

LA2H1-15 GENDER, VIOLENCE & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

26/27

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Laura Lammasniemi

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module examines how gender shapes experiences of crime, victimisation, and criminal justice. Drawing on feminist and socio-legal scholarship, it explores gendered patterns of violence, offending, and inequality, and considers how law constructs and responds to gendered harms. Through case studies and creative assessment, students on the module will analyse why women are criminalised, how girls are positioned in justice processes, and why the criminal justice system continues to fail women who experience violence and abuse.

Module aims

- To introduce students to key concepts and debates concerning gender, crime, and criminal justice, with particular attention to feminist and socio-legal perspectives.
- To examine how gender shapes patterns of offending, victimisation, and criminalisation, and how these intersect with race, class, age, sexuality, and other social identities.
- To explore how law, policy, and criminal justice institutions construct, regulate, and respond to gendered harms, including violence against women, girls, and other marginalised groups.
- To develop students' ability to apply theoretical frameworks in practice.

- To build students' skills in communicating complex ideas through visual, oral, and reflective forms of assessment, and to support their ongoing academic development through engagement with readings and weekly reflection.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

This is an indicative list of topics, and the specific topics covered may vary:

1. Trends, Issues in Gender & Criminal Justice
2. Feminist theory on Gender & Criminal Justice
3. Gendered Victims: Responding to Domestic Abuse
4. Gendered Victims: Responding to Rape and Serious Sexual Assault
5. Gendered Victims: Responding to Digital and Online Abuse
6. Gendered Offending: Responding to Domestic Homicide
7. Gendered Offending: Responding to Girls in Gangs
8. Gender and the Criminal Justice System: Institutional violence or/ Responding to Women in Custody
9. Reflection, Law, and Feminist Futures

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- 1. Critically examine how gender shapes patterns of offending, victimisation, and criminal justice responses.
- 2. Analyse key feminist and socio-legal theories that explain gendered experiences of crime and justice.
- 3. Apply theoretical insights to real-world examples and case studies.
- 4. Communicate research findings and critical arguments effectively through written, visual and oral forms of assessment.
- 5. Reflect on their academic development by engaging thoughtfully with readings, classroom discussions, and evolving understandings of gendered issues in crime and criminal justice.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Research element

Assessment includes a research-based academic poster .

Interdisciplinary

- The module draws on scholarship and methods from law, criminology, psychology, sociology, gender studies, and socio-legal research.
- Students engage with interdisciplinary readings and apply theoretical tools across multiple forms of evidence, including case law, policy, qualitative research and other texts.
- Teaching encourages students to integrate perspectives across disciplines to deepen understanding of gendered experiences of crime and justice.

Subject specific skills

- Ability to analyse how gender shapes patterns of offending, victimisation and criminal justice responses.
- Application of feminist, socio-legal and criminological theories to cases, policies and contemporary justice issues.
- Interpretation and critical evaluation of academic literature across law, criminology, and gender studies.
- Capacity to synthesise theoretical and empirical insights to produce coherent, well-supported arguments.
- Effective communication of complex ideas through visual, oral and written formats.

Transferable skills

Critical reflection, learning adaptability, development of personal worldview. Identifying, clarifying, questioning, interpreting, analysing, contextualizing, and synthesizing issues, data and arguments. Presentation of findings orally and in writing.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Private study	92 hours (61%)
Assessment	40 hours (27%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Module reading and workshop preparation.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group C

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Poster & Reflective Statement	50%	20 hours	No
A research-based academic poster on a topic chosen by the student, with guidance from the teaching team. The poster is expected to include both text (max 500 words) and visuals. Students will accompany the poster itself with a Reflective Statement (max 1,500 words) in which they will set the wider evidence context for the poster content, explain their objectives in selecting this topic and in the design and of the poster, and critically reflect on their ability to have met those goals.			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component			
Oral Examination	50%	20 hours	No
An oral examination (20 minutes) in which the student will respond to questions from the teaching team designed to ensure coverage across the module and test understanding of theories and themes raised as well as their reflective engagement around the adequacy of existing law and policy responses. This offers an AI-safe form of assessment to the module.			

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Individual written feedback and general (cohort) feedback (standard Law School policy).

[Past exam papers for LA2H1](#)

Availability

Pre-requisites

To take this module, you must have passed:

- All of
 - [LA104-30 Criminal Law](#)

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
 - Year 2 of M130 Law
 - Year 2 of M130 Law
- Year 3 of ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M135 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
- Year 2 of ULAA-MR00 Undergraduate Law with French
- Year 2 of ULAA-MR01 Undergraduate Law with German
- Year 2 of ULAA-M136 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law