

## Course record information

<b>Name and level of final award</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Arts with Honours - Policing</li> <li>• Bachelor of Arts with Honours - Policing with International Experience</li> </ul> <p>The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA first cycle degree or diploma compatible</p>
<b>Name and level of intermediate awards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Arts (BA) - Policing</li> <li>• Diploma of Higher Education (Dip HE) - Policing</li> <li>• Certificate of Higher Education (CerHE) - Policing</li> </ul>
<b>Awarding body/institution</b>	University of Westminster
<b>Teaching institution</b>	University of Westminster
<b>Status of awarding body/institution</b>	Recognised Body
<b>Location of delivery</b>	Primary: Central London
<b>Language of delivery and assessment</b>	English
<b>QAA subject benchmarking group(s)</b>	<a href="#">Subject Benchmark Statement - Policing (qaa.ac.uk)</a>
<b>Professional statutory or regulatory body</b>	
<b>Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policing BA, Full-time, September start - 3 years standard length with an optional year abroad</li> </ul>
<b>Valid for cohorts</b>	From 2024/5

## Additional Course Information

Applicants are considered for direct entry to level 5 and 6. In such cases, an individual programme of study may apply.

## Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum entry requirements for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information. For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements. More information can be found here: <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply>

## Recognition of Prior Learning

Applicants with prior certificated or experiential learning at the same level of the qualification for which they wish to apply are advised to visit the following page for further information:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/guides-and-policies/student-matters/recognition-of-prior-learning>

## Aims of the programme

### Introduction

Westminster Law School is located within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Little Titchfield Street, which is in the heart of the West End and Legal London. The Westminster BA (Hons) Policing degree offers a recognised route into policing, subject to successful application to your chosen police service, via the Degree Holders Entry Programme. The degree meets and exceeds the standards set out in the College of Policing and Quality Assurance Agency benchmarking. However, our Westminster Policing degree is not the standard BSc Professional Policing, accredited by the College of Policing. Instead, our Westminster policing degree is a unique offering for students that reflects the values and history of the University of Westminster as a hub of radical change. Our BA (Hons.) Policing is deliberately different by design, setting out to educate future police leaders to transform policing in more progressive directions. It is a unique and bespoke degree for those who are considering a career in policing, but want to see a radically changed style and types of policing that benefit all citizens. The Westminster policing degree reflects the qualities of progression, compassion and responsibility that underpin our University's values. We are proudly diverse, and the university aspires to promote social justice and mobility through its policing degree. These are values that run as a golden thread through our policing research and education programmes.

We believe policing done well is a public good, meaning that all of society can benefit from being safe and secure. Done badly, policing can have catastrophic effects – especially on those at the edge of society – and this undermines confidence in the police. This is seen in the recurrent crises that British policing continues to repeatedly endure. We believe policing is held back from delivering for all communities by a conservatism that is the enemy of progress. Our cutting-edge policing research and education programmes are aimed at bringing radical shifts in how policing is understood, delivered, and experienced by citizens; exploring, developing and promoting far-reaching changes to policing. We believe in difference. We believe in social progress, and our Westminster policing degree is built upon these principles. It is a unique and distinctive police degree programme; an exceptional offer to develop the best and brightest minds to enter policing with a transformative agenda to make policing better for everyone. The BA (Hons) Policing at Westminster is an interesting and stimulating course that will give you a broad grounding in professional policing knowledge and skills, and prepare you to go on to practice as a police officer or police staff. Beyond that though, we will allow you space to generate your own ideas about how policing might be improved, to allow you to go and change the world for the better. We will also give you the core skills you will need to lead policing into the future - listening, compassion, empathy, leadership and transformational change.

Being flexible in its design, the degree also equips you with the relevant knowledge and transferable skills required for other police- and investigative-related, regulatory sector, or criminal justice sector roles and a wide variety of other professions, including a route to take the Solicitors Qualifying Examination ('SQE') or learn a language, should you wish.

### **BA (Hons.) Policing Course Aims**

The BA (Hons.) Policing is designed to transformationally educate the next generation of policing and criminal justice sector leaders, inspiring and infusing you with ideas to improve the world and promote social justice. The degree will allow you to develop practical professional knowledge and skills, while exploring and understanding alternative concepts of modern day policing, crime, justice and community safety that arise from more critical, radical and activist spaces. You will critically explore how modern British policing now appears in the early twenty first century, based on cutting-edge research, to consider what problems this creates, sustains, and how alternatives might emerge. Additionally, the course will teach core skills which are relevant to the police profession in a changing world; on community development and perspectives, and how you can lead through listening, empathy and empowerment. The programme will allow you to find your voice and identity, developing your own ideas about modern policing practice and culture.

The course will also equip you with the core skills to investigate crime and understand the processes of bringing cases to court, such as the role of intelligence, disclosure rules and forensic evidence. We will also address many of the current problems and challenges facing contemporary policing in Britain, exploring their historical roots, and encouraging you to consider and propose new solutions to these pressing issues through the use of authentic assessments such as podcasts, reflective journals, and policy papers. The course provides a framework to all students to understand how policing shapes the relationship between people, institutions, states and communities, as well as a structure which fosters your own skills to find, analyse, interpret and evaluate the role policing plays in the criminal justice sector and broader community safety landscape. The BA (Hons.) Policing allows you to develop your professional skills to enable you to apply the law, police powers and procedures in various practical settings. All students have several opportunities to both work on research projects of importance to them, and study a number of specialist areas of policing or wider law of their own choosing, during each year of their degree.

Our course leader is a highly experienced and respected former senior police officer, who continues to lead innovative research about policing. This gives our policing programme significant credibility within the policing profession and police research community. Using a mixture of experts drawn from academia, former police officers and visiting speakers from other criminal justice agencies, we aim to teach policing in an interesting and engaging way, so that you can understand it in terms of its effect both on society and individuals. You will learn about how policing has developed in historical perspective: how it affects the lives of those policing encounters as victims, witnesses or suspects; the diverse perceptions of policing across different communities in modern Britain; and how the contextual operation of policing occurs within a setting of other social and political forces. You will analyse topical policing issues that are in the news, in both domestic and international contexts, such as the policing of protest, equality, police culture and public protection.

