



University of
Leicester

Department of Criminology

MSc IN
**Security, Conflict and
International Development**



Course Delivery
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iPad App

THE Awards Winner
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

www.le.ac.uk/criminology



iPad app

Our Innovative Learning Tool

We want to provide our students with a rich and interactive learning experience; that's why we've created an iPad app so you can access course materials when you're on the move – providing the ultimate in flexible distance learning.

And that's why we're also providing every student with an iPad, as part of the course fee.

Flexibility is key to your learning experience so we've ensured that our electronic course materials can be accessed via the app or simply via the Internet and our virtual learning environment, Blackboard.

What is Distance Learning?

Whereas traditional campus-based study requires students to live in, or travel to, Leicester, students on distance learning courses study at home – from anywhere in the world. Your learning materials are accessed online. Distance learning with the Department of Criminology means studying in your own time and at your own pace, so you can combine achieving a qualification with work or family commitments. At the end of the course you will have a fully recognised Degree, just the same as those awarded to students on campus.

Programme Outline

This innovative and exciting postgraduate degree programme focuses on how to meet the strategic security and justice challenges of countries emerging from conflict.

Designed specifically for those working – or hoping to work – in international development, and especially post conflict recovery, the programme seeks to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of: responding to the challenges of countries emerging from conflict; security sector reform; how to develop the rule of law; the importance of human rights in delivering justice and security; and broader issues relating to international security and the risks posed by countries emerging from, and vulnerable to, conflict. Using state-of-the-art learning technologies, the MSc in Security, Conflict and International Development provides students with the opportunity to develop their professional careers in an area of growing strategic importance.

Aims and Objectives

The programme is designed to give students the opportunity to develop a broad range of knowledge and skills including:

- Detailed understanding of a broad range of issues relating to security, conflict and international development.
- Awareness of key concepts associated with security, conflict and international development and capability of applying knowledge and understanding in workplace situations and to new contexts and environments.
- Ability to analyse key theoretical approaches to understanding the causes of conflict and evaluating the appropriateness of preventative methods in this field.
- Understanding of the ways in which to respond to the challenges of conflict and immediate post-conflict environments.
- Comprehensive understanding of post-conflict recovery efforts in the security and justice sectors, combined with an awareness of concurrent political, economic, development and humanitarian efforts.
- Capability to present knowledge and arguments clearly, confidently, coherently and concisely using a variety of communication formats.
- Ability to assess the appropriateness of the evidence and the methods used in studies relating to security, conflict and international development, including their value and limitations.
- Ability to undertake analysis and reflect critically and contextually on material related to security, conflict and international development.



Is this course for you?

This programme of study is designed for those working or intending to work in international development, or those interested in this field. Representatives from organisations that will be particularly interested include:

- The United Nations (Political Affairs Officers; Programme Managers; Judicial Affairs Officers; Corrections Officers; Police Advisors; Policy and Planning Officers);
- Institutions such as the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); European Union (EU); Council of Europe (CoE); Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);
- Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Saferworld, International Alert, The Asia Foundation, Amnesty International; and
- Donor agencies and government bodies such as the UK's Department for International Development (DFID); the Open Society Institute (OSI) and the Soros Foundation Network.



Structure and Assessment

The programme has been designed to enable you to study at MSc, Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate level:

Postgraduate Level	Time Taken	Programme Content
Master of Science Degree (MSc)	2 Years	Modules one to six and a dissertation
Postgraduate Diploma (PgD)	1.5 Years	Modules one to six
Postgraduate Certificate (PgC)	1 Year	Modules one to three

The MSc programme is studied part-time over two years. The course consists of six modules, all of which must be successfully completed to qualify for the Postgraduate Diploma in Security, Conflict and International Development. To progress to the MSc degree a dissertation must also be successfully completed.

The programme is based on continuous assessment, with each of the six modules comprising an 'e-tivity' – an online activity which comprises 20 per cent of the mark and a written paper of not more than 3,500 words. Each module lasts around 12 weeks, three weeks of which are intended for you to write your assignments. You will have approximately five months to complete your dissertation, which can be on a topic of your choosing (subject to agreement with your supervisor).



