

Criminology at UKZN - a Brief Overview

Criminology is one of the most popular and innovative social science degrees offered at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

The course focuses on developing an advanced understanding of crime and its control. You will look in detail at all forms of crime, ranging from anti-social behaviour and drug use through to terrorism and war crimes, and consider how widespread they are and the impact they have on the victims and society. The core modules give a broad grounding in the discipline of criminology, enabling you to gain specialist knowledge of theories, forensics, victimology, and a contemporary understanding of crime and the criminal justice process.

In the first year of study you engage with a basic understanding of the fundamental principles and aspects of criminology giving you a grounded knowledge preparing you for your second year of study. In years two and three you will occupy your time with more specialised knowledge ranging from Victimology and Criminalistics and crime scene investigations to theories of crime, Research methodology, Penitentiary studies and Forensic criminology.

The honours / post graduate program in Criminology is a single honours programme but is interdisciplinary in nature. You will have five core modules – Forensic Criminology and Criminal Profiling; Theoretical perspectives; Victimology on Africa; Applied research methods; and Individualised research paper - within criminology and will also be afforded the opportunity to take two elective modules of your choice to refine and develop your own specialised knowledge base. The Hons program is also your gateway to possible further studies on both Masters and Doctorate levels.

Criminology is firmly linked to more traditional subjects, such as sociology or psychology and its interdisciplinary nature will provide you with great variety of potential areas of specialisation which would keep you in good standing once you finished your studies. Criminology is viewed as scarce and critical skill in the Safety and Security Sector and at UKZN you will be provided with the opportunity to make a significant impact in both the academic and private sector areas.

http://saa.ukzn.ac.za/Forms_proce/Handbooks.aspx