Your studies will enable you to gain a deep theoretical understanding of policing and to develop the practical policing, transferable and social skills required to help you achieve a successful future career. The aim of the School is to foster a stimulating, enjoyable and supportive learning community, in which you can truly develop and thrive.

We aim to inspire you to be passionate about policing and to achieve your full potential within a diverse, inclusive, supportive and friendly community. The course also provides an opportunity to study a wide range of options covering numerous and diverse areas of policing and the law that are closely linked to the wide-ranging research, criminal justice and legal professional expertise of members of Westminster Law School. Many of our team are active in leading cutting-edge research, and we use this to ensure our teaching and your learning is as up-to-date as possible. In addition, the Law School has a number of prestigious international partners, and you will have the opportunity to add an international dimension to your degree by studying part of your course overseas with one of them, should you wish.

You will also have the opportunity to apply your knowledge and skills in practice, and contribute to the wider community, by undertaking opportunities for relevant work placements, community engagement projects, and field visits during the course. This will allow you to gain valuable work experience and insight, whilst contributing to providing important community services and developing new skills.

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:**

Key values in your degree

Diversity and inclusion are the fundamental values which inform everything we do at Westminster Law School. We are committed to ensuring that our School is a welcoming community which embraces difference and allows everyone to find their voice, bringing diversity and difference to policing and the wider legal community.

Equality, diversity and inclusion is a current and pressing issue within policing. Indeed, a lack of EDI arguably creates many of the problems and crises that beset modern British policing. Our Policing degree is therefore infused with a deep commitment to diversity and inclusion from the outset, and in particular in allowing all of our students to express themselves and their values throughout their course of studies, generating new ideas about effective modern policing. Our distinctive curriculum focusses, from the outset, on ways of you finding your own voice and develop your own perspectives through study and research into concepts of policing. Additionally, we will provide opportunities for you to engage with professionals in community development, policing and community safety settings, to help build skills of listening and perspectives that challenge our own thinking. This is achieved through a combination of field work, visiting speakers, and authentic assessments that require you to critically reflect on what you have seen, heard, read, and understood about how people experience policing in different ways. Each year of your degree is crafted to help you develop your voice and identity, building year-on-year with more advanced modules and ideas so you can develop ideas about what policing means to you and how it can be improved for the benefit of all of society.

### **Level 4**

Our Level 4 core module in your first semester - 'A Genealogy of Modern Policing' - introduces you to several world views about policing. These embrace difference and place importance on different ideas and traditions within policing. You will explore how policing has developed, how different communities have been impacted, and what this means for policing is currently delivered, viewed and experienced in different communities. This module will also introduce the concept of intersectionality, to help appreciate the impact of multiple social factors that might impact on how people experience and understand policing, especially for those on the margins of society. In the first year you will also study core modules on: 'Introduction to Criminal Justice: Crime and Punishment', alongside Law undergraduates exploring the criminal justice system and the role of policing within it; 'Criminal Law and Policing' covering police powers in the context of the criminal law in Britain; and, 'Investigations and Evidence' taking a case study approach to work through a criminal investigation and present the evidence you uncover to court.

This is followed by the Guided Project module, which allows you to use those skills and concepts to focus on and research an area of policing that is important to you. Indicatively, this may cover areas such police and racism, the policing of protest, or countering terrorism. You will also choose an optional module to give you flexibility to study areas of interest to you. You will be encouraged to express your own perspectives, allowing you to contribute directly to ideas in that area. In this way, we aim to create a community in which all students feel comfortable and confident in expressing their ideas, and who they are, in the context of diverse ideas about policing.

### **Level 5**

Building on the Level 4 module, the Professional Practice skills core module in 'Advanced Investigation' further immerses you in the world of police investigative practices, building on 'Investigations and Evidence' from Level 4. We give all of our students the tools to put their policing ambitions into practice, using detailed case studies from crime scene investigation, police intelligence, through to processing suspects and court prosecutions. This allows you to develop your professional understanding of how policing works in practice, exploring the challenges and finding solutions in a safe and supportive learning environment. This is, in turn, followed by other core modules in: 'Managing People', exploring how policing

contributes to managing those who offend within the criminal justice system; and, 'Public Protection and Vulnerability', exploring concepts of community safety and specific areas of public protection such as domestic abuse, child protection, and mental health.

The Work-Based Placement learning module allows you to develop your own project or practice in an area of importance to you in a community safety work environment in the public, private or voluntary sector. This ensures that all of our students are both able to feel at home in the policing world, but also reshape or reimagine that world in ways that reflect them. You will additionally select your own course of study from two optional modules at Level 5, including innovative policing modules covering areas such as the role of Women in Policing, or our voluntary-sector partnered Community Building for Policing.

## **Level 6**

In your final year, you have the opportunity to undertake a professional academic project in order to perfect and delve deeper into those personalised perspectives about policing that you have developed during the course, under the guidance of one of our expert staff. Additionally, the development of your ideas will be supported by two core modules: 'Re-thinking Policing', exploring critical issues in modern policing, reflecting on all you have learnt so far and reconsidering intersectionality. This core module will cause you to reflect and consider what might be done to make policing better for future generations, considering state-led and alternative solutions that have emerged and are emerging contemporaneously from activist movements, such as Black Lives Matter. The core module on 'Values, Virtues and Ethics' explores how policing is governed, deals with complaints, is made efficient and accountable, and what routes to improvement might look like - from regulatory compliance, the professionalisation agenda, through to a more values or virtue-based approaches to leadership. Additionally, there are two optional modules to further study areas of policing and the law that are of interest to individual students. For policing, these include specialist areas of policing such as Counter Terrorism, and also innovative modules exploring ideas of real contemporary relevance in modern policing, such as Race and Policing.

