



Department of  
Law and Criminology

---

Undergraduate studies in

# Law and Criminology

---

# Contents

Welcome	p.1
Why study Law at Aberystwyth?	p.2
Law courses	p.4
Why study Criminology at Aberystwyth?	p.12
Criminology courses	p.14
All optional Law and Criminology modules	p.18
Studying through the medium of Welsh	p.19
Employability	p.20
Student profiles	p.21
Research	p.22
Departmental life	p.23
Global opportunities	p.24
The application process	p.25



## Important information

The programme information published in this brochure was correct at time of going to print (March 2025) and may be subject to change. Prospective students are advised to check the definitive programme information, including entry requirements, that is available on our website before making an application, to ensure that the programme meets their needs.

# Welcome

Law has been taught at Aberystwyth since 1901. The Department has a proud tradition of scholarship and research, and has prepared generations of people from all over the world for professional careers and for life in general. Some of the most distinguished lawyers, politicians and academics in Wales, the UK and further afield have studied here.

The Department has always been dynamic and forward-thinking. The addition of Criminology to the mix has enabled us to establish the thriving Department of Law and Criminology which is here today, at the University's Penglais campus, set against the stunning background of Cardigan Bay.

If you come here to study, you will find a stimulating, supportive and rewarding environment within a department that has a distinctive identity, a wealth of experience, excellent teaching and dynamic research activity, backed up by superb library and IT provisions.

Above all you will be taught and guided by a community of scholars whose main focus will be helping you to succeed and to fulfil your potential. In addition to the exceptional teaching quality, Aberystwyth University offers a student experience that is regarded highly by its students. We are ranked Top in England and Wales for Student Experience (Good University Guide, The Times and Sunday Times 2025) and Top in Wales and 3rd in the UK for Teaching Quality (Good University Guide, The Times and Sunday Times 2024).

As an undergraduate you can study law or criminology as a single subject or together, or in combination with other subjects. We also offer specialist degrees such as Human Rights Law and Criminology and Criminal Psychology.

All our law degrees offer the opportunity to study the seven foundations of legal knowledge required by the Bar Standards Board (for barristers). Our law degrees also provide a solid foundation in law for the purposes of the Solicitors' Qualifying Examination.

I understand the value of students acquiring practical skills and hands-on experience during their time at university. As well as excellent academic learning, the department offers many opportunities to do this. These include our Family Law Clinic, where students can do casework under the guidance of a qualified solicitor, our very active mooted society where students can acquire and practise advocacy and case preparation skills, and the opportunities to volunteer at our ground-breaking Dewis/Choice research project, which is focused on addressing the increasingly high-profile issue of abuse of elderly people.

Choosing a university can be a perplexing experience. There is a wide choice, and it's not always easy to select the one that's right for you. Having said that, if you are interested in studying Law or Criminology at an established University in a beautiful and unique part of the world, Aberystwyth can offer you a dynamic and friendly department with a focus on teaching quality.

I look forward to welcoming you at Aberystwyth.

**Dr Ola Olusanya, Interim Head of Department**

# Why study Law at Aberystwyth?

The Law Department has been a major part of Aberystwyth University since 1901, with a long and proud tradition of teaching and research. It has prepared generations of people from all over the world for successful professional careers and for life in general.

From the start of your law degree, you will benefit from access to our established connections with local legal professionals and be encouraged to engage with real clients and case work under the guidance and support of our esteemed academic team. You will also be able to take advantage of unrivalled resources such as those of the National Library of Wales (one of only five copyright libraries in the UK), just a few minutes' walk away.

## Why Aberystwyth?

With nearly 125 years of teaching experience, we combine modern approaches to learning and will encourage you to develop professional skills throughout the duration of your degree.

In addition, you will also learn from internationally renowned lecturers who are actively engaged in cutting-edge research. The research undertaken within the Department creates a stimulating learning environment and offers you the chance to contribute to wider law and policy debates. You will also benefit from our strong links with alumni all over the world.

## The Family Legal Clinic

The Clinic, which was shortlisted for the 'LawWorks Cymru Award 2018' offers free confidential legal advice in family and child law, an area where people may find it difficult to source or afford other legal services. At the same time, the Clinic provides an opportunity for students to gain valuable real-life experience and put theory into practice. Everything that the Clinic does is overseen by an experienced solicitor, ensuring a consistently high standard of legal advice throughout.

