

A large number of stylized human figures, cut from paper, are arranged in a dense, overlapping pattern. They are holding hands, forming a continuous chain. The figures are in various poses, some standing, some walking, and some with arms raised. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color.

Criminology  
& Sociology



ROYAL  
HOLLOWAY  
UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

Department of Criminology & Sociology  
Undergraduate Studies





Royal Holloway is widely recognised on the world stage as one of the UK's leading teaching and research universities. One of the larger colleges of the University of London, we are strong across the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities. Our 8,500 students work with internationally renowned scholars in 20 academic departments. The University of London degree gained by our talented, high-achieving graduates is valued the world over.

As a cosmopolitan community, with students from 130 countries, we focus on the support and development of the individual. Our friendly campus, just 19 miles west of central London, provides a unique environment for university study. Campus life revolves around the Students' Union, which runs over 100 societies and sports clubs, and we are recognised as London's best sporting college.



# Criminology & Sociology

The department provides research focused, intellectually stimulating degree programmes for students wishing to undertake study in criminology, sociology, social policy, psychology and law. Our internationally renowned academics are leaders in their fields and bring their research and practice into the lecture theatre, helping students gain current and relevant skills and knowledge.

The terms and conditions on which Royal Holloway, University of London makes offers of admission to its programmes of study, including those covered in this booklet, may be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus or Postgraduate Prospectus, copies of which are available on request from:

[www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere](http://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere)

The information contained in this brochure is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change as part of the School's policy of continuous improvement and development.

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This brochure is designed to complement Royal Holloway's Undergraduate Prospectus and information on the department's website at: [royalholloway.ac.uk/criminologyandsociology](http://royalholloway.ac.uk/criminologyandsociology)

It is also available as a PDF at: [royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere](http://royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere)

## Contact details

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[www.royalholloway.ac.uk/criminologyandsociology](http://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/criminologyandsociology)

# Why study in the Department of Criminology and Sociology?

## The Department of Criminology and Sociology

We have earned a strong reputation for excellence in research and teaching, with national and international recognition of our expertise in issues associated with criminal justice, youth, health, multiculturalism, identity, and much more.

Many of our students join us with existing qualifications in psychology or sociology, although this is not essential since the first year of our programme is devoted to establishing a good grounding in your chosen discipline. Furthermore, criminology is a field of study that draws on a range of disciplines including sociology, psychology and law, analysing ways in which life

experiences are shaped by social forces, institutions and groups and the social rules and processes that organise people. We study crime as an individual and social phenomena, exploring the varied causes of crime as well as individual, social and governmental responses.

Our degree programmes reflect the very latest developments in criminology, psychology, sociology and social policy, examine real-life situations and offer unique industry placements. As you progress through your courses, you will become equipped with the knowledge, skills and experiences essential to advance your future career.

## Fast Facts

### BSc Criminology and Sociology

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Number of Places   | 35  |
| UCAS code          | LM39  |
| Programme Duration | 3 years   |
| Study Programme    | The course has a modular structure, whereby students take 12 units at the rate of four per year. Some units are compulsory while others are elective thereby offering flexibility and choice. |
| Assessment         | Course units are assessed by a combination of essays, end of year exams and, in the third year, a dissertation  |
| Entry Requirements | Typical A level offer is ABB, UCAS Tariff 320pts  |
| FT Fees (2012-13)  | UK/EU £9,000 International £12,220  |

### BSc Criminology and Psychology

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Number of Places   | 30  |
| UCAS code          | CL83  |
| Programme Duration | 3 years   |
| Study Programme    | The course has a modular structure, whereby students take 12 units at the rate of four per year. Some units are compulsory while others are elective thereby offering flexibility and choice. |
| Assessment         | Course units are assessed by a combination of essays, end of year exams, portfolios and presentations, in the third year, a dissertation.   |
| Entry Requirements | Typical A level offer is AAB, UCAS Tariff 340 pts   |
| FT Fees (2012-13)  | UK/EU £9,000 International £12,220  |

An application for the accreditation of this programme has been submitted to The British Psychological Society.