At Westminster Law School therefore Diversity and Inclusion do not only mean that we welcome everyone into our community, they also mean that we will help you to develop your own active voice and perspectives on effective policing. By giving the space and time to fully explore challenging contemporary issues in modern policing, expose you to alternative and critical perspectives and approach, and help you develop your core leadership skills, we will equip you to go into the world and make a difference. At Westminster, we see policing as a public good which is there to be shaped and adapted in the image of every student, and every student should feel confident that their whole self will be reflected in your studies, and therefore, policing. All modules involve opportunities to express your own critical ideas regarding policing and how to improve it.

## **Diversity and Inclusion within Policing**

Equally, diversity and inclusion are important to what we teach and research more broadly. Our Policing degree contains a series of modules reflecting our University values, focusing on the relationship between policing and questions of diversity, equality and inclusion in various ways and through a range of lenses where these present practical difficulties, such as victims of crime, or the management of offenders or mental health in communities. You can choose to study a number of these at each level of your degree. These reflect on specific communities that have enduring problematic relationships with policing (such as women, children, persons of colour, or working class people, as examples), but also how these combine to produce deleterious impacts for citizens impacted by their intersectionality.

Many of our offered modules are unique to Westminster Law School, and reflect our institutional commitment to these themes. By studying some of these modules, focusing on questions as diverse as race, class and gender, you can develop the tools to interrogate and question how these issues intersect with policing, the role policing plays in society and your relationship with it, and how policing might be improved in future. These modules culminate in our flagship Level 6 module, 'Re-Thinking Policing', which transforms these questions into a broader set of ethical knowledge and theoretical perspectives on policing, giving you advanced expertise on questions such as state violence, policing of protest, and the use of police powers such as stop and search. Alongside policing's attempts to deal with issues of controversy that impact upon delivery, we will also give active consideration to the critical and radical ideas emerging on the future of policing, such as the global de-funding movement.

We would also encourage all of our students, and colleagues, to help us to understand how we might further question our own approaches and embrace new initiatives so that we all continue to learn and to teach each other. This will enable us to continue to achieve our goal to diversify and widen access to policing, police knowledge and perspectives, which in turn will improve and enrich policing itself.

## **Your degree and professional qualification**

Your degree has been designed to provide a high-quality policing and legal education which will prepare you for many different careers, both within and outside policing professions. The course combines the core building blocks of policing professional knowledge and skills, meeting the benchmarking standards of the College of Policing and Quality Assurance

Agency for Higher Education. However, the radical and distinctive Westminster Policing programme additionally contains various potential areas of focus that allow you to develop your own interests, passions and fields of professional specialisation - putting our graduates in a unique position of critically reflecting upon policing and having inspiring ideas for future change if they choose to enter the police service. While your degree has been designed to keep as many potential pathways open to you as possible, it is also structured in a manner that allows you to progress onto the next professional stage of professional qualification within policing (via the DEHP entry route) or various legal professions (through SQE route). You can find more detail as to how your degree can be shaped or used to prepare you for various different professional pathways in the section on accreditation, and further details about broader employability skills are found in the section on employability below.

## Employment and further study opportunities

University of Westminster graduates will be able to demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that being based in London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students. Contemporary organisations need graduates with a good degree and relevant professional and personal skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that career development skills are embedded in all of our courses. The BA (Hons) Policing follows this approach equipping you with the foundation degree you require to apply to one of 43 police forces in England and Wales to become a police officer, through the College of Policing Degree Holders Entry Programme (DHEP).

During your studies opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are promoted to you. For example, you are able to complete and obtain recognition during the degree for participation in University-wide schemes such as the Westminster Employability Award, the University's Mentoring Scheme, Westminster Enterprise Journey, Westminster Business Consultants and Westminster Working Cultures. You can also participate in online work-based learning programmes provided by University partners such as Forage and Bright Network. You can be employed by the University via its Talent Bank, and be recognised for your role as a student ambassador or representative, working in partnership with Westminster Law School and the wider University. You also benefit from the services of the Careers and Employability Service and College Placements Team, who both assist you in finding placements and promote industry events through the University's Engage platform.

Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in policing and the wider criminal justice sector, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision. We will ensure you are connected to a range of innovative schemes designed to increase your employability, specific to policing, using a range of partner organisations.

Beyond policing itself, a Policing degree is widely viewed as a valuable asset by a large group of employers across a broad range of sectors. The School has regular events with alumni, for example, panel discussions with alumni in policing, the judicial profession and Law employability events. There are also online and on-site fairs for you to attend at the University, such as the Inclusive Futures and Volunteering Fairs. This course will prepare you for a variety of policing, investigative, regulatory sector, legal and criminal justice careers including practice as a police officer, police staff, investigator for other regulatory bodies or private businesses, the civil service, education and local government, amongst many others. Our graduates can also pursue careers as a barrister, solicitor, legal clerk, paralegal or legal executive, by taking optional modules offered, as the Westminster Policing programme uniquely keeps the SQE (Solicitors Qualifying Examination) route open to you.

The BA (Hons.) Policing at Westminster develops graduate attributes in a cohesive and coordinated way. Throughout your degree you are expected to reflect on the graduate attributes you have acquired and identify areas for further development. Policing, and many other professions, are organised in the same way – encouraging employees to take responsibility for their own development. At Westminster, we are confident we are equipping our students with the core skills necessary for lifelong learning and development, by taking and encouraging this approach. Opportunities will be provided by the Law School to encourage this development, through the Law School's links with employers, alumni in various professions, the wider research community and opportunities for international engagement (for example with

international organisations in London or travel abroad).