## The Veterans Legal Link project

Veterans Legal Link was established in 2015 to address the legal advice deficit in Wales. The project invites lawyers and law students to assist veterans and their families in receiving free legal advice. The service supports the reintegration of veterans and their families by providing a comprehensive signposting and referral service to legal advice and non-legal advice services. The project is run nationwide via online, telephone, Skype and face-to-face delivery methods.



# Law courses

## Single honours

Business Law	p.5
Criminal Law	p.6
Human Rights Law	p.7
Law	p.8
Law and Criminology	p.9
Senior Status Law	p.10
Joint Honours	p.11

## Business Law

LLB (Hons) | M140 | 3 years

The Business Law degree is an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of business-related legal subjects. Whether you intend to advise the commercial sector or run a business of your own, an understanding of the law as it relates to commercial activity is crucial.

On this degree you will focus your studies more specifically on commercial law, company law and corporate liability. In addition to providing a foundation for careers in law and the commercial sector, the Business Law degree also provides a basis for a career in human resources, business management and consultancy.

On this themed degree, the first year of study will be the same as for the LLB Law degree and the second and final year will focus more specifically on the theme in question. Our LLB degrees provide a foundation for those intending to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister in England and Wales.

### Employability

A degree in Business Law from Aberystwyth University is a valuable qualification for a range of careers. Recent graduates are succeeding in legal practice, financial management, business and human resources. Upon completion of this degree, you will emerge with real-world capabilities, enabling you to shape your future and develop the career you deserve.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Contract Law \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Public Law \* or Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Tort \*

### Second year:

- Equity and Trusts \*
- Land Law \*
- European Law \*

### Final year:

- Law and Criminology Dissertation \*

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Commercial Law
- Business Law and Practice and Solicitors Accounts
- Dispute Resolution in Contract and Tort
- Environmental Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Labour Law
- Company Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Cyfraith Fentro Byd-Eang (Welsh module only available in Year 2)
- Advocacy Skills (Year 3 only)

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 128-104  
IB: 30-28



**Assessment weighting:**  
50% coursework and 50% exams



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

# Criminal Law

LLB (Hons) | M131 | 3 years

This degree will give you the opportunity to study aspects of criminal law in greater detail and includes the regulation of criminal behaviour and the effectiveness of punishment and rehabilitation mechanisms.

This degree will provide you with a valuable foundation for a career in criminal legal work either as a solicitor or a barrister. It will also prepare you for careers in the criminal justice system including the police, the prison service and the probation service.

On this themed degree, the first year of study will be the same as for the LLB Law degree and the second and final year will focus more specifically on the theme in question.

Our LLB degrees provide a foundation for those intending to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister in England and Wales.

## Employability

A degree in Criminal Law from Aberystwyth University is a valuable qualification for a range of careers. Some common career paths of our graduates include legal professions, government advisory departments, investigating justice and victim support, policing, the prison service and probation service. Upon completion of this degree, you will emerge with real-world capabilities, enabling you to shape your future and develop the career you deserve.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 128-104  
IB: 30-28



**Assessment weighting:**  
50% coursework and 50% exams



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Contract Law \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Public Law \* or Introduction to Criminology \*
- Tort \*

### Second year:

- Equity and Trusts \*
- Land Law \*
- European Law \*

### Final year:

- Law and Criminology Dissertation \*

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Medicine, Ethics and the Law
- Principles of Evidence
- Criminal Law and Practice
- Environmental Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Police, Policing and Society \*
- Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour
- Commercial Law
- Cyfraith Fentro Byd-Eang (Welsh module only available in Year 2)
- Advocacy Skills (Year 3 only)

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

# Human Rights

LLB (Hons) | M990 | 3 years

The study of human rights often transcends national boundaries and may sometimes conflict with individual States' notions of what should be protected as a right. This degree enables you to focus on issues pertaining to the protection of human rights, and the effectiveness of international human rights mechanisms.

Our degree in Human Rights can lead to opportunities for employment with human rights organisations such as Amnesty International and a variety of governmental organisations such as the United Nations. Recent graduates work in the areas of human rights advocacy, immigration rights and equality protection.

On this themed degree, the first year of study will be the same as for the LLB Law degree and the second and final year will focus more specifically on the theme in question.