“When choosing an undergraduate course it is important you choose something that is challenging, exciting, engaging and ultimately enjoyable. This course did exactly that for me and I regard my study within this department as three of the best years of my life.”

**James Treen, BSc Criminology and Sociology, 2008-2011**

# Admissions and requirements

We recognise that university life is a new experience for undergraduate students. This step by step guide will help you prepare for this experience by illustrating the type of students we take and what is expected from them.

## Typical Offers

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| UCAS Tariff                   | 320–340pts   |
| A level                       | ABB BSc Criminology and Sociology AAB BSc Criminology and Psychology                     |
| International Baccalaureate   | 34 for BSc Criminology and Sociology 35 for BSc Psychology and Criminology               |
| AP's (US Advanced Placements) | 2 at Grade 4 (out of 5) BTEC National Diploma: Distinctions in most final year subjects. |

## Eligibility

Each year the department admits approximately 60 new undergraduate students on single or joint honours programmes.

Our aim is to attract intelligent, self-motivated students who will contribute to and benefit from, a lively and stimulating environment.

## Potential applicants

### Sixth formers

The majority of applicants are sixth formers preparing for A-levels and the conditions of entry will vary according to your circumstances.

### Mature applicants

We are pleased to receive applications from mature students from any educational or career background. We may invite you to an interview so that we can consider your circumstances.

### International students

The faculty takes a significant number of international students each year and this enriches the programme and the environment. We recognise a wide range of qualifications but if you are in any doubt, please email the Admissions Office: [Admissions@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:Admissions@rhul.ac.uk) or call: +44 (0)1784 443399 and we will be happy to assist you.

## Deferred entry

Applicants for deferred entry are accepted and spending time pursuing different interests between leaving school and entering university can be a very worthwhile undertaking for a student.

The terms and conditions on which Royal Holloway, University of London makes offers of admission to its programmes of study, including those covered in this booklet, may be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus or Postgraduate Prospectus, copies of which are available on request from: [rhul.ac.uk/studyhere/](http://rhul.ac.uk/studyhere/)





# Degree programmes and structure

## BSc Criminology and Sociology

The study of Criminology and Sociology is approached from an interdisciplinary social science perspective. This is evident in all our compulsory teaching units. Criminology and Sociology courses are taught mainly through lectures and seminars, supplemented with personal tutorials, workshops and additional scheduled activities. Seminar groups are small enough to allow an active exchange of ideas with your tutor and other students. Courses are assessed by a combination of essays, end of year exams and, in the third year, a dissertation.

### Single Honours specialisms

| Year 1  | Year 2  | Final Year  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Students take the following Core Courses</b> | <b>Students take the following Core Courses:</b>              | <b>Core Course:</b>   |
| Introduction to Criminology                     | Research Methods  | Dissertation  |
| Introduction to Sociology                       | Data Analysis   | <b>Students also choose six options from courses such as:</b> |
| Social Problems and Social Policy               | Key Perspectives and Debates in Criminology and Sociology     | Sociology of Health and Illness                               |
| The Criminal Justice System                     | Sociology of Contemporary Society                             | Prisons   |
|   | <b>Students also choose two options from courses such as:</b> | Risk, Insecurity and Terrorism                                |
|   | Violent Crime – Sociological and Psychological Perspectives   | Youth in Society: Deviance and Delinquency                    |
|   | Crime and the Law   | Youth in Society: Culture, Subculture and Transgression       |
|   | Sociology of the Family                                       | Crime and the Media   |
|   | The Sociology of Youth  | Crime and Literature  |
|   | Youth and Crime   | Critical readings in Criminology                              |
|   |   | Critical Readings in Sociology                                |
|   |   | Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Society                    |
|   |   | Children, Society and Risk                                    |
|   |   | The Sociology of Popular Music                                |