The Law School is committed to ensuring that work-based learning is integrated into the BA (Hons.) Policing curriculum, providing a range of opportunities for the development of your professional skills and the improvement of your graduate outcomes. As part of your degree programme, at level 5 you will complete Work-Based Placement Learning as a core module - specifically designed to enhance your employability skills.

We are proud of our diverse School and are committed to helping every single member of our community to achieve their ambitions and potential. Westminster Law School is ranked top of all UK Law Schools for social mobility, as we are more successful than any other Law School at getting a higher number of students from lower-income backgrounds to high-level employment.

### Further Study Opportunities

You will also have an opportunity to undertake a semester abroad during your second year of study or short-term periods of study abroad to attend summer schools, volunteer, take up placements, or participate in field trips organised by students, Law School staff or the University.

### The Year Abroad and the BA (Hons) Policing with International Experience

Globalisation and the internationalisation of policing at different levels mean that graduates with international experiences and an understanding of policing beyond its national boundaries are particularly valued by employers. There are a range of policing organisations with international remits. You can spend an additional year of study abroad in one of our partner institutions around the world after your second year and return to Westminster for your fourth year. You can see a current list of our partners at:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/our-university/global-westminster/global-partner-network> (These arrangements are subject to change.)

During the year abroad, you will enrol both at the partner institution and at Westminster. At Westminster, you will register for the two Law Study Abroad modules, one in Semester 1 and one in Semester 2, and, upon successful completion of these modules, you will be awarded 120 additional credits and qualify for the BA (Hons) Policing with International Experience. At the host institution, you can study in English or in the language of the host institution if you have the relevant linguistic competence.

The marks and credits of the year abroad are not exchangeable with Westminster credits and do not count towards the final degree classification.

## What will you be expected to achieve?

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall knowledge and understanding you will gain from your course (KU)
- Graduate attributes are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA)
- Professional and personal practice learning outcomes are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)
- Key transferable skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)

**Level 4 course learning outcomes:** upon completion of Level 4 you will be able to:

- 001 Develop a deep understanding of British policing, the legal and criminal justice systems and institutions in their cultural, social, political, and economic contexts, through critical inquiry and reflection. ( KU GA )
- 002 Understand the development of British policing, its relationships with individuals and diverse communities in how policing is differentially perceived and experienced. Be open to divergent thinking about how policing can be reimagined and transformed in support of social justice. ( KU GA KTS SS )
- 003 Review and apply the legal duties and rights which govern the relationship between individuals and the exercise of police powers. Understand how this is experienced differently through listening and empathy, and what might be done to bring ethical practice into the heart of delivery. ( KU PPP )
- 004 Explain processes of criminalisation, and understand the role of the criminal law and policing in these processes. Evaluate the different approaches that can be taken recognising the needs and expectations of community stakeholders. ( KU PPP )

- 005 Engage in policing research under direction, through the location, referencing and interpretation of sources, and express ideas and concepts about policing and crime in a structured manner. Understand and critically evaluate the links between research and practice. ( GA PPP KTS )
- 006 Apply investigative methodologies to various breaches of the criminal law and explain rules of evidence. Use problem solving approaches within the legislative frameworks and stakeholder expectations within which police investigations take place. ( KU GA PPP KTS )
- 007 Present arguments in an appropriate form of communication whether individually or as part of a team, considering diverse perspectives and current thinking in policing. ( GA PPP KTS )
- 008 Demonstrate non-cognitive skills of engagement, listening, critical thinking and teamwork. ( GA PPP KTS )

**Level 5 course learning outcomes:** upon completion of Level 5 you will be able to:

- 001 Analyse the role of policing in the management of people who break the law, critically reflecting on lived experiences of those in the CJ system and the needs of those impacted of intersectional disadvantage balanced against statutory requirements on policing and other CJ agencies. ( KU GA PPP KTS )
- 002 Evaluate how policing contributes to public protection and community safety in different contexts, developing core personal skills in listening, empathy, compassion and communication with people from a diverse range of backgrounds. ( KU GA PPP KTS SS CS )
- 003 Use professional investigation skills to provide solutions to case study examples of contemporary breaches of the criminal law. ( GA PPP KTS )
- 004 Investigate and analyse the changing nature and role of police investigations into breaches of the law in an evolving world. ( KU GA PPP )
- 005 Evaluate and engage with competing perspectives and viewpoints in specialist areas of policing knowledge and research, developing a deep and expansive knowledge. Make creative connections across the field of policing and broader criminal justice. ( KU SS )
- 006 Communicate effectively and persuasively, both orally and in writing in relation to policing matters so that your advice and opinion is clear to both policing specialists and lay-people. ( GA PPP KTS )
- 007 Demonstrate active engagement with your own personal and professional development under limited supervision. ( GA PPP CS )

**Level 6 course learning outcomes:** upon completion of Level 6 you will be able to:

- 001 Demonstrate an advanced, critical knowledge on a number of specialist areas in the field of policing, considering issues of social justice and how they relate to professional practice in policing . ( KU GA PPP )
- 002 Critically engage with advanced ideas relating to the impact, fairness, justice, cultural role and social place of policing. This can be through developing crucial non-cognitive skills of listening, empathy and engagement with people from a wide range of backgrounds. ( KU GA PPP SS )
- 003 Formulate critical arguments relating to policing, its impact and its potential reform in an authentic policing professional context, reflecting in-depth research and engagement with competing primary and secondary sources. ( GA PPP KTS )
- 004 Engage in advanced, applied reasoning in the production of in-depth critical research, demonstrating the ability to consider, reflect and propose solutions to solve complex policing problems in an authentic professional context. ( KU GA PPP KTS )
- 005 Critically and creatively reflect on your learning, identifying gaps in you personal development throughout your studies. ( GA PPP KTS CS )
- 006 Proactively plan for your self-development, committing you to lifelong learning and professional development. ( GA PPP KTS CS )

## How will you learn?

### Learning methods

The BA (Hons.) Policing programme is made up of eleven compulsory 20 credit core modules, and a compulsory 40 credit core module at Level 6. You will also take five further 20 credit modules as optional or elective modules, offered from a wide variety of areas and specialisms. The four-year BA (Hons.) with International Experience contains a further two 60 credit core modules.

