Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

	Basic Course Information	
1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University
2.	School/Campus:	School of Social Sciences (City)
3.	Final Award, Course Title and Modes of Study:	MSc Policing Leadership (FT/PT/Blended)
4.	Normal Duration:	1 year FT /2 years PT
5.	UCAS Code:	Not applicable

6.	Overview and general educational aims of the course
	Policing is a vitally important public service that frequently deals with complex issues of public safety such as the safeguarding of vulnerable people and the protection of communities.

The police service faces several critical challenges, such as the need to provide services with fewer resources, to target resources where they are needed most and to improve the service provided to communities. This course will give students the ability to help meet these challenges by applying advanced and specialist knowledge and skills at the cutting edge of our understanding.

The general aim of the course is to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to become a leader at any level of policing and to drive continual improvement in policing practice by using and generating evidence about what strategies and tactics are most effective. You will study existing evidence on effective policing and how to produce new evidence that can help inform policing decisions. You will also undertake research, supported by an expert supervisor, using the most appropriate methods to answer policing questions that particularly interest you.

During your studies, you will encounter opportunities to build your understanding of policing in an international context through specialist modules and your interaction with students from our accompanying MSc courses in International Law Enforcement and Management of Fraud Investigation.

This course is aimed at students who have an undergraduate degree in policing, criminology or a related discipline, or who have equivalent knowledge of policing gained through professional practice. |
| 7. | **Course outcomes**
Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide. |
| | **Knowledge and understanding**
By the end of the course you should be able to: |
| | **PGCert Policing Leadership (60cpts)**
1. Demonstrate a systematic and cutting-edge knowledge of different strategies for successful policing and how these can be applied in practice.
2. Critically understand how evidence is produced, reflecting on the strengths and weaknesses of different methods of producing evidence to help improve policing. |

3. Understand and critically evaluate approaches to leadership and management in law enforcement contexts.
4. Demonstrate critical awareness of ethical dimensions, social values and regulatory frameworks relevant to law enforcement.

PGDip Policing Leadership (120cpts)
All of the above and the following:
5. Demonstrate understanding of research design and methodology, as applied to a law enforcement context.
6. Demonstrate specialist knowledge of aspects of contemporary law enforcement policy and practice.

MSc Policing Leadership (180cpts)
All of the above and the following:
7. Demonstrate original thinking in the development, implementation and evaluation of values-driven and ethical investigative and enforcement strategies to achieve effective results.
8. Demonstrate in-depth understanding of how research can address contemporary challenges in law enforcement scholarship, policy and/or practice.

Skills, qualities and attributes
By the end of the course you should be able to:

PGCert Policing Leadership (60cpts)
1. Deal with a range of complex policing issues systematically and creatively to make judgements that benefit the public with relevance to the ethical, political and social context of policing.
2. Gather and critically evaluate a range of evidence relevant to different policing issues in order to make sound judgements, even in the absence of complete information.
3. Work independently and collaboratively to tackle complex law enforcement issues.
4. Practice the skills necessary to continue to develop your knowledge and skills after the course to keep yourself at the cutting edge of law enforcement.

PGDip Policing Leadership (120cpts)
All of the above and the following:
5. Communicate the conclusions of your work clearly to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
6. Demonstrate skills in advanced research methodology, applied to your chosen law enforcement context.
7. Demonstrate applied law enforcement skills in your chosen specialist area.

MSc Policing Leadership (180cpts)
All of the above and the following:
8. Utilise your mastery of the knowledge base and skills in law enforcement.
9. Produce high quality independent research that contributes to the knowledge base in law enforcement.

	10. Critically reflect on and articulate the skills you have acquired for successful leadership in law enforcement.
8.	**Learning and teaching methods**

This course will use a variety of teaching methods to help you develop an advanced understanding of policing leadership and the skills needed to be a leader at all levels of policing. The course is delivered on a blended learning platform, with learning taking place both within a classroom environment and through our dedicated online platform.

Learning methods will include:

- *Lectures* delivered by academic experts and visiting speakers from the fields of policing, international law enforcement, and the management of fraud investigation.
- *Group workshops* in which students and staff discuss a topic, synthesising professional and academic knowledge to understand its relevance for policing, law enforcement and the management of fraud investigation.
- *Problem-based learning* in which you will be given a law enforcement problem to research and then be guided by staff in developing a solution based on the best-available evidence.
- *Guided independent study* in which staff will guide you in understanding important academic, official and professional sources of information.
- *A capstone project* in which you will be supported by an expert supervisor to produce your own research on a law enforcement topic of your choice.

