Graduate Employability Rankings place UCD Number 1 in Ireland and 75th in the World (QS World University Rankings)

MSc Criminology & Criminal Justice (One Year Full Time)

Crime and punishment are issues of central importance to society. The UCD Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice aims to contribute to the development of criminal justice policy and practice and advance criminology as an academic discipline. The Institute brings together leading academics from across UCD and is the first centre of its kind in Ireland. Its members have conducted major research projects on a wide range of topics in the field of criminology and criminal justice, including work on coercive confinement, prison violence and desistance from crime.

On completion of this programme, students will be able to understand and think critically about the intersections between sociology, psychology, law, politics and social policy that come to the fore in the study of criminology and criminal justice.

First centre of its kind in Ireland

The UCD Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice is the first centre of its kind in Ireland. The work of the Institute has been the focus of debates in parliament, legislative and policy initiatives and numerous reports in the media.

Course Content and Structure

Students choose six of the following modules:

- Punishment, Prison & Public Policy
- Advanced Criminological Theory
- Victims
- International and Transnational Crime
- Crime & Society
- Coercive Confinement
- Desistance and Rehabilitation
- Policing and Social Conflict
- Drug Use, Community and Society

Why UCD Sutherland School of Law?

Tradition

Established in 1911, the School of Law has over 100 years of teaching & research excellence

Global profile

UCD Sutherland School of Law is ranked in the Top 100 Law Schools in the World

Bespoke Law School

The Sutherland School of Law offers a world-class university experience in a modern, state-of-the-art building

Global community

Over 8,000 international students from 139 countries study at UCD

Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; Two-year stay-back visa for Non-EU students

Please see online for a full list of modules.
Career Opportunities

This programme provides enhanced knowledge and career opportunities for non-lawyers who wish to start or progress a career within the fields of policing, youth justice, prisons, probation and voluntary organisations. It also provides a good platform for doctoral studies and a possible academic career in what has become an area of substantial growth in universities around the world.

Several UCD careers events are held throughout the year, including dedicated law careers fairs which are attended by top employers. For specific careers advice, the UCD Sutherland School of Law has a dedicated careers advisor on its academic faculty.

Entry Requirements

- This programme is intended for applicants with an honours degree in any discipline. An upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Exemption may be given to those with significant and relevant, practical experience or those with a relevant graduate qualification.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 and 6.5 in reading and writing), or equivalent.

Staff Profile

Dr. Deirdre Healy, Associate Professor in Criminology and Director, LLM/MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Deirdre Healy, BA, PhD is a Senior Lecturer in Criminology and Director of the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the UCD Sutherland School of Law. Her research interests include desistance from crime, community sanctions, victimisation and criminological theory. Deirdre has a track record of high-quality publications in peer reviewed international and Irish journals and has published three books: The Dynamics of Desistance: Charting Pathways Through Change (Willan, 2010); Rape and Justice in Ireland (with Conor Hanly and Stacey Scrivener; Liffey Press, 2009) and the Routledge Handbook of Irish Criminology with Claire Hamilton, Yvonne Daly and Michelle Butler (2015).