The core modules address the key skills and knowledge which all police officers need to understand and succeed in the modern world. These are made up of foundations of knowledge and understanding about policing, including the core building blocks of the criminal law, police powers and procedures, as well as the fundamental academic and professional skills which allow you to find, use, explain and evaluate concepts of policing, crime, harm and justice. The core degree is therefore made up of a number of ways of learning, introducing you to key policing areas and concepts in an immersive way, while other optional modules at each level allow you to develop and demonstrate core professional skills in areas which are of interest and importance to you.

Policing, personal and academic skills are embedded into the teaching of all core modules, and elements of employability and professional development are also built into the programme. In addition, academic staff offer wide-ranging activities that make an important contribution to your academic, employability and personal development.

As students, you will develop a breadth and depth of understanding and skills competencies pertaining to policing, as well as confidence in your abilities to lead, work in partnership or teams, and improve your range of communication styles with people from a diverse range of backgrounds and in different situations. We promote reflection on performance and development in particular, and provide specific assistance with this in all the core modules, especially at level 4. You will also be allocated a Personal Academic Tutor, who will advise you and assist you at the beginning of your studies and will then continue to provide you with academic guidance throughout your study on the degree.

The BA (Hons.) Policing programme builds on core skills across its core modules, introducing different areas of policing as core content, creating a balanced and well-rounded programme. The programme has been clearly designed to ensure that modules at similar levels dovetail with respect to skills, development and modes of assessment. Each module will consider the substantive issues on modern policing, their context, important theoretical and historical perspectives, alongside ethical issues relevant to that area. The BA (Hons.) Policing at Westminster delivers the core modules in a coherent way at each level and cross-references the skills acquired in one subject to the learning in another, providing you with an understanding of how policing fits together as a whole within the criminal justice system, community safety partnerships, and wider society.

The teaching team will provide a framework for understanding knowledge whilst requiring you to develop your skills of research, critical evaluation and analysis using engaging and rigorous assessment techniques. You will be expected to find, analyse, interpret and apply police powers, procedures, the criminal law and your policing skills. You will see from our programme the importance of policing in different contexts, offering diverse perspectives so that you understand that using the law and police powers is far more than merely 'learning law'.

### **Programme Planning**

You will do one option at level 4, and two options respectively at levels 5 and 6. You can generally choose any combination of modules, allowing you to build a curriculum that best suits your interests and ambitions. We have additionally designed the programme to ensure by taking the correct options (the 4 core Law modules) you can leave open the potential SQE qualification route for entry into the legal profession. However, you may wish to choose a number of options from within a broader theme across the degree, allowing you to construct a specialist 'stream' of personal interest to you; focusing on diversity and inclusion, or countering terrorism, as an example. Alongside the core modules, you therefore have the ability to shape your degree around areas of study that are of importance to you, from a large number of specialist options including specialist areas of policing, wider aspects of the law or social sciences, or even learn a new language. You are encouraged to discuss your choices with your Personal Academic Tutor once enrolled.

### **Teaching methods**

The BA (Hons.) Policing course has a strong focus on student-led immersive activities, working towards solving problems for people and in society more generally. You will be encouraged to develop your own ideas in the seminars, whilst engaging in the use of theory alongside practical skills. Your learning is also designed to develop your understanding of the use of technology, and to help you navigate broader technological developments and challenges such as Generative AI.

You will experience a range of different teaching methods including interactive lectures, workshops, seminars, debates, tutorials, field visits, group work and one-to-one sessions. These will enable you to engage in discussion and presentations with your fellow students, tutors and benefit from wider external expertise from guest speakers throughout the course.

The Law School Learning and Teaching Strategy is evident in the way that you are taught and you learn. You will be at the centre of your learning; preparing for, attending and participating in seminars that will provide you with an immersive experience of what you are studying. Seminars will be active learning spaces, in which you work in groups with other students on practical problems and theoretical propositions. This will allow you to shape new understandings of your field and find your own professional and academic voice. Tutors will facilitate your learning in these spaces, helping you to develop your own perspectives and understandings of the key ideas, and helping you to appreciate the ideas of others. This will also allow you to solve practical problems, large and small, using what you study. In smaller tutorials you will be



able to investigate specific areas of concern, or dig deeper into areas of study. These will be smaller group sessions that enable you to have a personalised learning experience.

In some of the skills-based modules (such as the Guided Project @ Level 4) individual support will develop specific academic and professional skills, not only within the classroom, but developmentally across the course. The course pays specific attention to the development of your writing skills, from researching and presenting a literature review, through mapping your ideas and the concepts applicable, to the final writing of a project @ Level 6. This then is reiterated further in later modules, but with a higher level of expectation in relation to either a more specific area of study, or having provided you with more independence in the learning process. In this way you develop not only your understanding of your area of study, but also your skills in applying those ideas, your creativity in solving problems, and your independence in your approaches to study. In this way, the Law School's Learning and Teaching Strategy is focused on you finding your own voice within your studies, respecting and embracing your values, experiences and ambitions. The Learning and Teaching Strategy is therefore based around the idea of creating an inclusive learning environment in which a diversity of voices is valued. We believe that this way of learning will improve your own personal learning journey, but also that of all members of your learning community, and, in turn, will produce better, ethical, more authentic and insightful future professionals.

As you progress through your degree, you will be exposed to different types of learning and teaching at different levels of the degree. For example, in your first year, you will attend interactive lectures, workshops and seminars where you are introduced to the skills of sourcing, mapping and using research, as well as more practical application skills, relating to how to investigate crime and recover evidence, presenting it for use in court. You will be supervised through a guided project, where you will develop communication and presentation skills, as you learn to take more control of your own learning.

