

## The Centre for Criminology

Criminological research has a long and distinguished history in Oxford spanning over 30 years. The Centre is part of the Faculty of Law. It is based in the Manor Road Building together with other departments in the social sciences and the Social Science Library. The Centre currently comprises the following members who are involved in both teaching the MSc programmes and supervising research students:

Professor Andrew Ashworth; Dr. Mary Bosworth; Dr. Ros Burnett; Dr. Benjamin Goold; Dr. Carolyn Hoyle; Dr. Liora Lazarus; Professor Ian Loader; Professor Julian Roberts; Professor Federico Varese; and Professor Lucia Zedner.

Under its Director, Professor Ian Loader, the Centre has developed a vibrant programme of research in the fields of policing and security; sentencing and punishment; public opinion, politics and crime control; victims; organized crime, and rehabilitation and desistance. Its members are committed to connecting criminological work to the broader concerns of the social sciences; to thinking comparatively about crime and punishment; to bringing together sociological and normative approaches to the analysis of crime and justice; and to working at the intersections between criminology and public policy.

These are also the approaches to the study of crime that inform teaching and supervision in the Centre. They make it an intellectually stimulating and collegial environment in which to study criminology as a graduate student.



## Studying in Oxford

Oxford is a collegiate university. Every student registered for a degree has to be a member of a college as well as a member of the University. Your college is not merely a residential community but also an academic environment, and as a graduate student your college will take a close interest in your progress.



## Want to know more?

For details of our postgraduate programmes, funding information and answers to frequently asked questions, visit:

[www.crim.ox.ac.uk](http://www.crim.ox.ac.uk)

For details of application procedures and links to college information, visit:

[www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/postgraduate/)

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*Photos: Nasir Hamid, Gareth Edwards, Rob Judges and Phil Sayer*

## GRADUATE CRIMINOLOGY



Opportunities for  
Postgraduate Study  
in the Centre  
for Criminology  
at the University  
of Oxford

[www.crim.ox.ac.uk](http://www.crim.ox.ac.uk)





## Taught programmes

### MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice

This is a one-year full-time programme which equips its graduates with an advanced understanding of crime and criminal justice. The degree comprises core courses in criminological theory and the study of criminal justice, provides training in research design and methodology, and offers students the opportunity to take optional courses in a wide range of subject areas, including policing, sentencing, prisons and punishment, restorative justice, mafias, human rights, victims, risk and security, and the death penalty. Students also research and write a dissertation on a subject of their own choosing under the guidance of a supervisor. A stimulating and demanding programme, involving intensive learning in small groups, the MSc is suitable for those with an excellent first degree in sociology, law, politics, psychology, history or another subject relevant to criminology.

### MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice (Research Methods)

This variant of the MSc is especially designed for those who are thinking of going on to doctoral study in criminology or to a career in professional social research. It is a one-year full-time programme that couples grounding in the study of crime and criminal justice with a rigorous training in all aspects of the theory and practice of research methodology. The degree comprises core courses in criminological theory and criminal justice together with courses in research design, data analysis, statistical methods and qualitative research. Students also take two options in substantive criminological topics and participate in a research workshop which prepares them for the dissertation, which they research and write over the summer.

### The Master of Philosophy (MPhil)

This is a one-year, full-time degree available only as an add-on to the MSc degrees. Admission to the MPhil is conditional upon good performance on the MSc. Students usually take up their MPhil places straight after the MSc. MPhil candidates research and write a thesis of up to 30,000 words on a topic of their choice under the guidance of a supervisor, as well as taking courses in research design and data analysis (if these have not been completed during the MSc). As well as being a degree in its own right, the MPhil offers an important bridge between the MSc and doctoral study, and can be used as the first year of a DPhil.

## Research programmes

### The MLitt/DPhil in Criminology

The DPhil Criminology entails researching and writing a thesis of between 75,000 and 100,000 words over a period of three or at the most four years. The thesis must make a significant and substantial contribution to the field. Students are never admitted to the DPhil programme directly. They are transferred to DPhil status following a 'qualifying test' taken at the end of their first year as a probationer research student, or following the MPhil (see above). DPhil students work under the guidance of at least one supervisor who will be an acknowledged authority on their chosen topic. The areas in which members of the Centre for Criminology are able to offer supervision include:

*Policing and security; sentencing; crime, risk and justice; human rights and criminal justice; victims; prisons; the sociology of punishment; restorative justice; desistance; death penalty; mafias and organized crime; gender, race and justice; public responses to crime; the politics of crime control; crime, criminology and social/political theory.*

DPhil students in the Centre for Criminology have access to dedicated workspace in the Centre, as well as to the Social Science and Bodleian Law Libraries. They will also be able to participate fully in the intellectual life of the Centre through its programme of staff-student research workshops, reading groups and seminars.

## Funding

Each year the Centre awards two ESRC '1+3' or '+3' Quota Studentships. These are available to applicants from the UK (fees plus stipend) and EU (fees only) who are applying for the MSc Criminology and Criminology (Research Methods) degree followed by doctoral study, or for DPhil entry having completed an ESRC recognized Master's programme.



The Centre hopes each year to award a number of bursaries to students on its Masters' and DPhil programmes. Applicants to the Centre's programmes may also be eligible to apply for other sources of funding inside and outside Oxford.

More details can be found at [www.crim.ox.ac.uk/graduate/funding.htm](http://www.crim.ox.ac.uk/graduate/funding.htm)

## Applying for a place

One of the most frequently asked questions is: 'If I apply, will I get in?' Entry is competitive and we compare all applications we receive in an attempt to choose the best. In general, we are looking for people who have, or are predicted to obtain, a good upper second class degree or its overseas equivalent. Applicants to ESRC studentships will be expected to have, or predicted to obtain, a very good upper second or first class degree. The higher the standard of your first degree, the more chance there is of being offered a place.

In making admission decisions we take careful note of your academic performance and recommendations, and in the case of research degree applicants we need to consider the quality of your research proposal and our ability to provide high-quality supervision for it. If your first language is not English, we will also require you to submit a language test score. We may make you a conditional offer – in which case expect us to be strict about the conditions.

The Centre considers applications for the MSc programmes and DPhil study between January and May. Places on the MSc degrees are limited and early applications are therefore encouraged. The deadline for those who wish to be considered for ESRC funding is early May and applications must be made in advance of that date.