“Royal Holloway is the place that let me dream big. Here I am finishing my Masters degree at Cambridge. Royal Holloway has a very supportive environment; everyone there is so driven and clear about what they want to do, so they achieve high. And that’s as much to do with personal growth as academic success”

**Sabrina Leung, BSc Criminology and Sociology, 2008-2011**

# Degree programmes and structure

## BSc Criminology and Psychology

### Joint Degrees

Joint honours students take introductory courses in biological psychology, abnormal psychology, learning and memory, criminology, the criminal justice system, and the self and society. You will be taught in several different ways, mostly through lectures, tutorials and laboratory classes. Altogether you can expect around 12 hours of tutorials, lab classes and lectures each week and the rest of the time you will be engaged in private study, reading and revision.

Courses in the second year build on the knowledge gained in the first year. They are more specialised and give students the chance to learn about particular topics in greater depth. Second year students are expected to carry out more independent reading and to begin to understand research design and analysis. You will receive lab classes, tutorials and lectures in research methodology and key debates in Criminology, Psychology and Sociology.

In the final year courses are flexible and you have some choice of which units to take. Courses are highly specialized and at the cutting edge of research.

As well as undertaking an independent dissertation research project and modules in cognitive psychology and conceptual issues in psychology, students will choose options, in consultation with the Academic Coordinator, from the following (note all courses are subject to change depending on what the Department is able to offer in any given year):

| Year 1   |
|--|
| <b>Students take the following Core Courses:</b> |
| Introduction to Criminology                      |
| The Criminal Justice System                      |
| Biological Foundations of Psychology             |
| Introduction to Abnormal Psychology              |
| Learning and Memory                              |
| Self and Society                                 |

| Year 2   |
|--|
| <b>Students take the following Core Courses:</b> |
| Key Perspectives and Debates in Criminology      |
| Research Methods                                 |
| Data Analysis                                    |
| Social Psychology                                |
| Developmental Psychology                         |
| Personality and Individual Differences           |
| Brain and Behaviour                              |

| Final Year  |
|---|
| <b>Students take the following Core Courses:</b>          |
| Dissertation  |
| Conceptual Issues in Psychology                           |
| Cognitive Psychology                                      |
| <b>Students also choose options from courses such as:</b> |

### Criminology

|   |
|---|
| Prisons   |
| Youth in Society: Deviance and Delinquency                |
| Youth in Society: Culture, Subculture and Transgression   |
| Crime and the Media                                       |
| Crime and Literature                                      |
| Critical Readings in Criminology                          |
| Race, Crime and Justice                                   |
| Health Care: Sociological and Criminological Perspectives |
| Risk Insecurity and Terrorism                             |

### Psychology

|  |
|--|
| Psychology of Language                             |
| Advanced Developmental Psychology                  |
| Health Psychology                                  |
| Perception and Awareness of the World and the Self |
| The Ageing Brain                                   |
| Advanced and Applied Social Psychology             |
| Adult Psychological Problems                       |
| Developmental Disorders                            |
| Human Neuropsychology                              |
| Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience                |
| Occupational and Organisational Psychology         |
| Human Performance: Work, Sport, and Medicine       |
| Criminal and Forensic Psychology                   |
| Educational Psychology                             |



# Teaching and assessment

## Technology

The College supports a number of facilities to help you use IT in support of your degree programme. This includes the facility to connect to College resources both on and off campus. Most of the College's study bedrooms include data points enabling you to connect your laptop to the internet and College network. You can also use your computer or laptop in the majority of our study bedrooms to access some of the most common TV channels and a phone service. Access to the internet and College network can be gained in many parts of the campus using a wireless provision.

Situated around the campus are a number of fully equipped PC Labs which offer a range of essential applications that you may require for your degree; with most labs being open 24/7.

## Support for independent learning

The university facilities include state-of-the-art lecture theatres and high specification audio visual equipment aiding interactive and collaborative study, both in this country and globally. We are conveniently located opposite to the Computer Centre Building, which is open 24 hours a day and alongside the Careers Service. Programmes are supported by a virtual learning environment (Moodle). Online resources available to students may include copies of lecture slides, links to e-journals and past exam papers as well as course outlines. Our dedicated undergraduate staff will support you whilst you study for your degree. You may contact the Undergraduate Administrator that covers your programme, or the Admissions Officer, depending on the nature of your query.