The teaching on this course is 'blended', meaning there will be a mixture of face-to-face and online teaching. This is designed to support our students whose personal and professional commitments, or geographical distance, may mean that attending in person is not always possible.

The School of Social Sciences is experienced in developing and delivering online curricula. The methods employed provide you with opportunities to engage in synchronous and asynchronous learning; enabling the development of, and reflection upon, your theoretical knowledge and law enforcement skills. By deploying carefully staged activities to facilitate progressively ambitious learning, a key feature of the learning experience is that, though you may be at a distance from the University's campus, you are able to learn from each other, as well as from the tutors, in a safe and supportive environment. Through these activities you are able to develop a course identity and a sense of belonging, which is a critical aspect of distance learning.

Interactive/group learning is a major method used within the modules for both face-to-face and online delivery. It is designed to enhance confidence in your own learning and future practice by enabling you to explore and develop ideas and methods, and to support others in doing so. It reflects

the course aim to develop your understanding of the relationship between theories, concepts and practice.

The course is structured to provide you with the flexibility to study alongside other responsibilities. Students can enter the programme either in January or October, and study full time or part time.

The staff who teach this course are all active researchers in policing, law enforcement and the management of fraud investigation. They publish articles and books on policing and present their work at leading national and international conferences and convene events for practitioners and policy makers. This means they can help you understand and evaluate cutting-edge work in this field, as well as train you to produce your own research. Teaching materials are frequently updated to take account of the latest information gained from research both in this department and elsewhere. In addition to this academic expertise, we are proud to count a number of leading authorities from international law enforcement policy and practice as our partners. You will come into contact with guest lecturers, supervisors and speakers throughout your studies with us.

9.	**Assessment methods**

Assessment plays a key role in the learning process, providing an impetus to learning and enabling you to get feedback for personal development and growth. The course is assessed through the University's Grade Based Marking Scheme. We use a varied, fair, and consistent assessment regime based upon clearly specified criteria and use a variety of assessment techniques to ensure that the range of learning outcomes are met. Whilst many of your assessments will be written, we will also use presentations and group work tasks to help develop your communications skills.

Every module will have at least one formative assessment that does not count towards the final grade but provides an opportunity for you to get feedback to help improve your work. Summative assessments, which determine your grade for each module, are designed to help you develop the skills that you will need for the future. This includes, for example, the ability to produce structured reports that synthesise information from different sources.

The approach of the team to assessment is driven by our commitment to deliver a curriculum that is exciting, innovative, and which reflects the needs of today's NTU graduate attributes. These include 'intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm for learning and an aptitude for self-directed learning'. Many modules also adopt an explicitly global or international perspective on a range of law enforcement and criminological issues. The modules allow for a responsive and varied curriculum that reflects the individual and collective research interests of the team.

Information about each assessment can be found in your individual module specifications and handbooks.

10.	**Course structure and curriculum**

This course is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills need to become a leader at any level of policing and to drive continual improvement

in policing practice. The flexible design of the course means that there are opportunities for students to achieve either a Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert), Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) or full Masters (MSc). In addition to this, a range of modules are available as single units of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for students to achieve credits or accumulate these towards a final award.

At full Masters, the course consists of 180 credits at level 7 on the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. You will study six taught modules, each of 20 credits, and complete a 60-credit capstone project.

The course is structured as follows:

PGCert Policing Leadership

Core modules:
- Policing Strategies (20cpts)
- Effective and Evidence Based Policing (20cpts)
- Leadership and management in law enforcement (20cpts)

PGDip Policing Leadership
All of the above and the following:

Core modules:
- Research methods (20cpts)

Plus, **two** options from the following list:
- Crime, Community and Neighbourhood (20cpts)
- Applied Research Methods for Policing (20cpts)
- Crime Prevention (20cpts)
- Anti-Corruption: Global Trends, Issues and Resolutions (20cpts)
- Complex Frauds: Investigating Organised Crime & Terrorist Financing (20cpts)
- Advanced Forensic Investigations (20cpts)

MSc Policing Leadership
All of the above and the following:

Core module:
- Capstone Project (60cpts)

The core modules will give you the key knowledge and skills that you need to successfully complete the course, to get the most out of the optional modules and to complete the research project. In *Leadership and Management in Law Enforcement* you will learn how to effectively manage people, organisations, finances and change based on cutting-edge research in these areas. In *Policing Strategies*, you will learn about how different approaches, such as intelligence-led and problem-oriented policing, can be used to achieve different policing objectives. In *Effective and Evidence Based Policing*, you will learn how evidence of what works and what doesn't can be generated and used to make decisions in different policing contexts.