Our LLB degrees provide a foundation for those intending to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister in England and Wales.

## Employability

The Human Rights degree from Aberystwyth University opens up national and international career opportunities in both the legal and rights-related professions. You will gain the skills to enter roles within NGOs, charities and other civil society bodies specialising in advocacy, protection, public information and education.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 128-104  
IB: 30-28



**Assessment weighting:**  
50% coursework and 50% exams



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Contract Law \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Public Law \* or Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Tort \*

### Second year:

- Equity and Trusts \*
- Land Law \*
- European Law \*

### Final year:

- Law and Criminology Dissertation \*

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Humanitarian Law
- Family and Child Law
- Environmental Law
- Human Rights
- Labour Law
- Medicine, Ethics and the Law
- Commercial Law

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

# Law

LLB (Hons) | M100 | 3 years

Our traditional law degree will give you the opportunity to examine the law, how it functions, and the relationship between law, justice and society.

You will study the foundational legal subjects, while also having the opportunity to tailor your degree according to your own interests, from a range of optional modules covering contemporary and specialist areas of law.

Our LLB degrees provide a foundation for those intending to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister in England and Wales.


All of our law degrees offer you the opportunity to study the seven foundations of legal knowledge required by the Bar Standards Board (for barristers). In their final year students have the opportunity to take optional modules which cover the entire syllabus of Part 1 of the Solicitors' Qualifying Examination.

## Employability

A Law degree from Aberystwyth University is a valuable qualification for a range of careers. In addition to pursuing careers in the legal profession, recent graduates are succeeding in criminology, financial management, business, human resources, international relations, journalism and education. Throughout your training you will develop a wealth of core legal skills and other skills that can be easily transferred into almost any graduate or professional employment situation. This degree provides an excellent foundation in law for those intending to take the Solicitors' Qualifying Examination.

## Key Facts

 **Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 128-104  
IB: 30-28

 **Assessment weighting:**  
50% coursework and 50% exams

 **Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Contract Law \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Public Law \* or Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Tort \*

### Second year:

- Equity and Trusts \*
- Land Law \*
- European Law \*


### Final year:

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Commercial Law
- Environmental Law
- Human Rights
- Labour Law
- Sports Law and Society
- Family and Child Law
- Principles of Evidence
- Company Law
- Criminal Law and Practice
- Cyfraith Fentro Byd-Eang (Welsh module only available in Year 2)
- Advocacy Skills (Year 3 only)

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

 **Also available:**  
**M103** Bachelor of Arts  
**M10F** Integrated foundation year

# Law and Criminology

LLB (Hons) | MM91 | 3 years

Our course offers you the chance to study for a law degree while deepening your understanding of the causes and consequences of crime. LLB Law and Criminology is perfect for anyone ambitious for a law career in the 21st century and will prepare you for employment in the legal profession and criminal justice system.


The Law and Criminology degree will give you the opportunity to practise your skills as you study. Work placements are available for this course and we place our students with relevant local employers, for you to gain work experience alongside your studies.

## Employability

A degree in Law and Criminology from Aberystwyth University is a valuable qualification for a range of careers. Recent graduates are succeeding in criminology, financial management, business, human resources, international relations, journalism and education. Upon completion of this degree, you will emerge with real-world capabilities, enabling you to shape your future and develop the career you deserve.

## Key Facts

 **Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 128-104  
IB: 30-28

 **Assessment weighting:**  
50% coursework and 50% exams

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Crime Control and Prevention \*
- The Law of Tort
- Criminal Law \*

### Second year:

You will choose from a selection of optional modules, including:

- Commercial Law
- Drugs and Crime
- Environmental Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Public Law
- Police, Policing and Society \*
- Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour

### Final year:

- Land Law
- Equity and Trusts
- Principles of Evidence
- Law and Criminology Dissertation \*

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

 **Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

# Senior Status Law

LLB (Hons) | M104 | 2 years

The LLB Senior Status Law degree at Aberystwyth University is available to those who already hold an existing Bachelors degree in another subject, and is engineered to enhance your career prospects through completion within two years.

As a student on this course, you will benefit from the experience and enthusiasm of our expert staff, many of whom have also practised as solicitors - providing a practical application to your theoretical studies. The Department of Law and Criminology's ethos is to nurture ingenuity and your ability to think outside of the box will enable you to emerge from the degree with real-world capabilities, shaping your future and career development.