## Industry Placements

The Department has excellent links with prisons, government bodies, charities and research organisations and can offer a range of valuable placement opportunities that students can apply to undertake alongside their studies, supported by academic staff and the careers service.

## Library

The Royal Holloway libraries have a collection of over 500,000 books, as well as growing collections of audio visual materials. Bedford Library has recently been refurbished to offer a range of different working spaces for students. Level 2 is now a social learning space, which features group study areas, a café, a tea house, as well as various IT facilities such as data projectors and interactive whiteboards to enable group working. Level 3 has been refurbished to provide a silent study area for students, featuring improved lighting and wireless access. Bedford Library has an extensive collection of books in your field of study.

Bedford Library also has a range of print journals but, more importantly, offers access to a very wide range of electronic resources. These resources include data sources, which contain more academic discussions and analyses of topics. Training on how to use these electronic resources is provided by the Information Consultants in the library, who run both general and subject-specific sessions. Students are also able to borrow books from and access the electronic resources of Senate House Library, the library of the University of London. For more information on Royal Holloway libraries, please visit:

[www.rhul.ac.uk/information-services/library/](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/information-services/library/)

## Teaching and learning in an intellectually stimulating environment.

The teaching and learning strategies employed in the department take into account our students' diverse range of backgrounds. A-level students have studied different subjects at school; mature students have worked in a range of different occupations; and international students enlighten the programme with their experiences of different cultures. Our first year introductory courses are designed to take into account the different levels of student knowledge and to provide you with the necessary tools and theories. For some students, our programme will further develop existing skills and knowledge. For others who may have little or no experience of certain key subjects, our programme will help you develop these. The diverse range of both students and academics within the Department means everyone can benefit from the knowledge and skills they can gain from each other's different backgrounds and learning. Our overall approach to learning is to adopt a creative attitude to problem solving. You will be shown how to research a topic and how to organise, analyse and interpret data. You will be positively encouraged to acquire the skills and competencies necessary for the development of your creative and discursive capabilities. We actively encourage independent learning and you will be given as much freedom as possible for self-expression.

Alongside traditional forms of teaching we offer guided visits to prisons, courts, and specialist museums, as well as opportunities to participate in national conferences and research seminars relevant to your studies.





# Other information

## Study abroad

All students have the opportunity to study abroad, either for an academic term, a full year or as part of one of our International Summer School opportunities. We have good links with Universities throughout Europe, North America and beyond.

## UCAS and College Open Days

Our Open Days provide you with an opportunity to see if the Department is the right place for you. You will have the opportunity to participate in taster sessions and attend presentations providing further information about studying with us and life at Royal Holloway. Our academic and administrative staff will be present on the day to help answer any questions you may have. In addition to which our Student Ambassadors will also be happy to assist you and answer any queries or concerns about studying for a degree.

For more information about Open Days or to book a place at one, please visit: [www.rhul.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/opendays) or email [liaison-office@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:liaison-office@rhul.ac.uk)

## Accessing University Facilities

Many College facilities can be accessed remotely. Whether you are working in a PC Lab, your study bedroom, or abroad you have the opportunity to access certain areas such as your College email, your personal disk storage area, and the Moodle virtual learning environment from which you can access a range of learning materials. Additionally, essential library resources can also be accessed, including the Library catalogue and online journals. To support these facilities, a range of IT related help is available at the College, either remotely via email and the internet, or face-to-face by visiting the Bedford Library Service Desk. For more information about many of the IT facilities available, please visit:

[www.rhul.ac.uk/Information-Services/Computer-Centre/](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/Information-Services/Computer-Centre/)

## Student support and facilities within the School

When you join the department, a member of our staff is immediately assigned to you as your Personal Adviser. Our staff are renowned for being friendly and approachable and will help you choose your courses and offer personal support and guidance throughout your degree study period.