Second year study builds on the first-year skills, introducing more specific career development and a wider understanding of the profession. Our Level 4 and 5 investigation modules build your skills in investigation using case studies for you to work through real-life problems, developing core policing and professional investigation skills. You will also undertake work-based learning and improve your employability by completing the Westminster Employability Award as part of the core, immersive professional skills and practice modules.

As you progress further through your Policing degree, you will be increasingly expected to act as an independent learner; someone who is able to identify your own points of strength and weakness and take the appropriate developmental action and planning to improve your performance. This is a common approach to staff development in policing and other modern workplaces, and so will equip you well for a career in policing or elsewhere. Staff are there to provide support and help at every step along the way, whether in formal classes or through your Personal Academic Tutor.

Building on your understanding of core concepts and skills in policing, Level 6 will provide you with the opportunity to explore contemporary and controversial challenges in British policing from a range of perspectives, considering ways in which policing might be improved now and into the future, for the benefit of the whole of society. You will also choose a professional research project pathway as your core, working alongside a researcher, specialist, or research centre in the School to develop your own ideas and understanding about an issue of relevance to modern policing that is important to you.

The BA (Hons.) Policing benefits from being an integral part of the Westminster Law School, and its research is aligned to the Centre for Social Justice Research. This supplements your learning experience by offering you access to a wide range of extracurricular activities, for example seminars, outside speakers, workshops and field trips. Many of these opportunities are not limited to the module in which they are delivered, or even to the level at which they are introduced.

### **Emerging Technologies at Westminster Law School**

Westminster Law School is committed to authentic, immersive and cutting-edge learning, in line with the teaching and learning strategy of the School and the University's wider Strategy. This means that emerging and potentially disruptive assistive technologies, such as so-called generative AI and large language model-based machine learning will be progressively and ethically integrated into our courses, modules, learning activities and assessments to reflect their uses and challenges in the legal and broader professional sphere. This approach has a number of important strands for our programmes:

#### **1. The usage of emerging technologies in research and investigation**

Students will encounter various assistive technologies within professional and scholarly databases which are central to the core academic and professional skills across our courses. Use of these technologies will form part of the programme of study within all courses, and will evolve and adapt as the technologies develop.

#### **2. Critical and ethical understanding of the use of generative and other machine learning**

Students, in line with the ethical and critical components of all our programmes, and the ethical frameworks which regulate and pervade the various connected professions, students will be required to consider the proper and ethical

usage of all emerging technologies which produce either synthesised or 'original' work. This will allow students to enter the future world of work with a clear ethical understanding of how such work should be used, attributed and/or avoided in certain circumstances.

### 3. The creative use of generative AI

In line with the School's learning and teaching strategy, and the broader nature and goals of all our courses, students will be encouraged to make creative use of emerging generative technologies within their work, in particular in those modules where creativity and a reflection on one's own development and skills are central. This will give students a confidence to use, ethically and appropriately, technologies as they emerge, both within their professional life and beyond.

### 4. Appropriate use of emerging technologies in relation to academic work and assessments

Students will be encouraged to engage with generative AI and other technologies when engaging in academic work, including formative and summative assessments, and to ensure that any such usage informs in a responsible manner the research and experimentation that goes into such work, alongside all other sources, materials and technologies. Students remain responsible for correct attribution of their work and the need to remain within the standards of academic best practice. The use of authentic assessments in the School for all modules means that all use of generative AI will form a useful tool for students. The School will continually review all assessments to ensure that they are set to place value on the way in which students engage with all relevant sources and technologies.

## Assessment methods

Rather than seeking to simply test your knowledge, we take a developmental approach to your assessment, encouraging you to develop your own voice and perspectives. In your first year of study, there is an emphasis on individual support and helping you find your voice in the key immersive skills that you will use throughout your degree and beyond. You will then build on this in each subsequent year, engaging in authentic assessments that allow you to demonstrate the immersive and applied forms of learning that characterise your degree at Westminster Law School. We ensure that assessments are varied, allowing you to demonstrate various different practical and creative skills, aiming to allow you to develop solutions to current and future real-world problems of interest to you and the wider community. You will be asked to map ideas, identify problems and present solutions. This will take many forms, and may include working towards producing policy papers, proposing policing reforms, reflecting on your experiences and learning through journals or podcasts - both individually, or as part of a team. The assessments encourage you to critically assess differing perspectives, offering your own solutions relating to practical and strategic policing problems; from leading investigations to preparing evidence for prosecutions, and becoming student-researchers, working with centres of research excellence and leading individual researchers in the School.

We are committed to adopting varied, authentic and inclusive means of assessment. Authentic assessments have been developed to allow you to demonstrate the same competencies, or combinations of knowledge, skills, and attributes, that you will need to apply in your future professional life. They will help you in analysing and solving complex problems during your study, as well as prepare you for future employment in various professional contexts. Examples you will come across on the degree include case studies, blogs or journals, live and recorded presentations, online portfolios, policy papers, presentation of reports, court files and evidence, as well as projects.

All modules will provide the opportunity for formative assessments and the provision of detailed feedback. You will be able to discuss each piece of work and what is needed to improve your performance with your tutors, as your skills develop.

In your final year you will have the opportunity not only to assess developing skills and competencies in areas of policing, but also to reflect, creatively, upon your journey and the attributes you have acquired as a potential graduate, and present these in a final year show. This assessment is one of the very distinctive elements of the Policing degree experience at Westminster Law School.

### The Course Skills Strategy

Highly skilled graduates have flexibility and autonomy and an ability to react to changing circumstances. Being able to quickly differentiate the reliability and authenticity of sources of information, map this information coherently, and use it to develop ideas and arguments is essential in the contemporary world, and so is the beginning of the skills journey on the BA (Hons.) Policing.