Our LLB degrees provide a foundation for those intending to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister in England and Wales.

## Employability

The skills and knowledge that you will acquire here can open up careers in roles both inside and outside the legal field. A number of our graduates embark on legal careers as solicitors or barristers; others use their degree as a springboard for a career in management, business or the Civil Service.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First Year:

- Contract Law \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Legal Skills and Research \*
- Tort \*

### Second Year:

- Equity and Trusts \*
- Public Law \*
- European Law \*
- Land Law \*

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Commercial Law
- Environmental Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Labour Law
- Sports Law and Society
- Family and Child Law
- Business Law and Practice
- Dispute Resolution in Contract and Tort

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:** A first degree in any subject achieved with class 2:1 minimum is required for entry onto this two-year accelerated LLB degree scheme



**Assessment weighting:** 50% coursework and 50% exams

# Joint Honours

These degrees provide you with the opportunity to study Law alongside another subject, while retaining the option of a career in legal practice. On our Joint Honours degrees, you can study the Foundations of Law modules and progress to Bar Training or SQE preparation courses.

Subject	Available with...	Joint Honours
Law (LLB)	Accounting and Finance	MN14
	Business and Management	MN11
	Cymraeg Proffesiynol	MQ56
	French	RM11
	German	RM21
	International Relations	21LM
	Spanish	RM41



Lady Justice Statue, The Old Bailey, London.

# Why study Criminology at Aberystwyth?

In 2006, the department evolved into the Department of Law & Criminology, with the introduction of undergraduate degrees in criminology. It continues to go from strength to strength with a thriving undergraduate and postgraduate community in both disciplines. We are Top 5 in the UK for Teaching Quality in Criminology (Good University Guide, The Times and Sunday Times 2024). Situated in stunning mid-Wales, overlooking Cardigan Bay, this campus-based Department has everything you need as a university student and more.

Aberystwyth University offers you a broad range of opportunities to study criminology. Whether you want to focus on criminology exclusively, or study it alongside one of its cognate subjects, including law, psychology and sociology, you will be guaranteed a quality degree experience. Through studying criminology you will develop an understanding of the social and personal aspects of crime, victimisation and responses to crime and deviance. Our undergraduate schemes have a particular emphasis on the psychological understanding of criminal behaviour, youth justice, the policing and prevention of crime and criminal justice policy, process and systems.

## Why Aberystwyth?

Demonstrating excellence in research, teaching and practice, our multi-disciplinary academics provide a world-class learner experience. Student testimonials confirm that Aberystwyth is the leading place to study if you want the opportunity to be part of a dynamic scholarly community that puts the needs of its students first. As stated by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Elizabeth Treasure, "We are small enough to know our students as individuals and big enough to have an international reputation." Studying in the Department of Law & Criminology at Aberystwyth University will give you the best foundation from which to start your professional journey, or elevate it to new heights.

## Centre for Age, Gender and Social Justice

Established in 2015, this is the first dedicated service that addresses issues pertaining to domestic abuse for older and non-binary people. Undertaking participatory action research, the Centre for Age, Gender and Social Justice is unique in that it combines service delivery with a research project. The Centre's research has highlighted the need for specialist training for organisations, to recognise the prevalence, nature and complexity of domestic abuse in later life. Many victim survivors have described this service as lifesaving. The Department works closely with this initiative, providing volunteering opportunities and training for our students, many of whom have benefited greatly from its provision.

## Your Future – Employability

The Department of Law & Criminology puts employability at the heart of the curriculum, with students gaining essential skills and knowledge for the workplace throughout their degree scheme. We work closely with our bespoke Careers Service which supports students to recognise their interests and maximise their potential. Our aim is to prepare our students for a wide range of professional careers, further study and for life in general. Students wishing to gain first-hand work experience can benefit from one of our credit-bearing work placement modules.

An undergraduate degree in Criminology provides a range of career opportunities. Whether you would prefer to work hands-on as a practitioner in the criminal justice system or think that you would be better suited to a career in research or policy making, studying with us means that you can begin to put the fundamentals that you have learned from your degree into practice.