The Department is also proud to be one of six participating departments which offers a Peer Guidance Scheme: Not only does this initiative provide a valuable source of informal support

in helping new students settle into University life, it also offers a recognised and well supported role for our second and third year students to develop their skills and bolster their CV.

Towards the end of each course unit, students are asked to complete a short questionnaire that is designed to generate feedback on course content and teaching methods which is used to enhance future provision.

## Student-Staff committee

The Student-Staff Undergraduate Committee is the forum for discussion of matters of concern to Department staff and students. The Committee makes recommendations and advises the Head of Department. The Student-Staff Committee meets regularly throughout the year to review courses and discuss general matters that students would like to bring to the attention of staff.

## Crim Soc society

Our undergraduates run a student-led society, hosting a variety of talks, special events and external visits.



“For me, Royal Holloway had the complete package. Not only is it a world-class research institution and part of the University of London, it is also a beautiful campus outside of London where you meet people from all kinds of different backgrounds.”

**Sabrina Leung, BSc Criminology and Sociology, 2008-2011**

# Your future career



## Undergraduate careers support

The Careers Service is conveniently situated on campus and is affiliated with The Careers Group, University of London. At 100 years old is one of the largest and most established higher education careers organisations in Europe. Undergraduate Careers Advisers offer plenty of hands-on support, long with one-to-one coaching sessions, designed to assist you with your career strategy. In addition to which Careers Advisors focus on areas such as entrepreneurship and provide a specialist service for international students. It is strongly advised that you prepare for a job as early as possible by fully utilising the Careers Centre facilities and attending activities and events to network and gain information. Our workshops will help you with:

- Using Social media for Job Hunting
- Finding Internships and work Experience
- CVs, Applications, Interviews
- Assessment Centres
- Making the most of the recruitment fair
- What to do if you don't know what to do



## Maximising your job opportunities

Employers look for such skills such as teamwork, problem solving and decision-making. The best job applicants got involved with activities such as student societies, sports teams, volunteering and part-time work. Some student societies work with the Careers Service for assistance with guest speakers and vocational information. These include Entrepreneurs, the Law Society and the Management and Investment society. Your involvement with co-curricular activities can lead to you being awarded the Royal Holloway Passport, a recent initiative that helps you market your skills to employers. Egham is part of a business hub that has built up around Heathrow and the M25 which provides opportunities to work in the area for local, national and multi-national companies. There are businesses situated close to the college that include accountants, management consultants, law firms, IT and utilities companies and numerous restaurants and shops. Our affiliation with the Careers Group, provides access to employers and careers events in London as well as locally.

## Step London Graduate Internship programme

This programme is run by The Careers Group and offer paid internships to graduates at: [www.careers.lon.ac.uk](http://www.careers.lon.ac.uk)

## Careers activities and employer events

- PWC, psychometric assessment skills session
- Proctor & Gamble – R&D presentation
- Deloitte, making successful applications, skills session
- Ernst & Young, CV clinic
- College of Law, is Law the careers for me?
- RAF interviews
- Centrica, succeeding at interviews skills session
- CV workshop, Job applications workshop
- Transferable skills from volunteering workshop
- Centrica summer internships presentation
- Using social media for job hunting
- Finding internships and work experience
- CV's, Applications, Interviews
- Assessment centres
- Making the most of the recruitment fair
- What to do if you don't know what to do!

[www.rhul.ac.uk/careers/events](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/careers/events)



## Your career, employability, and transferable skills

### Services for students who wish to:

- Start a business, social enterprise or charity
- Become more enterprising and entrepreneurial
- Enhance employability with enterprise skills  
[www.rhul.ac.uk/rhentrepreneurs](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/rhentrepreneurs)
- Start-up Wednesdays – workshops and skills development
- Student Societies – gain experience through involvement in societies
- Enterprise Lab – one-to-one business guidance/incubation services
- Competitions – raise funds for your business/social enterprise
- Enterprise Training – boot camps/department workshops/one-off events

Our degrees in Criminology and Psychology and Criminology and Sociology provide a fascinating and engaging way to prepare for a wide range of careers. Our graduates work for a variety of organisations, having left us equipped with valuable transferable skills in research design, analysing and interpreting data, critical analysis, responding to real world issues and the communication of complex ideas.



