

# Get ready for BSC (HONS) Applied Criminal Justice (Top-Up)

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader, I would like to warmly welcome you onto the Applied Criminal Justice Top-Up Degree. The programme will offer a unique insight into the criminal justice system, focussing on a wide range of areas that make up the sector. The programme offers a variety of choices, allowing you to create a tailored learning experience in areas that you are interested in, or are passionate about.

The learning journey will have a blended approach allowing you to study and learn in a way that has a minimal impact on your professional occupation. The flexibility and applied nature of the programme will create and support your career, enhancing your critical thinking skills within the criminal justice environment.

The term will start with informative sessions about support that is available for studying, assignment writing and other fundamental components of your academic journey.

Below is some further information that will help you prepare for the start of the programme, but please do contact me if you have any questions.

I look forward to meeting you!

**Dominic McVeigh**

Programme Lead

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## Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 15 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the [Starting Block webpage](#) for more details.

Your [timetable](#) will be available to you via [MYUWE](#) (login required) once you have started the registration process. Please visit the '[Understanding your teaching timetable](#)' webpage to find out when your timetable will be published.

## **Preparing and arrival**

You can find everything you need to know about registration, Starting Block and the start of teaching on our [Preparing and Arrival](#) webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the [library](#), [study skills](#), [academic support](#), [health and wellbeing support](#) and much more.

## **Registration**

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the [MYUWE](#) platform where you can register. You will receive an email from the University inviting you to register online. You can find guidance and support information on our [Registration](#) webpage.

## **ID card - upload your photo now**

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to [MYUWE](#). To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our [student card guidance](#).

## **Engage with your programme**

### **Start your learning**

Have a go at these activities to start preparing for your programme.

- Join the [Society of Evidence Based Policing](#)
- Start to think about what interests you within Criminal Justice and what you would like to explore further (*for example - this could be a particular policy or procedure that you feel could be better*).

### **Read around your subject**

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the [Library](#) webpages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

Here are some of our recommended titles for you to read, to be inspired by and to understand the scope of your degree programme:

Criminological Theories: Introduction, Evaluation, and Application (Akers and Sellers, 2013)

[Reading List – Applied Criminal Justice and Community Policing](#)

[Reading List – Violence Against the Women and Victim's Voice](#)

## Connect with others

The academic team is very happy to answer any questions. In addition, all students have an [academic personal tutor \(APT\)](#) and can go to that staff member with academic questions and concerns.

## Be prepared

### Access support

Check the information on our [Disability web pages](#) so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

### Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use in your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the [Student Money Service](#) for advice and guidance.

See the UWE webpage for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#). For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

### International students

[The Global Student Support Team](#) offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol, and they organise social events to help you adapt to your new environment.

## Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact me: **Dominic McVeigh** via email at [dominic2.mcveigh@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:dominic2.mcveigh@uwe.ac.uk)

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2025

Last updated: Spring 2025