UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

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Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Social Science, Humanities and Creative Industries		
Course Code(s):	LW083H01UM LW083H31UM	Full-time Part-time	3 Years 6 Years
UCAS Code:	L435		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Policing and Intelligence		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Policing and Intelligence Bachelor of Science Policing and Intelligence Diploma of Higher Education Policing and Intelligence Certificate of Higher Education Policing and Intelligence		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of first cohort:	14/Sep/2026		
Specification valid from:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Jonathan Briggs
Head of Department:	Mr Sukhninder Panesar

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The BSc (Hons) Policing and Intelligence degree provides bespoke education for those looking to pursue a career in policing or adjacent law enforcement roles (NCA, Customs, Home Office etc.). The degree has been created to focus upon the collection and assessment of information and intelligence within the context of policing and national security. The course has been designed to meet many of the requirements of the policing curriculum as set out by the College of Policing, the professional body of the police service.

This degree is devised, through a crafted selection of specially created modules, to equip you with both a strong academic and practical footing in modern policing and intelligence gathering, suitable for both police officer and police staff roles within UK policing as well as other organisations within the wider criminal justice system. There are two specific routes offered, the ‘forensics’ pathway and a ‘cyber’ pathway; students will be able to choose option modules at all three levels of their degree that will enable them to specialise in these fields. The degree is currently the only course of its type in UK higher education.

As well as the industry-relevant skills that a policing degree provides, you will also be able to develop other important competences that are of great interest to future employers. These include; the ability to present a strong argument, research skills, analytical skills, and the ability to work effectively in teams.

A wide range of guest speakers provide chances to build your professional network and hear about prospects and challenges. You will have opportunities to apply your learning in realistic environments using our Crime House and Courtroom. The course is taught by experienced former police officers with a wide spectrum of operational experience across several forces as well as professionally experienced experts in cybercrime and forensics.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2025/6	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9535.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£15995.00
2025/6	H	Part Time	£4768.00
2026/7	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9790.00
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£17600.00
2026/7	H	Part Time	£4895.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4PL024	Succeeding at University in Professional Policing	30	SEM1	Core
4FS011	Introduction to Forensic Science	30	SEM1	Core
4PL026	Police Procedure and Evidence	30	SEM2	Core
4CJ009	Crime, Victims & Rights	30	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type	
5PL022	Professional Development in Policing	30	SEM1	Core	
Option Group 02 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30					
5FS016	Crime Scene Investigation	30	SEM1	Core/Option	Rebecca Flanagan
5CJ014	Punishment	30	SEM1	Core/Option	David Cox
5PL021	Securing the State: Intelligence, Secrecy, and Law Enforcement	30	SEM2	Core	
5PL024	Intelligence-led policing: Organised crime, the roads and analysis	30	SEM2	Core	

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6PL027	Dissertation	30	YEAR	Core
6PL024	Policing and Vulnerability: Cybercrime, privacy and risk	30	SEM1	Core
6PL026	Counterterrorism	30	SEM1	Core
6PL025	Police Accountability and Standards of Professional Behaviour	30	SEM2	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

Academic Regulation:

1.2.8 Courses will have at least 33% difference between module diets for courses with different titles. In calculating the difference, the following will not be included:

- Level 3 Foundation Year Modules
- Independent Study Modules

Exemption:

BA (Hons) Professional Policing (accredited by College of Policing) and BSc Policing and Intelligence (unaccredited) have only 27% differentiation in module diets. The courses are closely aligned to enable those unable to attain an accredited course (e.g. such as those aspiring to careers outside of the police force, or those who have transferred from unaccredited courses/seeking top-up unaccredited police-service and blue light qualifications studied elsewhere).

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Apprenticeship Standard

Overview of Assessment:

As part of the course approval process, the course learning outcomes were mapped to each of the modules forming the diet of the programme of study. This process confirmed that all course learning outcomes can be met through successful completion of the modules. This mapping applies to the final award as well as to all of the intermediate awards.