# Criminology courses

## Single honours

Criminology	p.15
Criminology and Criminal Psychology	p.16
Criminology and Sociology	p.17

## Criminology

BSc (Hons) | M900 | 3 years

Criminology is a fascinating subject that explores the meaning of crime and why certain behaviours are regarded as criminal.

You will explore the consequences of being labelled 'criminal', and how society responds to criminal behaviour by detecting, punishing and rehabilitating individuals who commit offences. You will also consider the impact of crime and criminality on victims and society in general.

You will draw upon sociological, psychological and legal theories and real-world examples to explore the causes of crime, how crime is defined, and why certain behaviours are regarded as criminal. You will investigate the impact of crime and criminality upon victims and society and explore a wide variety of criminological perspectives, ranging from the emergence of Classical Criminology, all the way up to new and ever-growing fields at the forefront of criminology, such as green crime and wildlife crime.


You will develop the ability to critically analyse criminological theories and perspectives, the knowledge of how and why people commit crime, and the skills to apply your knowledge in real-life scenarios.

### Employability

Criminology provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the criminal justice sector, including the Police, HM Prison Service, the National Probation Service, and youth justice. Completing the degree can also provide opportunities to work in crime or intelligence analysis, community care and social work.

### Key Facts

 **Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26

 **Assessment weighting:**  
100% coursework or 50%  
coursework and 50% exams

 **Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

### Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

#### First year:

- Essential Skills for Criminologists \*
- Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Crime Control and Prevention \*
- Criminal Law \*
- Criminology in Action \*

#### Second and final year:

- Critical and Radical Criminology \*
- Criminology Dissertation \*
- Quantitative Research Skills \*
- Youth Crime and Justice \*


Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Crime and the Media
- Drugs and Crime
- Police, Policing and Society \*
- Principles of Evidence
- Victimology

Criminology students can also choose to study a wide range of law modules offered by the Department.

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

 **Also available:**  
**M90F** Integrated  
foundation year

# Criminology and Criminal Psychology

BSc (Hons) | M9C6 | 3 years

Criminology and Criminal Psychology is a themed criminology degree providing you with an opportunity to study crime and criminal behaviour from a psychological perspective. The course examines the behaviour and thoughts of criminals, the causes and effects of criminality, and how to prevent offending behaviour through a dual lens of criminology and psychology. It also explores the application of legal and forensic psychology to areas of police investigation and the criminal justice system.

You will explore why people commit crime, as well as why particular actions are defined as criminal. Our research-active academics will train you in the basic methods of criminological research, which provides you with the skills for critical evaluation of both theoretical and empirical studies within this field.

## Employability

Criminology provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the criminal justice sector, including the Police, HM Prison and The National Probation Service, and youth justice. Completing the degree can also provide opportunities to work in crime or intelligence analysis, community care and social work.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26



**Assessment weighting:**  
100% coursework or 50%  
coursework and 50% exams



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Essential Skills for Criminologists \*
- Introduction to Criminology \*
- Legal and Criminal Justice Systems \*
- Crime Control and Prevention \*
- Criminology in Action \*
- Foundations of Psychology

### Second and final year:

- Quantitative Research Skills \*
- Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour
- Psychopathology
- Psychology & Crime
- Treatment and Rehabilitation of Offenders
- Empirically Based Dissertation\* or Law and Criminology Dissertation\*

Criminology students can also choose to study a wide range of law modules offered by the Department.

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

# Criminology and Sociology

BSc (Hons) | ML93 | 3 years

Our Criminology and Sociology degree will enable you to learn about key concepts which help to explain how crime and deviance is perceived by society. In addition, these complementary disciplines will allow you to examine the interdisciplinary nature of crime, criminality and society as well as the relationship between society and crime.

On this course you will gain an in-depth understanding of society and criminality and will be introduced to new perspectives on social inequality and social change that are taking place both locally and internationally.

Providing insight on criminology from a sociological perspective, our degree will give you the sophisticated knowledge and analytical skill set needed for breaking into the public and social sectors, as well as the criminal justice system. Alternatively, it is a great starting point for further study.