Module 1:

Conflict Prevention, Response and Recovery

This module introduces the core security-related concepts currently used in the field of post-conflict intervention and development. Thereafter, factors relevant to the prevention of and recovery from conflict will be analysed. In this context, the causes of conflict will be considered and conflict prevention activities undertaken by the international community, in particular, will be analysed; considering the extent to which conflict prevention is prioritised, where successes have been and where limitations exist. The module also reflects upon the cessation of armed conflict and challenges posed in its immediate aftermath. To contextualise the main focus of the course – post-conflict security and justice – the module also reflects upon efforts in the humanitarian, political, economic and development sectors to respond to immediate needs, stabilise a post-conflict environment and facilitate progress towards peace.



Module 2:

Security and Rule of Law in Post-Conflict States

This module addresses core post-conflict security and justice issues and provides an overview of key stakeholders involved in providing and maintaining security and the rule of law in countries emerging from conflict. In particular, the role of international police and military missions in post-conflict states and the responsibility of their national counterparts will be considered. The module also addresses the extent and nature of the threat of mines, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) in post-conflict environments, and looks at the aims, activities and actors associated with mine action. Similarly, the threat of the unregulated circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) will be considered alongside the activities and actors involved in arms control. As a key feature of peacebuilding efforts, Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) of combatants will be examined, with particular attention given to its goals, challenges and lessons learnt. Transitional justice, as a means of addressing war crimes and other serious violations of international humanitarian law will be considered and its impact on the peacebuilding process, the forms it can take, and the challenges it can entail.

Module 3:

Researching Security, Conflict and International Development

This module provides you with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of a range of methodological approaches and issues that will equip you with the skills to enable the undertaking of your own specialist research for your dissertation. Covering both quantitative and qualitative methods, the module provides a detailed understanding of how to design and undertake rigorous and robust research projects.

Module 4:

Security Sector Reform

Key to securing peace, stability and development is an effective, efficient and fair security and justice sector. In recognition of this, comprehensive Security Sector Reform (SSR) programmes are often implemented in post-conflict countries. This module takes an in-depth look at the core features of SSR, alongside the roles of the different actors involved and challenges faced. Under the umbrella of SSR, the module will review the activities and actors associated with Justice Sector Reform, Police Reform, Penal Reform, Defence Reform and the establishment or strengthening of oversight bodies. The module will also consider the role of informal security and justice mechanisms in post-conflict states. Lessons learned and best practises in respect of coordination, project management, transition of authority/ownership, resource mobilisation, communication and outreach strategies and, above all, the effectiveness and sustainability of efforts to reform the security and justice sector will be reviewed.

Module 5:

Human Rights, Justice and Security

This module reflects upon the importance of human rights in promoting peace, security and justice. The relationship between human rights, justice and security will be analysed, before outlining some of the typical human rights violations associated with countries in conflict, emerging from conflict or vulnerable to it. Issues such as the principles of equality and non-discrimination, as well as concepts of vulnerability and exclusion, will be examined. Particular attention will be given to the insecurities suffered by women, children and other vulnerable or marginalised groups in conflict and post-conflict societies. The module will conclude by considering mechanisms to promote protection of human rights and access to justice, focussing especially on juvenile justice in post-conflict societies.

Module 6:

International Security Risks

This module addresses the key international security threats associated with conflict-affected or conflict-vulnerable countries. Of the many security risks that are posed by countries emerging from conflict, this module analyses the impact on the stability of neighbouring and regional countries. It goes on to consider the nature, extent and threat of cross-border and organised crime, including the trafficking of drugs, weapons and humans. The humanitarian crises that are often associated with conflict and immediate post-conflict environments, particularly large-scale refugee flows, will also be scrutinised. Finally, the developmental and environmental harm as well as the economic costs of conflict will be considered, as will the nature and threat of terrorism and piracy, and efforts to counter them.

