



## Academic Promotion Discipline Statement

Discipline Area: Human Society  
Discipline: Criminology  
School: Australian Graduate School of Policing and Security & Centre for Law and Justice

### Discipline Overview

Criminology is the study of crime via a social lens. Criminological inquiry traditionally, though not exclusively, focusses on three central concepts, namely crime, criminals, and controls. Viewing crime in this manner triggers questions pertaining to who commits crimes, why they commit them, their impact, and how to better address or prevent them. The criminological discipline is academic in nature and not practised as a stand-alone profession outside of academia.

Criminology first emerged in the late 1700's and early 1800's via the study of crime and punishment in Europe, while the formal recognition of criminology as an academic discipline has evolved since the 1920's. Today as an academic discipline, criminology includes 20 areas of specialisation at the six-digit code level, as designated by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification. Criminology is also an interdisciplinary field, spanning or intersecting with behavioural and social sciences and associated fields of inquiry including but not limited to history, philosophy, sociology, psychology, gender, law, political science, race and critical theory, and media studies.

Criminological concepts are taught across undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, including those anchored in criminology specifically, as well as those in related fields of inquiry. Subsequently, criminology represents a range of approaches and sub-disciplines, variously named according to the focus of study (e.g. media criminology, national security and terrorism, state crime, white-collar crime, economic crime, cybercrime, etc.) and/or the methodological approach taken (e.g. developmental and life course criminology, critical criminology, applied criminology etc). Criminology, therefore, is found across a number of degree programs within the Australian Graduate School of Policing and Security, and the Centre for Law and Justice.

An academic criminologist would typically hold a bachelor's degree in a relevant area, an honours and/or master's degree, followed by a relevant doctoral qualification as required by TEQSA, or equivalent professional experience. Criminology traverses a diverse array of theoretical paradigms and methodological approaches. This includes qualitative and quantitative methods, or a combination thereof. They may work in public or private sectors, in areas related to the diverse disciplines noted above.

### Gender Profile

Profession/Industry	Data not currently available
Higher Education Sector	Data not currently available

Charles Sturt University	57% male / 43% female
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## Discipline Context and Expectations

<b>INDUSTRY ACCREDITATION</b>	There are no accreditation requirements for courses in the discipline of criminology.
<b>DISCIPLINE PEDAGOGIES</b>	Undergraduate or postgraduate coursework are taught using the usual pedagogies of higher education. With no external accreditation or registration requirements, there is considerable scope to develop/refine subject content and delivery. There are no mandated workplace learning requirements.
<b>STUDENT PROFILE</b>	Student profiles vary across the Australian Graduate School of Policing and Security, and the Centre for Law and Justice. Students in some degrees are a mix of school leavers and/or mature individuals. In other degrees, students are typically experienced and employed professionals drawn from both the public and the private sectors.
<b>STUDENT FEEDBACK/PERFORMANCE</b>	There are no unique discipline specific attributes in relation to student feedback.
<b>RESEARCH APPROACH</b>	Criminology is both a discipline in its own right, and an interdisciplinary field. It encapsulates an array of theoretical paradigms and methodological approaches. This includes both qualitative and quantitative methods, or a combination thereof. Research may be empirical, theoretical, normative, positivist, or applied etc., in nature.
<b>PUBLICATION</b>	Journal articles in Q1 and Q2 journals are highly regarded, and sole authored book are very highly regarded. A mix of single /co-authored is the expectation with authors listed in order of contribution. Publication expectations follow the usual expectations for an academic discipline in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Where criminology is undertaken in an inter-disciplinary context, publication norms may vary dependent on the publication discipline and publication requirements of the particular journal.
<b>CONFERENCES</b>	Conferences in this discipline and/or associated fields of inquiry are hosted by international or domestic associations, institutes, universities, and professional bodies. Conferences by stakeholders in the public and private sectors are also available. Closed workshops hosted by stakeholders, including government agencies, are also key events.
<b>GRANTS</b>	Funding sources include Australian Research Council (particularly linkage grants) and National Health and Medical Research Council grants, research consultancies from state, territory, and federal government departments, judicial engagements, and dedicated small grant schemes through the Australian Institute of Criminology and Criminology Research Council among others.
<b>HDR SUPERVISION</b>	Criminology, and its related fields of inquiry, attract a healthy number of HDR students. It is expected that mid-career and senior academics would supervise and co-supervise HDR students.



<b>RECOGNITION</b>	Recognition for service in the field and associated fields of criminology vary. Industry recognition may be evidenced by speaking, research, and other engagements, while academic recognition may be demonstrated through special issues, fellowships, awards and other measures. Recognition of teaching excellence is typically evidenced through internal university mechanisms.
<b>EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT</b>	Criminology academics are expected to be active contributors/commentators in public affairs in their area of expertise. Their leadership and impact may be within university, community and/or a diverse range of social and political policy domains depending on their area of specialisation.
<b>PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION</b>	No professional registration required for this discipline.

<b>Prepared by</b>	Academic Promotion Team	
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