## Employability

The Criminology and Sociology degree provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the criminal justice sector, including the Police, HM Prison and The National Probation Service, and youth justice. Completing the degree can also provide opportunities to work in crime or intelligence analysis, community care and social work, as well as in local, regional and national government agencies.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26



**Assessment weighting:**  
100% coursework or 50%  
coursework and 50% exams



**Field trips/fieldwork:** No

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Crime Control and Prevention \*
- Essential Skills for Criminologists \*
- Introduction to Criminology \*
- Key Concepts in Sociology
- Place and Identity
- Thinking Sociologically

### Second and final year:

- Quantitative Research Skills \*
- Sociological Theory
- Genders and Sexualities
- Empirically Based Dissertation \* or Law and Criminology Dissertation \*
- Critical and Radical Criminology \*

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Contemporary Global Migration
- Placing Culture
- Placing Politics \*
- Geographical Information Systems

For more details on the optional modules available to develop your specialist interests, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

## All optional Law and Criminology modules

### Modules that run every year

Family and Child Law
Trusts, Wills and Estates
Commercial Law
Business Law and Practice
Criminal Justice Placement *
Empirically Based Dissertation *
Criminal Law and Practice
Property Law and Practice
Business Law (not available for Joint honours Law and Criminology students)
Quantitative Research Skills
Critical and Radical Criminology *
International Law
Employment Law
Legal Practice
Dispute Resolution in Contract and Tort
Law and Criminology Dissertation *
Employability Skills for Professionals *
Medicine, Ethics and the Law
Intellectual Property Law
Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour
Youth Crime and Justice

### Modules that run every other year

#### Group 1

Critical Perspectives of Imprisonment
Wrongful convictions in criminological context
Treatment & Rehabilitation of Offenders
Cybercrime and Security *
Humanitarian Law
Principles of Evidence
Psychology & Crime
Crime and the Media
Community Justice Module
Sports law and Society
Cyfraith Fentro Byd-Eang (module available in Welsh only)

#### Group 2

Victimology *
Crime & Punishment in Historical Perspective *
Psychopathology
Trosedd yn y Gymru Gyfoes (module available in Welsh only)
Human Rights
Drugs & Crime
Technology, Artificial Intelligence and the Law
Police, Policing and Society *
Contemporary Issues in Criminology
Cyfraith a Pholisi Cymru (module available in Welsh only)
Company Law
Climate Change and Environmental Law

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

# Studying through the medium of Welsh

The Department of Law and Criminology offers a number of degree schemes through the medium of Welsh, in both Law and Criminology.

On our LLB and BA degree programmes in Law, you can study up to 80 credits from a total of 120 credits through the medium of Welsh, which would make you eligible for certain Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol scholarships. Please see [www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/study/financialsupport/](http://www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/study/financialsupport/) for further information.

On our Criminology degree scheme and our two-year LLB course, a total of 40 out of 120 credits in every year are available through the medium of Welsh. This will enable you to apply for the University's Welsh-medium scholarships as well as Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol scholarships. Please see [www.aber.ac.uk/en/undergrad/before-you-apply/scholarships/welsh-medium/](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/undergrad/before-you-apply/scholarships/welsh-medium/) for further information.

Criminology or Troseddeg at Aberystwyth offers the most Welsh medium credits out of any other University in Wales. For example, the whole of your first year could be completed through the medium of Welsh should you wish it. The course is continually developing and our modules are designed to reflect the discipline in Wales, offering a Wales centred approach to Criminology or Troseddeg. Our module Trosedd yn y Gymru Gyfoes is a good example of this.

There are many advantages to studying your course partly or entirely through the medium of Welsh. Not only will you be part of a Welsh-speaking community, but you will also develop a close working relationship with your lecturers and fellow students as well as developing bilingual skills which will be advantageous when searching for employment. You will also be allocated a Welsh-speaking Personal Tutor and have a right to a number of services in your preferred language.

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's course finder provides further information regarding the courses we offer partly or wholly through the medium of Welsh. Please see [www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/study/mediumofwelsh/](http://www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/study/mediumofwelsh/) for further information.

# Employability

Enhancing your career prospects is about extending your skills, making contacts, broadening your ideas, and understanding how to gain and use your experiences to enhance your future prospects.

Our modules are designed around the current needs of employers and the legal and criminal justice professions. We also place great emphasis on the development of your professional skills. Please read on to discover our exciting range of initiatives, schemes and opportunities which can develop relevant skills and experience providing you with a distinct advantage in the highly competitive employment market.