The BA (Hons.) Policing will progressively develop your policing and investigation skills to solve problems across the core modules. Whilst all modules will have some essential skills built into their delivery, particular core modules will concentrate on your development in specific areas. For example, you will be developing presentation, research and application skills in your first year, and applying these skills in specific policing contexts. In the second year, these skills become more applied to police professional ones, to investigate crime, and consider the weight of different types of evidence in court. By the time you reach your final year, however you will be more autonomous in the ways in which you may use these skills, and will have more choice as to how to apply them as your learning becomes more independent in your theoretical and practical problem solving. Across the programme, the learning and assessments are designed to ensure you graduate successfully with skills in leading, being part of a team, working in partnership to deliver solutions and results. In your final year you will apply your skills within the context of a policing research project, replicating the professional context into which you will move on graduation.

As well as more technical skills described above, we will ensure you are exposed to a range of voices and perspectives on crime and policing, bringing diversity and inclusion into the heart of your degree. You will meet a range of people involved in the criminal justice sector and community development work more generally during the programme. This will build core skills for policing of listening, compassion, and empathy, helping you to build communication styles with people from a diverse range of backgrounds - a key skill for policing and other careers. Through our teaching, learning and assessment strategies, you will have the chance to reflect upon your experiences during the programme and develop solutions to how policing can be improved in the future.

Graduate Attribute	Evident in Course Outcomes
Critical and creative thinker	001, 001, 001, 002, 002, 003, 003, 004, 004, 005, 005, 005, 006, 006, 007, 007, 008
Literate and effective communicator	002, 003, 003, 004, 005, 005, 005, 006, 006, 007, 008
Entrepreneurial	002, 002, 004, 005, 005, 006
Global in outlook and engaged in communities	002, 002, 002, 003, 004, 006, 007, 008
Socially, ethically and environmentally aware	002, 003, 004

## Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

Modules are described as:

- **Core** modules are compulsory and must be undertaken by all students on the course.
- **Option** modules give you a choice of modules and are normally related to your subject area.
- **Electives**: are modules from across the either the whole University or your College. Such modules allow you to broaden your academic experience. For example, where electives are indicated you may choose to commence the study of a foreign language alongside your course modules (and take this through to the final year), thereby adding further value to your degree.
- Additional information may also be included above each level for example where you must choose one of two specific modules.

## Modules

### Level 4

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4LLAW018W	Guided Project	Core	20	10
4LLAW007W	Criminal Justice: Crime and Punishment	Core	20	10
4LLAW024W	Criminal Law and Police Powers	Core	20	10
4LLAW022W	Genealogy of Modern Policing	Core	20	10
4LLAW023W	Investigation and Evidence	Core	20	10
4LLAW011W	Cinematic Justice	Option	20	10
4LLAW009W	Introduction to Rights and the Law	Option	20	10
4LLAW015W	Islamic Law in Context	Option	20	10
4LLAW012W	Law and Social Media	Option	20	10
4LLAW004W	Public Law	Option	20	10
4LLAW017W	Race and the Law	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

### Level 5

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW031W	Professional Practice: Project	Core	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW046W	Advanced Investigation and Evidence	Core	20	10
5LLAW044W	Managing People	Core	20	10
5LLAW045W	Public Protection and Vulnerability	Core	20	10
5LLAW010W	Child Protection Law and Policy	Option	20	10
5LLAW048W	Community Building For Policing	Option	20	10
5LLAW022W	Criminology and the Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW043W	European Criminal Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW005W	Introduction to Human Rights Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW024W	Law and Mental Health	Option	20	10
5LLAW011W	Law and Social Justice	Option	20	10
5LLAW038W	Private Law	Option	20	10
5LLAW047W	Women in Policing	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

### Additional Year

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5LLAW013W	Law Study Abroad Semester 1	Core	60	30
5LLAW014W	Law Study Abroad Semester 2	Core	60	30

### Level 6

Level 6 will provide you with the opportunity to choose whether to align your learning thematically with the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) in preparation for professional practice, or choose the professional research project pathway as your core, where you can do an extended research project in Policing or one of the rest reasearch areas linked with the research centres in the Law School. Therefore, you can either do Professional Legal Practice: Knowledge, Ethics and Transactions (you need, by the end of your studies, to have taken Private Law, Criminal Law, Public Law, Property Law and Business Law in order to be allowed to do this module) OR Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project.

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW076W	Professional Legal Practice: Knowledge, Ethics and Transactions	Core	40	20
6LLAW077W	Professional Legal Research: Advanced Project	Core	40	20
6LLAW090W	Rethinking Policing	Core	20	10
6LLAW088W	Values, Virtues and Ethics	Core	20	10
6LLAW040W	Advanced Criminal Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW042W	Business Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW087W	Countering Terrorism	Option	20	10
6LLAW056W	Family Law and Family Justice	Option	20	10
6LLAW060W	Human Rights: Contexts and Controversies	Option	20	10
6LLAW086W	International Criminal Justice: Mass Atrocity Crimes	Option	20	10
6LLAW078W	Property Law	Option	20	10
6LLAW079W	Protecting Human Rights in the UK	Option	20	10

Module Code	Module Title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6LLAW089W	Race and Policing	Option	20	10
6LLAW082W	Religion, Law and Society	Option	20	10
		Elective	20	10

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot register for your first choice of option modules.

## Professional body accreditation or other external references

Whilst undergraduate Policing degrees do not have professional accreditation, presented below are a number of different typical scenarios relating to professional pathways which you may wish to follow:

### “I want to qualify to become a police officer”

The College of Policing regulates entry into policing. There are three ‘normal’ routes of access:

- through a Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA). This is delivered by a force in conjunction with a HE provider.
- through a Police Professional Degree, designed and validated by the College of Policing, but provided by accredited providers who must follow the National Police Curriculum.
- through the Degree Holder Entry programme. This allows graduates from any degree programme to join the police.