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts, theories and principles associated with Policing and intelligence gathering and assessment in the UK. (KNOWING)	
CERTHE02 Evaluate, interpret and apply data, to develop ideas and provide evidence. (KNOWING)	
CERTHE03 Use different approaches to solving problems related to your studies of policing and intelligence gathering. (DOING)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments. (DOING)	
CERTHE05 Identify and undertake further training and develop new skills to support your learning.(BEING)	
CERTHE06 Identify personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study and/or employment. (BEING)	
DIPHE01 Demonstrate a good understanding of the purpose of, and the responsibilities associated with, delivering an effective criminal justice system that utilises professional policing and associated governmental organisations. (KNOWING)	
DIPHE02 Demonstrate an ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a law enforcement context and apply the appropriate methods and techniques to conduct, review and assess an investigation or research project. (KNOWING)	
DIPHE03 Demonstrate an ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a law enforcement context and apply the appropriate methods and techniques to conduct, review and assess an investigation or research project. (DOING)	
DIPHE04 Demonstrate an ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a law enforcement context and apply the appropriate methods and techniques to conduct, review and assess an investigation or research project. (DOING)	
DIPHE05 Demonstrate a good understanding of the processes and methods of intelligence gathering and assessment in a UK law enforcement context. (BEING)	
DIPHE06 Demonstrate the qualities and skills necessary for employment in a UK government agency with investigatory powers, showing an understanding of ethical behaviours, reflective practice, bias and its impact and the importance of professionalism. (BEING)	
BHONSN01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the purpose of, and the responsibilities associated with, delivering an effective criminal justice system that utilises professional policing and associated governmental organisations. (KNOWING)	
BHONSN02 Demonstrate an ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a law enforcement context and apply the appropriate methods and techniques to conduct, review and critically evaluate an investigation or research project. (KNOWING)	
BHONSN03 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of legislation, policies and police powers in England and Wales and be able to apply these effectively in practical scenarios to solve common policing and intelligence issues (DOING)	
BHONSN04 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of legislation, policies and police powers in England and Wales and be able to apply these effectively in practical scenarios to solve common policing and intelligence issues (DOING)	

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONSN05 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the processes and methods of intelligence gathering and assessment in a UK law enforcement context. (BEING)	
BHONSN06 Demonstrate the qualities and skills necessary for employment in a UK government agency with investigatory powers, showing a thorough understanding of ethical behaviours, reflective practice, bias and its impact and the importance of professionalism. (BEING)	
BHONS01 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the purpose of, and the responsibilities associated with, delivering an effective criminal justice system that utilises professional policing and associated governmental organisations. (KNOWING)	
BHONS02 Demonstrate an ability to accurately deploy established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a law enforcement context and apply the appropriate methods and techniques to conduct, review and critically evaluate an investigation or research project. (KNOWING)	
BHONS03 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of legislation, policies and police powers in England and Wales and be able to apply these effectively in practical scenarios to solve common policing and intelligence issues (DOING)	
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BHONS05 Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the processes and methods of intelligence gathering and assessment in a UK law enforcement context. (BEING)	
BHONS06 Demonstrate the qualities and skills necessary for employment in a UK government agency with investigatory powers, showing a thorough understanding of ethical behaviours, reflective practice, bias and its impact and the importance of professionalism. (BEING)	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

The course is taught through a variety of inclusive learning activities, these include lectures, seminars, small group discussions, student presentations, videos, and guest speakers.

The academic teaching team draw on relevant research and evaluation, use current materials such as official inspections, reports from NGOs (non-governmental organisations) and items from the news/social media to provide different perspectives and evidence on policing and the social, political and organisational contexts in which it takes place.

We believe it is important that you are encouraged to make your own contribution to the effective operation and development of your course. We hope that you might consider acting as a Course Representative during some of your time with us to help the university continue to improve your experience.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

A variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your university studies and into your working life. Your course will include a variety of assessment activities: essays, reports, presentations, posters, podcasts, multiple choice exams and timed essay exams. Whilst most assessments are undertaken individually, a few are group tasks. In the final year of your degree, you are expected to write an extended piece of work and research referred to as a dissertation.