## Credit-bearing placements

Students who wish to obtain practical experience will benefit from undertaking a work placement via credit-bearing modules such as Employability Skills for Professionals and Criminal Justice Placement. Through our links we have placements available at many well known organisations. How this enhances your employability: You develop skills and experience in the workplace to complement the knowledge acquired from your programme. If you wish to find out more, then go to: [www.aber.ac.uk/en/lac/employability](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/lac/employability)

## The Family Legal Clinic

The Clinic offers free confidential legal advice in family and child law, an area where people may find it difficult to find or afford other legal services. At the same time, the Clinic provides an opportunity for students to gain valuable real-life experience and put theory into practice. Everything that the Clinic does is overseen by an experienced solicitor, ensuring a consistently high standard of legal advice throughout.

You will develop skills and experience in the workplace to complement the knowledge acquired from your programme.

## The Veterans Legal Link project

Veterans Legal Link was established in 2015 to address the legal advice deficit in Wales.

The project invites lawyers and law students to assist veterans and their families in receiving free legal advice. The service supports the reintegration of Veterans and their families by providing a comprehensive signposting and referral service to legal advice and non-legal advice services.

The project operates across the country via online, telephone, Skype and face-to-face delivery methods. We are seeking students with excellent computer and client care skills to serve a diverse and unique client base with a variety of legal issues.

You will be required to work on a flexible basis including weekends and evenings as and when is necessary. Expenses will be reimbursed.

How this enhances your employability: You develop skills and experience in the workplace to complement the knowledge acquired from your programme.

# Student profiles

## Kayleigh Davis / LLB Law

I am studying LLB Law at Aberystwyth University. Originally from Newton Abbot in Devon, I chose to study in Aber after receiving a merit award in the entrance scholarship scheme.

My favourite part of the course so far has been the Criminal/Evidence and Land Law modules due to the enthusiasm of the lecturers. I was able to have my article published in the 3rd edition of the University's Law and Criminology Journal last year.

I am also currently undertaking a placement within the Legal Services department of Ceredigion County Council, as part of my degree. After graduation, I intend to complete my LPC before gaining a training contract.

Outside of my academics, I am part of the University Netball Club and I organise student volunteers for Girlguiding Ceredigion.

## Alex Magee / Criminology

I came to Aberystwyth from Bristol which obviously is a stark difference going from city life to a small seaside town but I love them both the same.

I chose to study criminology in Aberystwyth because of how highly recommended the course and lecturers were. The Law and Criminology Department is also good because the lecturers are active in their research so are at the cutting edge of their chosen places of interest.

After I graduate I intend to get some internships at the United Nations Crime and Drugs department or at Interpol/Europol for the year. I will then do a masters in Criminology or a related area. The great thing about Criminology is there are so many avenues of work that

you can go down from probation services, MI6/5, event security to work for the Home Office, the options are endless.

Aberystwyth is a great place to live/study as even though it is a small place there is so much you can do from sports clubs, societies, pub quizzes, cinema, bonfires on the beach and exploring the surrounding places of Aber. I am part of a number of clubs in Aberystwyth, I play football for AFC Gwatch as part of the DIGS League (Sunday League footy), I play Futsal for Aberystwyth University in the Welsh National League and I am Chairman of Aberystwyth University Business Society. I am also an Academic Rep for Criminology so represent my cohort for any issues they have regarding Criminology which means I really get to connect with fellow students and teachers.

# Departmental research

The Department of Law and Criminology is a research-active department and participated in the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2021) assessment. The Department of Law and Criminology won plaudits for the impact of its research beyond academia, with three-quarters rated as world leading, the highest category.

In 2015, the Centre for the Study of Ageing, Abuse and Neglect within the Department of Law and Criminology was awarded a Big Lottery grant to carry out a research project looking into different aspects of ageing, family relationships, elder abuse and justice. The Department boasts a diverse range of research expertise, and specific themes include research involving those who are marginalised because of youth or old age, human rights, and constitutional law, devolution and the changing constitution of the United Kingdom.

The expertise of departmental staff includes membership of Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, membership of the Dyfed Powys police research board, giving evidence to the Silk Commission on Devolution in Wales, and citations in the judgments of the International Criminal Courts. Recent projects include 'There's no Place like Home': Location and Self-defence, "Law in Action in Azerbaijan: Ministers, Lawyers, Political Prisoners and Weird Gifts. Just Don't Mention Armenia" (Professor Ryszard Piotrowicz) 'The tenth equality, and explorations into the other nine' (Dr. Catrin Fflûr Huws) and Culture and Assisted Dying (Dr. Glenys Williams).