In the *Research Methods* module you learn about different approaches to research, including issues such as ethics, accessing or gathering data, data analysis and how to draw valid conclusions from your data. This will help you prepare for the *Capstone Project*, during which you will be paired with

an academic supervisor to help you complete research that generates new evidence and insight on a topic of your choice. Students wishing to further enhance their knowledge and skills in statistical research can work alongside our specialist Quantitative and Spatial Criminology Group by choosing to take the option module entitled *Applied Research Methods for Policing*.

Option modules have been designed to align with both the specialist academic research areas of our team and the most pressing challenges faced by law enforcement agencies in your jurisdiction. You will work alongside academics and external organisations to develop specialist knowledge and skills, and in many cases, will have the chance to apply these during your studies through real-world case examples.

11.	**Admission to the course**

Entry requirements.

For current information regarding all entry requirements for this course, please see the 'Applying' tab on the NTU course information web page.

For APL arrangements please visit the course page on the NTU website.

12.	**Support for learning**

The course begins with an induction programme which will explain its aims, delivery and expectations. You will be provided with a course handbook which explains how the course works and outlines the support provided by the teaching team and the University.

During the course, communication between staff and students is done both on a face-to-face basis and online. In addition to regular contact with the module team, you will be assigned a personal tutor who will provide both pastoral and academic support. This role will be supplemented by your dissertation supervisor.

You will have access to the University's libraries and computer facilities, and the further computer, technical and administrative resources provided by the School of Social Sciences. There will also be dedicated support to enable you to engage fully with our online platform. All learning materials are made available online, for example through the NTU Library or other sites. Good communication between library staff and the course team continues to ensure that appropriate and up-to-date material is available to you.

Support from your personal tutor and the academic team is supplemented by university-wide academic and pastoral support (such as short courses on academic skills), which is widely publicised and well used by existing students. If you are an international student you will also have the option of in-sessional English support to help you with developing and sustaining your writing skills. We actively encourage all of our international students to take full advantage of the additional support and welcoming environment provided by the NTU Global Lounge.

	The Course Committee, made up of staff and student representatives, meets regularly to discuss any issues and monitor the continual development of the course to ensure it continues to meet student needs. We encourage all our students to share their experiences and provide on-going feedback to help us improve our teaching.
13.	**Graduate destinations/employability**
	This course is primarily targeted at those in employment within policing services in the UK who are seeking to build their leadership skills for potential career enhancement. This course is designed to provide you with the qualification that signals advanced knowledge and skills, which can help to accelerate your career progression. For those from outside the policing service, this course will provide a route into policing leadership. The Masters level qualification is specifically designed to build leadership and advanced analytical skills (through research) that are often requisites for career advancement.
14.	**Course standards and quality**
	Course standards are monitored and maintained in a variety of ways: • A course committee of staff and students monitors your feedback on module delivery and the learning experience. • One or more external examiner(s) supports the course team and ensures quality in the delivery and assessment of the course. • You are given detailed feedback on each piece of assessed work, and on non-assessed diagnostic work. • You will have a personal tutor with whom you can discuss your progress and gain additional feedback or advice on learning. • The course sits within the School of Social Sciences and is managed within the guidelines and standards set and assured by the School.
15.	**Assessment regulations** This course is subject to the University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in Section 16 of the Quality Handbook). Any course specific assessment features are described below:
	There are no course specific exceptions from the University's postgraduate course common assessment regulations.
16.	**Additional information**
	Collaborative partner(s): none
	Course referenced to national (QAA) Benchmark Statements: not applicable – there is no applicable benchmark Course recognised by: not applicable Date this course specification approved: December 2018
	Any additional information: