

## Module Specification

### Module Summary Information

<b>1</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	Homicide and Organised Violent Crime
<b>2</b>	<b>Module Credits</b>	20
<b>3</b>	<b>Module Level</b>	7
<b>4</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	CRI7034

<b>5</b>	<b>Module Overview</b>
<p>This postgraduate module provides students with an opportunity to critically engage with some of the key aims of their programme by examining some of the contemporary debates that surround the phenomenon of homicide and multiple homicide, and a range of separate and related forms of Organised Violent Crime - and how various perspectives have generated their own arguments in an attempt to understand this unique form of offending. In doing so, students will be given various case studies of serial murderers, violent crimes, organised crime while focusing on both historical and contemporary cases, whilst also providing how academic understanding and society has developed during this time.</p> <p>By presenting both a theoretical discussion and real life cases, students will be provided an opportunity to develop knowledge and critical understanding of criminology and related disciplines both in theory and in practice. They will also be exposed to one of the areas of excellence for the Centre for Applied criminology and the research specialisms of a wide number of CAC staff, working in an area where BCU and CAC have significant research standing and public presence.</p> <p>Both homicide and the multiplicity of organised violent crime manifest themselves variety of contexts. From drug trafficking, human trafficking, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in arms and money laundering organised forms of violent crime and homicide are frequent topics covered in the media. The nature of these crimes are subject to a great deal of criminological debate, in some views, criminal actors have evolved to be professional criminal networks, elastic in its form and with the ability to move quickly, transform and be ruled from different locations. Communication and technology have facilitated the rapid change and adaptability of criminal networks and created greater sophistication. Other more sceptical and critical accounts suggest that much routine violent and organised crime stems from lower level and less sophisticated criminality. So too homicide is a much more complex concept than surface level accounts of murder alone understand. This module will give students a comprehensive and critical introduction to these topics and encourage them to actively research areas of interest toward assessment through the development of an assessed individual written case study essay.</p>	

<b>6</b>	<b>Indicative Content</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is homicide?</li> <li>• Types of homicide – domestic homicide, confrontational homicide, revenge homicide</li> <li>• Serial homicide</li> <li>• Spree and mass homicide</li> <li>• Violence</li> <li>• Organised Crime</li> </ul>	

- Collective violent crime
- Media representations of homicide and violent organised crime
- Investigating homicide and violent organised crime

Various case studies of serial murderers, violent crimes, and organised crime, focusing on both historical and contemporary cases will be considered within the module.

<b>7 Module Learning Outcomes</b>	
<b>On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:</b>	
<b>1</b>	Critically consider 'homicide' violent and organised crime and other terms used by academic criminologists in relation to this type of crime, providing detailed critique and understanding of contemporary debates around the social phenomena of violent crime.
<b>2</b>	Locate individual homicide cases and violent organised crime within the conceptual and theoretical frameworks of criminological studies and critically reflect upon academic and public debates in light of socio, economic, political, cultural and technological factors.
<b>3</b>	Provide critical commentary and considered reflection on the role of the media in helping or hindering understandings of homicide and organised violent crime.
<b>4</b>	Produce a piece of considered, critical writing that is conducted in accordance with academic conventions including proper use of Harvard referencing and conveys argument in good, written English.

<b>8 Module Assessment</b>			
<b>Learning Outcome</b>			
	<b>Coursework</b>	<b>Exam</b>	<b>In-Person</b>
<b>1-4</b>	<b>X</b>		

<b>9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities</b>	
<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<b>Scheduled Learning (SL)</b> includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	24
<b>Directed Learning (DL)</b> includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	24
<b>Private Study (PS)</b> includes preparation for exams	152
<b>Total Study Hours:</b>	200