Dissertation

Upon successful completion of the six modules, students can go on to submit a dissertation of not more than 20,000 words, in order to be awarded the MSc in Security, Conflict and International Development. The dissertation can be on any topic relevant to the course and each student will be allocated a supervisor to guide them through the process of researching and writing their dissertation. This is the opportunity for you to develop new knowledge and understanding that will be of considerable value to your own professional development, the organisation in which you are employed and the people you work with in the field.

Mode of Learning

The programme makes use of state-of-the-art teaching methods, providing students with a rich and interactive learning experience. All the course materials will be provided in electronic format and will be accessible via the Internet and on an Apple iPad, which will be provided as part of the course fees. Students will be able to download the majority of the required materials (some documents will not be available to download due to copyright restrictions) so that they can continue to study even when access to the Internet is not available. Where possible course textbooks will be also be provided electronically, but where this is not possible, hard copy books will be sent to the student directly. All course assessments will be submitted online via the University of Leicester's bespoke Virtual Learning Environment: Blackboard, which will also enable students and staff to exchange information, as well as give access to the University's impressive and extensive e-library. Students will be encouraged to use a range of communication methods including Twitter, Wikis and blogging to share information, exchange ideas and develop networks. Please note, this course is only available in this format – students that cannot access the Internet will not be able to enrol on this programme.



iPad app

Why Study by Distance Learning with the Department of Criminology?

If you join the Department of Criminology at the University of Leicester you will be joining a thriving academic community at one of the UK's top 20 universities. Here are some of the key strengths that set us apart as a leading provider of distance learning education in the field of criminology, policing, international development and security and risk management.

Career Progression

A postgraduate distance learning qualification from the University of Leicester is career changing. It can be the springboard to promotion with your current employer, the platform to move into a new area or to simply become more effective in your current role. Our courses are designed to attract mid-career professionals who are looking to add an academic dimension to their professional profile. Studying by distance learning has the benefit of allowing you to develop your career without having to leave employment. It also means that you can apply new knowledge and insights to your working life while you are still studying – many students choose to tackle work-related topics in their dissertations. In short, completing one of our distance learning courses allows you to support your professional work experience with an academic qualification which will enhance your CV and be used as evidence to demonstrate to your current or potential employer your skills and abilities.

Our Quality and Experience

The University of Leicester is a leading UK University committed to international excellence through the creation of world changing research and high quality, inspirational teaching. The University of Leicester is ranked amongst the top 20 universities in the UK in all major UK media league tables and was named the Times Higher Education University of the Year 2008/09. Not only will you benefit from our excellent research and teaching, you will also benefit from studying with a University that has a huge amount of experience in distance learning. The University of Leicester has over 18 years experience of offering high quality distance learning courses. Around 18,000 students have successfully graduated with a qualification studied through distance learning. For over 17 years the Department of Criminology has been a leading institution for distance learning degrees in the fields of security and risk, policing, community safety and criminal justice. This means we are experienced in the provision of distance learning and can understand the specific needs relevant to distance learners. We have a team of staff dedicated to supporting our distance



learning programmes. At the Department of Criminology, distance learning is part of our core educational provision and our programmes are flexible, high quality and focussed on you and your needs.

Flexibility

The main advantage of study by distance learning is that you have the flexibility to study in your own time, from home or at the office, as there are no timetabled classes to attend. This means you can fit studying for an academic qualification around work or family commitments. The distance learning format means that you can study with us from wherever you are in the world. We currently have students studying our distance learning programmes in many different countries including Canada, Ghana, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Malta, The Netherlands and Trinidad. For all our distance learning programmes we offer two start dates a year: March and September.

Learning Support

Self-study is central to distance learning. However, support is always available from tutors and support staff at the Department of Criminology. You will be provided with a comprehensive and user friendly study pack including a course handbook, timetable and module information. You will have access to the library's special service for distance learning students and to our virtual learning support environment, Blackboard. There will also be the chance to visit Leicester on one of our study schools designed to enhance your learning experience by providing face to face teaching and enabling you to meet staff and other students.