# Departmental life

## Mooting

The Mooting Society provides a great opportunity to take part in 'mock trial' competitions called moots. This is a great opportunity to develop your understanding of the law and presenting legal arguments and to develop both your research and presentation skills. The society meets on a weekly basis and offers training courses and 'mock trial' competitions for new and experienced mooters alike.

The society also hosts a number of internal competitions during the year, including the Advocacy Competition for New Mooters, and a moot competition for each academic year.

The Society participates in a number of National Competitions, including the OUP/ICCA National Moot, the Welsh National Mooting Competition (which Aberystwyth have won twice), and the University of Leicester Medical Law Mooting Competition (where Aberystwyth was one of the two finalists).

The Society has held mooting competitions in real courts, including a moot competition held at the Supreme Court in 2016, as well as Aberystwyth Justice Centre. Moots are judged by legal practitioners and are therefore an excellent opportunity to meet with solicitors and barristers.

## Law Society

The Department boasts an active student Law Society which organises trips to courts and law fairs, talks, book sales, social evenings as well as the high point of the calendar, which is the annual Law Ball.

## Criminology Society

The Criminology Society is also an important part of departmental life with a varied programme of crime movie nights, prison visits and study support sessions before exam periods.

## Aberystwyth Law and Criminology Journal

The Aberystwyth Law & Criminology Journal is an exciting initiative which aims to provide a platform for displaying the highest quality work produced by students. It is an opportunity to publish your academic writing, especially if you have completed a substantial piece of research such as a dissertation. The Journal also commemorates a former student of the department, Ern Nian Yaw, by awarding an annual award in his memory. Ern Nian was a student who helped to launch the journal, but who was killed before the first issue of the journal was published. The prize is awarded to the author of the article that demonstrates the very qualities possessed by Ern: outstanding academic ability, fantastic work ethic, and an eye for detail.



# Global opportunities

Aberystwyth's Global Opportunities team offer an exciting range of options for you to go overseas as part of your degree: from short courses and volunteering opportunities in the summer, to a full semester or year abroad studying your chosen subject at one of our partner universities.

The University also offers a number of courses which include an integrated year studying abroad, enabling you to study at one of our European or international partner universities for one or two semesters during your third year, returning to Aberystwyth for your final year and graduation.

Reports have shown that students who study abroad are more attractive to employers and earn more than their peers. Take advantage of the opportunity of a lifetime while improving your critical skills by choosing to study abroad.



# The application process

- 1 Apply through UCAS.com**  
 Check the UCAS deadline on UCAS.com. Aberystwyth University institution code: A40. **TOP TIP:** You'll be given a 10-digit UCAS ID number. Keep this to hand as you'll be asked for it many times.
- 2 The University will consider your application**  
**TOP TIP:** Use UCAS Hub to keep an eye on your application. At Aberystwyth we aim to make a decision within seven days.
- 3 The offer will show on UCAS Hub**  
 The University's decision will show on UCAS Hub - if you've been made an offer, it will tell you what grades you need to achieve to secure your place.
- 4 Decide where to go**  
 Once you've received all your offers, you'll need to decide which university you want to go to, within a set time. This is when you'll need to note which universities will be your Firm and Insurance choices.
- 5 Accommodation**  
 Once you've chosen your Firm/Insurance choice you'll be invited to apply for accommodation.
- 6 Results day**  
 UCAS Hub will tell you whether your place is confirmed at your Firm choice. If you don't get the grades you'd hoped for, you may want to consider entering Clearing.
- 7 Start packing!**  
 Remember to keep an eye on your emails for information about arrival and welcome activities.

Department of Law & Criminology,  
Hugh Owen Building,  
Aberystwyth University,  
Aberystwyth,  
Ceredigion, SY23 3DY

+44 (0)1970 62 1537

law@aber.ac.uk

/AberystwythLawandCriminology

@ALSaberUni



Designed and produced by  
Global Marketing and Student Recruitment,  
Aberystwyth University 2025.

This document is available in Welsh  
/ Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.



Printed on  
100% recycled paper