



FARDEEN

/ THIRD YEAR CRIMINOLOGY WITH COUNSELLING STUDENT



I study Criminology with Counselling and I am currently in my third and final year. I chose to study at the University of Salford due to it being the closest to home. I also opted for this university rather than others due to its reputation - I was informed by many graduates who attended that it is a great place and community to be a part of, which is something I have definitely experienced during my time here.

Studying A level Sociology had a role to play in my decision to study Criminology at degree level. I wanted to enhance my academic literature and learn more about disadvantaged groups and societies that live in the UK today and possibly be a part of the solution to the problems that are faced. Counselling was a decision

that was made after, as I rightly believed that Criminology and Counselling are both appealing combination to study.

Criminology, in my opinion, is the study of crime and looking at the reasoning behind why it occurs. Studying Criminology is about analysing existing academic research and looking for solutions to the problems that exist in society today. I've also learnt Criminology is often misconceived as being similar to what is depicted in TV shows like CSI which focuses on the life as a detective and criminal investigation. Though studying Criminology does allow us to think critically, there is more to Criminology than detective work. Studying Criminology opens up multiple career pathways such as probation officer and youth justice worker roles which include empathy and help stop reoffending. This doesn't mean that it isn't as exciting as the shows depict – Criminology is, in fact, really interesting, however it is at times very challenging. In short, Criminology is about understanding why crimes are



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In the first two years of university, I studied through lectures and seminars and at times we had guest speaker. The guest speaker slots are great as they offer a real insight of life after graduation and what to expect so you can be well equipped and prepared. Alongside guest speakers, we are also taught through producing essays which allow us to complete our own research through helpful guidelines provided by the module leaders. I believe this is a great way to interact with the modules as it allows you to learn





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in a different way and also provides an essential skill which will be useful after university: independent researching.

One of the additional modules that I chose to complete is Policing and Social Control. The reasoning behind choosing this module is because I thought there would be a variety of academic literature available which would make it interesting to read about. This is also where my interests are in, policing and BAME community and the relationship between both communities. Another module I chose to do is the dissertation option in my final year which has allowed me to further research into my interests. I will be completing my dissertation on the BAME population in prisons.

There is a lot of help available from staff on this course. In my experience, it is inevitable for a student to struggle at least once in the three years in university, I myself have struggled numerous times and found myself contacting the module leader, of every module I've undertaken, at least once and they have all been very supportive and helpful. Your personal tutor is always there to help regardless of the issue, which is something I have been very appreciative of.

After graduation, I want to become either a probation officer or a policy advisor. My course is directly related to becoming a probation officer as it has helped me understand the criminal justice system and the role of counselling and rehabilitation within it. The module Probation and Rehabilitation has enabled me to explore my interests in this area further. My course also helped me with my understanding of policy advisors as they critically analyse existing policies and make suggestions for improvement, which is exactly what we do majority of the time when we complete our essays!



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If you are considering studying at Salford, I would say go for it! Studying Criminology at Salford has been a wonderful and eventful experience which has helped me build my skills, even without me realising. From joining to where I am now, I can see a huge improvement in many areas such as writing essays, finding sources and how researching for material can actually be quite fun! If you like researching crime and understanding crime then studying this course is for you.