Frequently Asked Questions

When do the courses begin and when should I apply?

The courses begin the first week in March and September each year. You can apply at any time, although we do recommend that you apply well before the course is due to start. There is an application deadline, normally three weeks before the start of an intake. Please check our website for details of the exact application deadline: www.le.ac.uk/criminology.

Who can I ask to be a referee and what should the references include?

References are usually provided by a present or former employer or a member of academic staff at your previous university. We also accept personal references from a friend or colleague, especially if they have experience in a relevant field. We can accept two work references. The references are similar to a reference provided for a potential employer in that they are required to give the admissions panel an idea of your skills and experience and your suitability to undertake the proposed course of study.

I do not have an undergraduate degree, will I be accepted for an MSc?

An undergraduate degree is not always necessary as the admissions tutor will assess your application as a whole. Therefore, they will look carefully at your qualifications, your professional experience, your personal statement and your references in order to make a decision on your application. Each application is assessed on its own merits but as a general guide, if you have significant professional experience in a related field at a senior or managerial level then you may be a suitable candidate for a Master's programme.

I am an international student, do I need an English language qualification?

If your first language is not English and you have not lived in a country where the first language is English for three years prior to commencing the course, then you will need to have an English language qualification. For details of acceptable qualifications please see the English Language section on page 9.

How will I access course materials?

This programme is provided exclusively online – students will need to have regular access to the Internet to enable them to access course materials, update the Apple iPad that will be provided as part of the course fees, communicate with your tutor

“Throughout the two years the Department of Criminology and library staff responded to all enquiries in a timely, professional and helpful manner. Their support was invaluable, enabling me to access material and consistently achieve high essay grades. The difference between the University of Leicester and other distance learning universities is their professionalism and commitment to their students. I cannot fault it. In times of financial insecurity my MSc has provided me with options, appealing to a broad range of employers within both government and commercial sectors.”

Michelle Barden,
MSc Security and Risk Management graduate

and other students, and submit your assignments. In addition, when learning materials cannot be provided electronically, they will be sent in the post to you directly. The University of Leicester has an impressive e-library available to all students, enabling you to access all the latest books, reports and journals relevant to your particular topic.

How will the University support me through my studies?

Studying via distance learning is not easy and you will need to think about when you are going to study and how regular study time will fit into your life. However, we take the delivery of distance learning very seriously and will make every effort to make the experience enjoyable and rewarding. You are provided with a timetable when you start your programme and key study targets are identified to enable effective time management. You will be supported by a dedicated team of tutors and support staff available through Blackboard and via email. You will be provided with a handbook that includes information about members of staff in the Department and provides you with the contact details of the specific staff responsible for the course you are studying. Tutors will always be available to you to discuss any aspects of your study either by phone or email. You will have full access to the Leicester Digital Library and the University's student support services. The Student Support and Development Service can provide advice on essay writing and study skills. More information about their services can be found by visiting their website:

www.le.ac.uk/ssds.

Is it possible to have a break from my studies?

We aim to be as flexible as possible as we understand that fitting academic study around professional and personal commitments can at times be difficult. On our MSc programmes, in extenuating circumstances, it may be possible to take a break from your studies. Our support team are available to provide advice if you find you are having difficulties.

I haven't studied for some time – will I be able to manage?

The course materials have been designed to help students improve their study skills as well as their knowledge. You are not expected to be an expert in your chosen field of study but you are expected to apply yourself to your reading, note taking and assignments. The most important requirements are motivation and commitment as well as a willingness to learn new skills.

How many hours a week will I need to study?

The amount of time needed does vary from student to student but as a very rough guide we recommend that you will need to set aside between 12 and 15 hours per week study time.

When and how do I pay my fees?

If your application is successful we will send you instructions about how to make payment. We offer a number of flexible payment plans for each of our programmes, which means you do not have to pay for them all in one go. We accept a number of payment methods.

What methods of funding may be available to me?

