



Faculty of Education,
Health and Social Sciences
**Centre for Youth Crime,
Justice and Deterrence
Research**

**Understanding
and Preventing
Youth Violence:
Evidence-Based
Approaches**

Understanding and Preventing Youth Violence: Evidence-Based Approaches

This two-day, masters credit module* aims to develop the professional attributes, knowledge, understanding and skills needed to manage strategic and proactive problem-oriented policing responses to violence and territorial gang conflict involving young people.

Aimed specifically at managers both within Police Scotland and partner agencies, the module will enable participants to explore the differing nature and causes of youth violence and gang culture in cities within the USA and the UK, and the potential that focused deterrence strategies have on re-engaging young people and communities.

Participants will develop an insight into the policy transfer principles underpinning problem-oriented, community-centred and multi-agency initiatives that have been implemented in the USA and Scotland in recent years as a means of tackling youth and gang violence. They will explore and evaluate the factors that can contribute towards the success or failure of collaborative, multi-agency interventions.

Towards the end of the module, participants will formulate action plans to influence and/or make changes to the strategic management of best practice as the best means of tackling violence and re-engaging young people.

Module Content

At the end of this module, participants will be able to:

- Develop a critical understanding of the contested scholarly definitions of 'gangs', 'gang culture' and 'territoriality', by examining the phenomena through a range of sociological and criminological lenses.
- Critically analyse the complexity of factors that stimulate youth violence in diverse settings, and the particular contrasts between gang culture in the USA and the UK.
- Explore the strategies that can be adopted to manage youth violence, focusing particularly on focused deterrence strategies characterised by proactive, problem-oriented policing approaches and multi-agency collaborations.
- Evaluate, through the use of case studies and real-life examples, what factors can contribute towards the success or failure of gang interventions and multi-agency collaborations focused on tackling gang violence.
- Formulate evidence-based action plans to influence or make changes to the strategic planning and delivery of responses to gang culture and violence in order to most effectively manage these issues and address the related community safety priorities.

Entry Requirements

Applicants will normally possess a first degree or equivalent vocational qualification/experience and are required to be employed in a management role.

Course Leaders

Professor Ross Deuchar, Director: Centre for Youth Crime, Justice and Deterrence Research - University of the West of Scotland.
William Graham, part-time Lecturer and PhD Researcher - Glasgow Caledonian University.

Date and Location

23rd and 24th September 2013, Scottish Police College

Costs

£555 per person

For further information please contact:

Professor Ross Deuchar, Director of the Centre for Youth Crime, Justice and Deterrence Research – University of the West of Scotland, on **01698 894403** or email: ross.deuchar@uws.ac.uk

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* Participants will gain 20 Masters-level credits from successful completion of this module and the assessment requirements within it.