

MA Transnational Organised Crime



Is this course for you?

Transnational Organised Crime is a pressing issue affecting and connecting the globalised world. The methods by which global crime is commissioned, committed and reported is continually evolving, making this a complex and multi-faceted issue. Law enforcement efforts to tackle these globalised criminal activities are increasingly under considerable scrutiny and are equally complex.

About this Course

The programme of study has been carefully designed by a team of criminologists into a compelling package of discrete compulsory modules. All the modules make extensive use of a variety of historical and contemporary case studies to illuminate how students might undertake research into this sensitive, controversial and continually evolving subject.

Among other things, students are equipped with an understanding of the historical development and recent growth of trafficking in the form of drugs, sex, arms, nuclear materials, labour, body parts, stolen antiquities and protected animals. Learners will interrogate case studies of crimes against humanity; focusing on war crimes and transnational terrorism. Learners will also become familiar with the crimes of the powerful, increasingly taking the form of corporate, white collar and financial crimes. Students will acquire expertise in how these criminal activities present unique challenges to law enforcement.

Key Features

- The MA in Transnational Organised Crime is a niche subject. Currently we are one of the only university teaching this subject from a critical criminological perspective and offering extensive critical scrutiny into the myriad of activities associated with Transnational Organised Crime.

- Learners will be encouraged to make strategic and proactive decisions about what they decide to research with the view that their research project could be used to gain relevant paid/volunteer work experience in particular sectors/ organisations or enhance opportunities for promotion within an organisation or current place of work.
- Learners will receive tuition, so they are able to robustly and ethically design and undertake a research project, select appropriate methods and analyse resultant data. Students, in negotiation with an organisation or current place of work, could opt to design a dissertation project that critically evaluates and produces recommendations for improvements to this workplace/ organisation.
- The majority of learning takes place via distance learning through a virtual learning platform allowing our postgraduate students to structure and pace their studies around existing personal/work commitments.
- To complement students' distance learning, students have the option to attend (either in person or virtually) on-campus enrichment study events. These events take place over a single day, four times in the academic year.

Key facts		
Mode of study	Duration	Course begin
Full-time or Part-time	1 year full-time 3 years part-time	September

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Modules

Career Pathways

This MA will appeal to students who want to work in careers that tackle international crime and develop strategies for its prevention: National Crime Agency; the armed forces; policing professions tackling transnational organised criminal activities; banking sectors that tackle financial fraud and compliance; NGOs who support victims of trafficking; and organisations at risk of financial and white-collar crimes or that develop policies to tackle these types of criminal activity.

The course is also beneficial for practitioners who are already working in a range of related professions (e.g. crime prevention; NGOs; policymakers; policing; and charitable organisations), who wish to use a postgraduate qualification to engage with current research, debates, practices and issues in their chosen field and improve their career progression.

Entry Requirements

The entry requirements for the course are normally:

1. Expected to hold a relevant honours degree with at least a 2:2 from a UK institution of Higher Education or International equivalent
2. Mature students and students with non-standard academic qualification will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

International students must hold an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of 6.0 or above (or equivalent).

This table represents a full-time version of the pathway

Level 7	Semester 1	CORE Researching Transnational Justice and Organised Crime (30 credits)	CORE Trafficking: the Illegal Trade in People Goods and Services (30 credits)
	Semester 2	CORE Crimes against Humanity: State Crime, War Crimes and Transnational Terrorism (30 credits)	CORE Crimes of the Powerful: Corporate, White Collar and Financial Crime (30 credits)
	Semester 3	CORE Postgraduate Dissertation (60)	

What our students say about the MA

"The MA TOC is a must for anyone with an interest in organised crime. The course provides a solid grounding in the origin, history and leading debate surrounding organised crime, and covers very topical areas, such as human trafficking and 'white-collar' crime – all of which provide valuable insights to those with professional or personal interests in this area. The teaching on the course was delivered by well-qualified and experienced staff from various academic disciplines, reflecting perfectly the multi-faceted world of transnational organised crime. Completion of this course has undoubtedly benefited my police career and I unhesitatingly recommend it to any police or law enforcement professionals seeking an academic challenge"

Chris Empson (Graduate 2018)

Contact us

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