# Alumni

After graduating you will become part of the Royal Holloway Alumni. We are in contact with 65,000 previous students both in the UK and abroad, enabling graduates to network with each other worldwide. To help you keep in touch we will send you information through Higher, our twice yearly magazine and our regular Alumni Update eNewsletter. Many alumni give their support because their time here left a positive impression on them, which they are proud of. They are very active and often become ambassadors of the university, helping with events, graduate recruitment, career talks, mentoring, networking and offering job opportunities. Some of our recent alumni events have included:

- Alumni Lecture Series – ‘The Apprentice’ finalist, Debra Barr
- Start It! Royal Holloway Entrepreneurs events – Business clinics, Bright Ideas Masterclass & Start-up Planning and events featuring speakers from ‘Dragons Den’  
[www.royalhollowayentrepreneurs.com/](http://www.royalhollowayentrepreneurs.com/)
- Alumni in the city – networking and socialising
- Hancock Cup Alumni Sports Day – basketball, netball, football, rugby, hockey, mixed lacrosse, golf, American football
- International weekend reunions

For further information about Royal Holloway alumni events please visit: [www.rhul.ac.uk/For-Alumni/news\\_and\\_events.html](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/For-Alumni/news_and_events.html)

Through the alumni programme you can gain many benefits, some of which include:

- Royal Holloway Sports Centre membership
- Free access to the libraries
- Alumni bursaries for postgraduate study
- Ongoing careers support through our Careers Service
- Discounts on products and services

We always encourage our alumni to get involved in organising such events to help bring the alumni Community closer together. For further information please visit the Royal Holloway Alumni website: [www.rhul.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/alumni)



## Graduate Profile

Alumna: Ellie Whalley  
Subject: BSc Criminology and Sociology  
Graduated: 2011

“After graduating from Royal Holloway I undertook teacher training and am now qualified as a primary school teacher and employed in a school in Bracknell Forest. The transferable skills I developed during my degree proved to be extremely good preparation for my teacher training.”

## Graduate Profile

Alumna: Leah Muir-Walters  
Subject: BSc Criminology and Sociology  
Graduated: 2012

“After graduating from Royal Holloway I secured a place on the post-compulsory PGCE at the Institute of Education, where I am training to teach Sociology in the Further Education sector. My placement college is Westminster Kingsway College in central London where I will be teaching A-level Sociology. My degree was directly relevant to my chosen career and I will be teaching topics during my training which I covered during my time at Royal Holloway, including the Sociology of the Family, Health and Medicine and Crime and Deviance.”

## Graduate Profile

Alumna: Mandip Rai  
Subject: BSc Criminology and Sociology  
Graduated: 2011

“After graduating from Royal Holloway I completed my graduate diploma in law at the College of Law in Bloomsbury. I studied part time whilst working in law firms, gaining legal work experience in crime, litigation and property. Criminology and Sociology was and is the most thought provoking course. It changed my whole attitude towards my career of being a solicitor and it really opened my mind and eyes to the world. I enjoyed every module from sociology of music and youth to crime and law. This course and the tutors were motivational and supportive throughout and the Crim Soc team were very personable and easy to speak to.”

## Graduate Profile

Alumna: Harriet Huband  
Subject: BSc Criminology and Sociology  
Graduated: 2007

“After graduating from Royal Holloway my then employer sponsored my qualification with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators which has led to my current role in corporate governance at Network Rail. I am pleased that I chose to read a subject which I found so interesting and while Sociology as a discipline may not be obviously related to my chosen career, the transferable skills I developed throughout my time on the programme have been invaluable in my subsequent career.”



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