

Module Information

2022.03, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	7214PS
Formal Module Title	Covert Techniques: Legislation and Operational Capability
Owning School	Justice Studies
Career	Postgraduate Taught
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 7
Grading Schema	50

Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Justice Studies

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Online	33

Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
APR-MTP	MTP	April	12 Weeks
JAN-MTP	MTP	January	12 Weeks
SEP-MTP	MTP	September	12 Weeks
SEP_NS-MTP	MTP	September (Non-standard start date)	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	<p>Breakdown of delivery and contact hours per week. There will be 33 hours of total delivery for this Module. This will include 3 hours online presentations per week for each of the 11 topics. Additional direct contact is made as and when required between the Student and Module and / or Programme lead. This module provides an overview of major covert techniques currently deployed by the Intelligence Services and Law Enforcement with the exception of HUMINT which is already covered in depth at core Module 7208PST. The programme will initially consider the governing legislation and procedures relating to the deployment of covert techniques within the United Kingdom and will critically assess the positions on the balance between privacy against safety and security. It will also explore the development of this legislation from common law and internal procedures to human rights compliant legislation. Students will assess the various covert methods for the capture of intelligence /and or evidence currently available and will examine these in the context of the relevant law, procedures and guidance that govern the use of covert techniques in both reactive and proactive investigations. The programme will evaluate the published policy and legislation accompanying the use of techniques. It will explore the opportunities and risks of managing product generated from covert activities together with the authorisation processes and levels of governance, scrutiny and accountability in situ. It will introduce the students to the competing tension between the rights to individual privacy and the States responsibility to provide its citizens with a safe and secure environment and where any interference with rights are kept to a level that is no more than necessary. It aims to enhance student's awareness of the breadth and scope of covert collection use within crime and counter-terrorism contexts both nationally and abroad. It will investigate and critically analyse the contribution covert technical collection makes to community safety. It encourages and enhances the student's critical thinking regarding the assessment, authority (legal and internal) and deployment of covert techniques. The module gives both a historical and contemporary overview of covert techniques use, reinforcing understanding through the exploration of specific case studies. The learning drawn from these case studies are vital to understanding the use of covert techniques by agencies authorised to utilise the powers. The programme will examine the future of covert policing including the increasing use of such techniques by the unregulated private corporate sector and by non-government organisations. It will view and critically assess alternative collection methods including intelligence and evidence generated by artificial intelligence, biometrics and social media. The module will enable students to develop an advanced and critical knowledge of key methodological issues. Students will critically assess these provisions in the context of debate around intelligence use in both a private and public context, formal and informal intelligence use, and the use of intelligence in Crime, Military and Terrorism contexts. The curriculum will allow students to generate a critical appreciation of the diverse range of uses of covert techniques including communications data, equipment interference, counter-surveillance techniques, surveillance alongside organisational leadership and structures associated with covert techniques.</p>
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the impact and influence policy has, and continues to have, on professional practice in covert investigation and specialist intelligence within the context of, national security, law enforcement and counter-terrorism (Programme Specification Learning Outcome 1)
MLO2	2	Demonstrate a critical appreciation of the influences and drivers of policy and practice change in the broad areas of covert investigation and specialist intelligence (Programme Specification Learning Outcome 2)
MLO3	3	Identify a range of research strategies and methods and reflexively assess the merits of each (Programme Specification Learning Outcome 5)
MLO4	4	Understand and show sensitivity to diversity issues and competing interests in covert investigation and specialist intelligence to identify and take account of normative and moral positions (Programme Specification Learning Outcome 7)
MLO5	5	Articulate arguments and conclusions based on evidence and that are subject to a well- developed critical appraisal and imaginative judgement (Programme Specification Learning Outcome 10)

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	Historical and current legislative provision theoretical perspectives of IntelligencePolicy formation in Government in relation to covert techniques.The use of contemporary technical innovation to support reactive and proactive investigation.Organisational structures that support covert policing deployments.Judicial rulings, states cases, public inquiry and covert techniquesThe relationship between Human Rights and Covert techniques.
Module Overview	
Additional Information	Corresponding CPD Module: 7106PSCPDCore Topics:Development of covert capabilities LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Investigatory Powers Act 2016: Context and capabilities LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Physical surveillance techniques LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Technical surveillance techniques LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Interception of communication (Telephone and Mail) LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Digital Surveillance LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Equipment Interference and Part III Police Act 1997 LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Counter-surveillance techniques LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Tasking and Coordination of covert operations LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2,3,4Senior leaders and decision making in covert operations LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1,2

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Essay	2,500 word assignment 1	50	0	MLO2, MLO3, MLO1, MLO5, MLO4
Essay	2,500 word assignment 2	50	0	MLO2, MLO3, MLO1, MLO5, MLO4

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Ann Stevens	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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