There are several funding options available to you. If you are a UK student, you may wish to consider a Career Development Loan which are offered by several high street banks. You can borrow between £300 and £8,000 towards tuition and you only begin to pay back the loan after your course finishes. Many organisations will sponsor their employees on vocational courses that fit in with their business needs. We have many students on our distance learning courses that are sponsored fully or in part by their employer. We are also an approved provider for the Ministry of Defence Enhanced Learning Credit Scheme (ELCS) for UK armed forces personnel. If you are a current or former member of the armed forces in the UK then you may be eligible for ELCS funding. Please visit their website for further information: www.enhancedlearningcredits.com.

Will I be required to visit the University of Leicester campus?

Even though you may be studying via distance learning, you are still a University of Leicester student. You will be issued with a University library card and you are encouraged to make use of the University's facilities wherever possible. We also run study schools at the University for all our distance learning students. We recommend that students who are in the UK, or who are able to travel, do try to attend the study schools as they provide important support and guidance at key points during the course. They are also an excellent opportunity to meet staff and fellow students. However, we recognise the fact that for some of our students, coming to the UK is not an option and it is possible to complete our courses from wherever you are in the world. We make the study school material available to our students online as well so that those who are not able to travel to Leicester can benefit.

Where will I graduate?

Graduation ceremonies take place in Leicester. Attendance is optional, but many distance learning students welcome the chance to visit the University, meet fellow graduates and celebrate their success.

Will my degree certificate have 'distance learning' on it?

No, our degree certificates do not have the mode of study on them. The degree that you receive will be exactly the same as those received by our campus-based students.

Do you offer any campus based courses?

Yes, the Department of Criminology offers an undergraduate BA Criminology programme and a suite of campus-based MSc courses. For more information about our campus-based courses please contact the Department or visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology.

I have more questions, who do I contact?

We understand that choosing to study via distance learning is an important decision and we are therefore happy to answer any further questions that you may have.

Please contact:

Admissions Administrator

Department of Criminology, University of Leicester,
154 Upper New Walk, Leicester, LE1 7QA

t: +44 (0) 116 252 5780

f: +44 (0) 116 252 5788

e: crimadmiss@le.ac.uk

How to Apply

Applying by Post

To apply by post you will need to complete an application form and send it in to the Department of Criminology along with the required supporting documents. You can download a copy of our application form from our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology. Alternatively, you can complete the prospectus request form on our website and a copy will be sent to you in the post. Completed application forms along with the required supporting documents should be sent to: Admissions Administrator Department of Criminology, University of Leicester 154 Upper New Walk, Leicester LE1 7QA.

Applying Online

To apply online please visit the postgraduate prospectus online: www.le.ac.uk/pgprospectus. You will need to enter your chosen course into the 'search courses' box. At the end of the application process you will be able to upload your supporting documents. In addition, if you have supplied email addresses for your referees, they will be contacted via email and offered the opportunity to upload references via a secure link. However, we encourage you to check that your referees have received an email and that they respond, as it is your responsibility to ensure that we receive references. After you have completed the online application form, you will need to send any supporting documents that you could not upload online through to the Admissions Administrator in the Department of Criminology by post or email (please see above for the postal address).

Supporting Documents

The required supporting documents are:

- Two completed reference forms
- Copy of your degree certificate (if applicable)
- Copy of your degree transcript detailing the modules taken and the marks received (if applicable)
- Copies of relevant academic certificates
- Copies of relevant professional certificates
- Personal statement
- Proof of English language competency if your first language is not English

We cannot make a decision on your application without the required supporting documents.



What Happens Next?

As soon as we have received your completed application form and supporting documents then your application will be passed to the Department of Criminology admissions panel for review. You will be informed as soon as possible whether or not your application has been successful.

English Language

Students educated outside the UK in countries where English is not the first language must provide, before they can be admitted to their chosen degree programme at the University, evidence that they have sufficient command of both spoken and written English. Acceptable evidence includes: • GCSE/O-level English Language at grade C or above • An overall score of 6.5 in the British Council IELTS test • A score of 575 (paper) or 250 (computer) in TOEFL, with a score of 4.0 in the Test of Written English (TWE) or a score of 90 in the IBT. You will be required to submit originals or certified copies of any certificates and score reports.

