knowledge to link theory and professional practice.

Where necessary, the module will utilise blended learning techniques, combining traditional teaching strategies with immersive learning and e-learning.

Students will be encouraged to monitor their own learning in this module, supported by an experienced and knowledgeable mentor, through their Personal Development Plans.

Lectures will be delivered by the module Lead and other LCAPS staff, together with guest speakers from relevant professional backgrounds who have particular credentials and expertise in parts of the curriculum.

Skills will be increased through case studies, through practical application in the workshops to highlight the issues under discussion and through plenary sessions and feedback.

Students will be expected to engage in self directed and supported learning to develop their knowledge and the practical application of it. Any issues raised during lectures can be further explored during plenary sessions, within smaller groups, with their allocated mentor and/or the module team.

Notes

Programme code: 36225

There are no professional body requirements at present. Developments of the College of Policing are constantly monitored and incorporated, where appropriate.

Benchmark Statement:

There are no subject benchmarks for police studies but cognisance has been taken of the evolving police professionalisation agenda and where applicable the requirements of the College of Policing, together with appropriate National Occupational Standards for policing set out by Skills for Justice, the Benchmark Statements for Criminology and other QAA Benchmark Statements when appropriate.

Mode and Duration of Study:

This CPD module will be offered on a part time basis and through delivery on-site (at LJMU), off-site or through a blended delivery process incorporating some distance learning where necessary.

The university's Virtual Learning Environment, Canvas, will be utilised to support the delivery of this programme.

This programme will be available from March 2019 and whilst the intake month is flexible, it is possible to commence the programme in semester 1, semester 2 or during the summer period. The duration of study will usually be across 18 weeks,

Criteria for Admission:

This CPD module is ONLY open to recruitment for the closed client group of officers and staff employed by law enforcement agencies who have the current level of vetting, as required by their respective employer, to be deployed in this area of investigation. The entry requirement is a first degree at 2:2 or above, international

equivalent. The content of the programme is of relevance to individuals from the closed client group referred to above working in the police service and other law enforcement agencies who will deal with the deployment and use of covert techniques as a key element of their work processes (e.g. the NCA, DWP and H&S Executive).

Name of Final Award:

Certificate of Professional Development - Covert Techniques, Legislation and Operational Capability.

Student Support:

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of; student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.

Assessment Regulations:

As a programme leading to academic award by LJMU, this module operates within the University's Academic Framework, details of which are available at <https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-qualityand-regulations/academic-framework>

Attendance Requirements

Students should strive to attend all taught sessions in line with the University's Attendance Policy.

This course was written in March 2019.

Methods for Evaluating and Improving Quality:

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable. The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), published review reports are available on the QAA website at www.qaa.ac.uk

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys, module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes. The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make

improvements.

The University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements. The assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations. The academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience.

Alignment for CME:

For the purposes of CME, this CPD programme will be reviewed alongside the MSc in Advanced Policing (35837)

Alignment to External Examining:

This CPD programme will be considered by a Board of Examiners and the same existing arrangements in respect of the External Examiner for the LCAPS MSc in Advanced Policing Studies will be utilised. This arrangement will be subject to approval via the appropriate University mechanisms.