These assessments help students to develop and demonstrate intellectual skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and evidence-based argument. Additionally, they are aligned with the skills and knowledge required for professional practice within policing and adjacent areas of work. There is a strong emphasis on delivering clarity and accuracy in both written and verbal work, reflecting a critical professional skill.

Clear, detailed feedback is given by staff on all work submitted. There are well-defined expectations established around all assessments. Assignment feedback and feedforward are provided through annotated comments on submissions, assessment sheets containing marking criteria, and opportunities for one-to-one meetings.

Further Information for Student:

Transition Support:

The module Succeeding at University in Professional Policing at Level 4 has been designed to enable you to appreciate the purpose, value and responsibilities of the UK police service in a variety of contexts and whilst developing academic research and writing skills and the ability to think critically.

All students will have a personal tutor to support their progress throughout their course. Support and guidance are available from their tutor or a member of the teaching team by appointment. Also, drop-in appointments are available for all students if they need to see their tutor at short notice without the need to book an appointment. Student well-being is a priority throughout the degree programme.

Student Support:

The University provides a wide range of academic and pastoral support to help students succeed in their studies and personal development. This includes access to the Library and Skills for Learning service, student success coaching students in their early stages, and tailored advice from the Careers and Enterprise teams. Students also benefit from 24/7 wellbeing support through WLV Student Life Connect, pastoral care via the Multi-faith Chaplaincy, and assistance from the Mental Health and Wellbeing team. Those living in university accommodation have additional access to Residential Life support, and all students can engage with the Students' Union for advocacy, societies, and further peer-led services.

Currency:

The course is designed to allow the breadth of content to be regularly updated to reflect current research, changes in legislation and policy, and contemporary issues within the subject area. Modules are 'refreshed' every year to ensure this. Additionally, staff will integrate discussion of new and emerging news stories or issues as they occur.

All the staff teaching this course retain professional networks within police services in England and Wales and within the College of Policing alongside the specialist areas of forensic science and cybersecurity. This allows them to remain up to date with changes to policy and legislation and to retain an awareness of emerging issues. Also, the variety of guest speakers used on the course reflect a range of people currently employed within the criminal justice system (CJS) and these speakers discuss contemporary issues and challenges.

Students are actively encouraged to become Special Constables whilst at university, or to take up other volunteering opportunities related to the CJS (custody visitor/Street Watch/etc.). This allows students to gain experience of working with the public and make positive contributions to life of their communities. The experiences of students in these volunteer roles are discussed during teaching and act as powerful and current examples.

Personalisation Opportunities:

The modules on the BSc (Hons) Policing and Intelligence will uniquely enable you to develop technical expertise which can be applied to a range of investigative, forensics, IT and cyber security roles with an array of organisations, such as the National Crime Agency, the Home Office, GCHQ, the Security Service, the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), the military police, and the civil service.

You can choose modules which provide you with forensic investigative skills, cyber-security skills, knowledge of intelligence relating to various aspects of terrorism and counter terrorism, and knowledge of criminal law.

Additionally, in the final year of the degree, you will be able to choose an area of policing to research in detail. You will select and research an area in depth utilising critical thinking, project management and research skills to produce an investigation of the selected area. Students have previously undertaken dissertations on a very wide range of topics including knife crime, violence against women and girls, terrorism, drug smuggling, modern slavery, crime prevention strategies, and the impact of social media on a variety of relevant areas, including; perceptions of crime, gang membership and perceptions of the police.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

The course is informed by elements of the Professional Policing Degree created by the College of Policing, which is the professional body for policing, but it contains a wider curriculum. The degree has been created to focus upon the collection and assessment of information and intelligence within the context of policing and national security. Students can acquire skills related to forensic science and cybersecurity. Alongside this, they develop skills and the professional approaches that have been identified as critical to 21st century policing. These include (but are not limited to): evidence-based policing; decision-making and discretion; criminology and crime prevention; pro-active approaches to vulnerability, risk and public protection.

The course also teaches skills that will be useful for those wishing to work policing or in other related areas with investigatory or enforcement powers, for example; National Crime Agency, probation service, military police, private security industry, civil service and local government.

We actively assist and advise students in applying for these roles and can help with preparation for the selection procedures that are required.