Open Afternoons

The Department of Criminology holds open afternoons throughout the year where potential students can come and visit the Department and meet members of staff responsible for our distance learning courses. For details of upcoming open afternoons please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology.

Entry Requirements

Candidates should normally have at least a second-class honours degree from a British University, or its equivalent; or have significant relevant work experience in the area of security, conflict and international development. We will be actively seeking students with a wide variety of backgrounds and experience and our selection criteria will place considerable emphasis on an applicant's intellectual ability, motivation and commitment.

About the Department of Criminology

If you choose to study by distance learning with the Department of Criminology at the University of Leicester you will be joining a thriving and internationally renowned department. Leicester is one of the very few universities in the UK to have its own department exclusively dedicated to researching and teaching criminology, and our students benefit from learning in an environment that is home to some of the UK's leading criminologists. The Department is a first point of contact for journalists needing information and advice on crime issues and it is regularly called on by national and local governments to assist with policy development. At the Department of Criminology our distance learning provision is inspired by the findings from our cutting-edge research. Lecturing staff have a wide array of research interests, ranging from managing risk and security post 9/11 and community policing to hate crime, sentencing, prisons and probation. This research expertise feeds directly into our teaching programmes, helping to shape course content and keeping you abreast of current debates.

As well as the MSc in Security, Conflict and International Development, the Department provides a suite of undergraduate and postgraduate courses with approximately 1,000 students currently registered, with both campus-based and distance learning modes of delivery and courses offered at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The full range of courses currently available is:

Undergraduate: BA Criminology • FdA Security and Risk Management

- BA in Security & Risk Management

Postgraduate campus based: MSc Criminology • MSc Applied Criminology

- MSc Clinical Criminology • MSc Terrorism Security and Policing

Postgraduate distance learning: MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice • MSc Police Leadership and Management • MSc Security and Risk Management • MSc Security, Conflict and International Development

The Department also has an active community of supervised research students. For further information about the Department, the staff who work there and the research and teaching currently underway, please visit our website: www.le.ac.uk/criminology.



Further Information

Website: Further information is available about fees, application deadline dates, online application. www.le.ac.uk/criminology.

Ask us a question: Study by distance learning is an important decision and we encourage you to ask as many questions as you can.

Please contact us by phone or email:

t: +44(0) 116 252 5780

e: crimadmiss@le.ac.uk

The David Wilson Library



About the University

Some universities consider their primary purpose to be high-quality research, others concentrate on excellent teaching. Here at Leicester we think that the two are inseparable. We believe that teaching is more inspirational when delivered by passionate scholars engaged in world-changing research – and that research is stronger when researchers teach.

We think that a university should be about empowering people to explore what they don't know. We achieve this through passionate, dedicated research and teaching.

When we were named University of the Year for 2008-9 by the *Times Higher Education*, the judges applauded Leicester's very different approach, calling us "elite without being elitist." Of Britain's top 15 universities only one – Leicester – exceeds its government benchmarks for inclusivity.

Our dedication to providing an excellent student experience can be seen in our consistent performance in the National Student Survey. Since the launch of the survey in 2005, Leicester has consistently featured amongst the top-10 universities in England for student satisfaction.

With these ideas at heart, Leicester is reframing the values that govern academia and re-defining what a university needs to be in the 21st century; we are constantly finding new ways of being a leading university.

“Leicester has been enjoying a period of unprecedented success, after many years living in the shadow of the big city universities. Consistently in the top five in the National Student Survey (NSS) and named as the Times Higher Education University of the Year in 2008, it has shown the scale of its ambitions with a £1-billion development plan.”

**The Times Good
University Guide 2011**

Contact Details

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All information in this brochure was correct at the time of going to press. However, changes and developments are part of the life of the University, and alterations may occur to the programmes and services described in this brochure.



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