All three routes are supported with on-the-job further training on entry to the profession. Westminster Law School BA (Hons.) Policing programme equips you to join the police under the degree holder entry programme. We have deliberately chosen not to become a College-accredited provider as we feel, on balance, the College accreditation was too restrictive on what we feel entrants to policing might need. We are developing the Westminster pathway, which tackles the issues and challenges of modern policing from a range of diverse perspectives, disrupting the status quo, and aiming for more humane, socially progressive and socially just policing models in the future – in line with Westminster’s values. Given the challenges of modern policing and the need for transformative change, we expect our graduates to be highly sort after, critical thinkers who will be disruptive in shaping, inspiring, leading and improving policing for generations to come. We want to make our Westminster policing graduates distinctive, radical and empowered to change the world.

### “I want to join the police on a fast track graduate promotion scheme”

“Police Now” is a national graduate leadership programme, administered through the College of Policing in partnership with various police forces, including the Met in London. You will require at least a 2:1 degree classification to apply. The Westminster BA (Hons.) Policing will give you the knowledge, skills and confidence to support you in your career journey. We will equip you to develop your own ideas about how policing should be delivered, what should be prioritised and changed, and give you the foundation to go on to deliver transformational leadership into British policing from your Westminster learning and experiences.

An experienced former senior police officer leads our BA (Hons) Policing degree and can provide you with the right advice and support on your career options. We also have great links to the Met and other forces to support you in your choices.

### “I want to become a police detective”

The National Direct Entry Detective scheme operates in London and some other forces. To be eligible you will need at least a 2:1 degree to apply. Our BA( Hons.) Policing programme is led by a former Detective Chief Superintendent who will be on hand to support you in the correct entry route and career choices for you. We also have great links to the Met and other forces to support you in your choices.

The Westminster BA (Hons) Policing degree focusses on contemporary issues in modern policing to allow you to make a significant difference to your force and the communities it serves. The programme also focusses in its core modules on rules of evidence, types of evidence, preparing evidence for court, public protection, and key investigation skills required of the modern detective. We also offer specialist modules in areas such as Counter Terrorism and Drugs and Organised Crime, to give you a taste of what a career within specialist crime fields.

### “I’m interested in police staff roles”

All police forces recruit police staff (not police officers) to a range of back office and front line roles, from analysts and intelligence professionals through to police staff investigators or Police Community Support Officers. Additionally, other law enforcement agencies, such as the National Crime Agency, Border Force, and the UK Intelligence Community (MI5; MI6; GCHQ), now conduct open recruitment for their staff and officer (not police officer) roles.

Our degree in policing will equip you with the core investigative skills, legal knowledge, and understanding of how law enforcement operated in different political, social and cultural contexts, to mean you will be well-placed to apply for roles in agencies beyond policing should you wish. Our teaching team on the BA (Hons.) Policing have excellent links with the law enforcement community to support you in making the correct choices for you and understanding your options.

### **“I want to qualify to be a solicitor in England and Wales”**

The regulator for the solicitor’s profession in England and Wales (the SRA) no longer requires that you follow any particular pathway within your degree. Instead, it requires that graduates sit the so-called Solicitor’s Qualifying Exam after completing their studies.

This involves Part 1 (which is focused on legal knowledge) and Part 2 (which examines practical skills). The core modules of your degree are designed to align with the themes contained within Part 1 and the skills which you need to demonstrate in Part 2, giving you a solid grounding in these areas for when you prepare for the exam itself after graduating.

At Level 6, we also offer a 40-credit module which covers in more detail, and in a professional context, some of the specific topics relating to legal practice which are covered in SQE Part 1. You may wish to select this option to give yourself a greater degree of expertise within the relevant areas, which are relevant both for qualification and for future practice. Whether or not you decide to select this module, you will have covered all the broad relevant areas of knowledge contained within the SQE should you wish to prepare for that after you graduate.

Qualifying to be a Solicitor in England and Wales also requires you to undertake two years’ worth of so-called Qualifying Work Experience under the supervision of qualified solicitors following your period of study. The professional skills and professional project modules, and the opportunities to work within the Legal Advice Clinic during your degree, are designed to prepare you for that qualifying work experience.

You also have a large number of optional areas of specialist study to choose from during your degree. You may wish to choose a combination of these which reflect some of the areas of law which you would like to work in, as well as others which you have a more general interest in. Many of our optional modules reflect specialist areas of practice within the solicitor’s profession.

### **“I am not sure what I want to do after my degree”**

Your degree has been deliberately designed to cover the key foundational aspects of relevance to a broad range of professional careers in investigation roles, regulatory bodies, and other work. A wide range of professional options will remain open to you regardless of what path you choose through your degree. The Westminster BA (Hons.) Policing will also give you a high level of academic skills, independent study and critical thought to allow you to go onto further study at Masters / PhD level, or further professional training.

Your degree has also been designed to incorporate broader critical, practical, communicative, problem-solving and creative skills which are relevant to many non-policing careers. It is by design independent and has been crafted to ensure that there is a focus on economic, social, cultural and political aspects of the areas which you study, as well as the orthodox policing perspectives. A policing degree from Westminster is equally valuable as a stepping stone to a wide range of non-policing careers.

(Please note that professional body and qualification requirements are not set by the University and are subject to change).

## **Course management**

The course management of the course but also the school is explained and regularly updated on our Law School webpage: [Law courses | University of Westminster](#)

## **Academic regulations**

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](http://westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations).

Course specific regulations apply to some courses.

## **Academic Support**

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/studies/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard>

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

## Support Services

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice>

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union>

## How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel. University Panels normally include internal peers from the University, academic(s) from another university, a representative from industry and a Student Advisor.

The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course and make changes where necessary.

A Course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

## How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through student engagement activities at Course/Module level, students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course representatives.
- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.;
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.



This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate, if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification is supplemented by the Course Handbook, Module proforma and Module Handbooks provided to students. Copyright in this document belongs to the University of Westminster. All rights are reserved. This document is for personal use only and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the University of Westminster. All copies of this document must incorporate this Copyright Notice – 2022©