Kent Criminology

CRIMINOLOGY AT KENT

YOUR 2025 INDUCTION

WHO AM I?

- Dr. Jack Cunliffe
  - Senior Lecturer in Quantitative Methods and Criminology
  - Director of Studies from Criminology
  - 11th year at Kent (which I can barely believe)
  - Undergraduate degree in Maths, MSc in Social Research Methods and Statistics, PhD in Social Policy/Criminology
  - Research centred around cybercrime, but also on programme evaluation
  - Previously a civil servant at the Home Office and Ministry of Justice

WHY ARE WE HERE TODAY?

To Answer These Questions…
And Any Others You May Have

What Will My Degree Be Like?

- Course Structure and Options

What Will My Teaching Be Like?

- Course, Modules, and Private Study

What Will My Assessments Be Like?

- Types and Standards

Who Will Be Teaching Me?

- Meet the Team

What Am I Joining?

- The Kent Criminology Community

PART ONE:
WHAT WILL MY DEGREE BE LIKE?

STUDYING CRIMINOLOGY

'Here we have a topic which is the **subject of heated conversation** in the workplace and at the bus stop, which is one of the **major foci of cinema and television**, the stuff of **video games**, the staple diet of the media and the central theme of a multitude of genres within **popular literature**, from crime thriller to serial killing. It takes as its **subject matter an act that is frequently charged with malice, thrill, shame and fear** – an act which **regularly galvanizes offenders, traumatizes victims and outrages the general public**.'

(Ferrell, Hayward and Young, 2015: 63)

Trump's latest tariff threat raises concerns for UK pharmaceuticals

30m ago

Woman, 22, jailed over 'sadistic' abuse of 21 babies at London nurseries

40m ago

Man cleared of murdering Jill Dando charged with rape of teenager in 1987

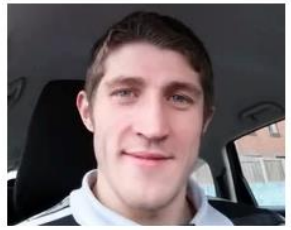
49m ago

Morgan McSweeney will not face new donations investigation, says watchdog

50m ago

Samaritans volunteers could quit if branches are closed, say local directors

2h ago



Scottish Prison Service admits human rights law breach over death in custody

2h ago

Politicians must confront lies used by populists, Starmer tells London summit

3h ago

UK retailers accused of ripping off motorists as fuel margins 'remain far above historic levels'

3h ago

STUDYING CRIMINOLOGY

- Politics - government and opposition parties
- History - changing rates/reasons for crime over time
- Sociology - social criminogenic factors
- Psychology - psychological criminogenic factors
- Medico-legal science – forensic investigation
- Policy studies - changing crime policies
- Law/legal theory - legal definitions of crime

OUR CRIMINOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAMMES

- **Criminology and Criminal Justice** - Core modules in *Criminology and Criminal Justice*
- **Criminology and Sociology** - Core modules in *both subjects*
- **Criminology with Quantitative Methods** – *convert onto this later*
- **Law and Criminology** - Core modules in *both subjects*

In your second year, you can also apply to add a year of study to your degree:

- Data Analytics
- Computing
- Also year abroad and year in industry

Criminology and Criminal Justice

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Autumn	Introduction to Criminology 20 credits	Contemporary Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Applying Social Research 20 credits
	Introduction to Criminal Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Spring	Developing the Criminological Imagination 20 credits	Inequalities, Crime, and Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Careers in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Summer	Making sense of society 20 credits	Investigating Social Problems 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Theories of Crime and Harm 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits

Criminology and Sociology

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Autumn	Introduction to Criminology 20 credits	Contemporary Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Applying Social Research 20 credits
	Fundamentals of Sociology 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Spring	Developing the Criminological Imagination 20 credits	Contemporary Social Theory 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Sociological Theory 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Summer	Making sense of society 20 credits	Investigating Social Problems 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Theories of Crime and Harm 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits

Criminology and Quantitative Methods

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Autumn	Introduction to Criminology 20 credits	Contemporary Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Applying Social Research 20 credits
	Introduction to Criminal Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Analysing data in the real world 20 credits
Spring	Developing the Criminological Imagination 20 credits	Inequalities, Crime, and Justice 20 credits	Social Research in Practice 40 credits
	Careers in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Summer	Making sense of society 20 credits	Investigating Social Problems 20 credits	Social Research in Practice 40 credits
	Theories of Crime and Harm 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits

Law and Criminology

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Autumn	**Institutions of Justice** 20 credits	Contemporary Issues in Criminology and Criminal Justice 20 credits	Applying Social Research 20 credits
	Critical Introduction to Law 20 credits	**Property Law** 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Spring	**Public Law** 20 credits	Inequalities, Crime, and Justice 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Contract Law 20 credits	**Equity and Trusts** 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
Summer	**Criminal Law** 20 credits	**EU Law** 20 credits	Optional 20 credits
	Theories of Crime and Harm 20 credits	Optional 20 credits	Optional 20 credits

PART TWO:
WHAT WILL MY TEACHING BE LIKE?

TEACHING FORMATS

4 HOURS CONTACT PER COURSE

2 COURSES PER TERM OVER 3*10 WEEKS

LECTURES

- A variety of options depending the course but usually 1 or 2 hours
- Centred on one topic from a module
- Delivered by a member of our team
- Everyone on the module in attendance
- The most “passive” part of your learning… but it should be very active!

SEMINARS

- Again, more variety but usually one hour
- Centred on one topic from a module
- Lead by a member of our team, but driven by you
- Smaller groups within a module
- Activities, debates, discussions - about deepening your understanding

WORKSHOPS

- Can vary in length – often 1 hour 50 mins long
- Lead by a member of our team
- Everyone on a module is in attendance
- Generally, a combination of lecture and seminar-style learning
- Mixture of more active and “passive” sections

QUESTION

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FEATURE AS PART OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KENT'S UNDERGRADUATE CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAMME?

A) Fieldtrips to our Local Woods

B) Visits to Court Proceedings

C) "Restorative Justice" Training

D) Night-time Stakeouts with Kent's Campus Watch

E) Prison-Based Learning

PERSONAL STUDY

- Accessing / reading core materials, reviewing / writing up your lecture notes

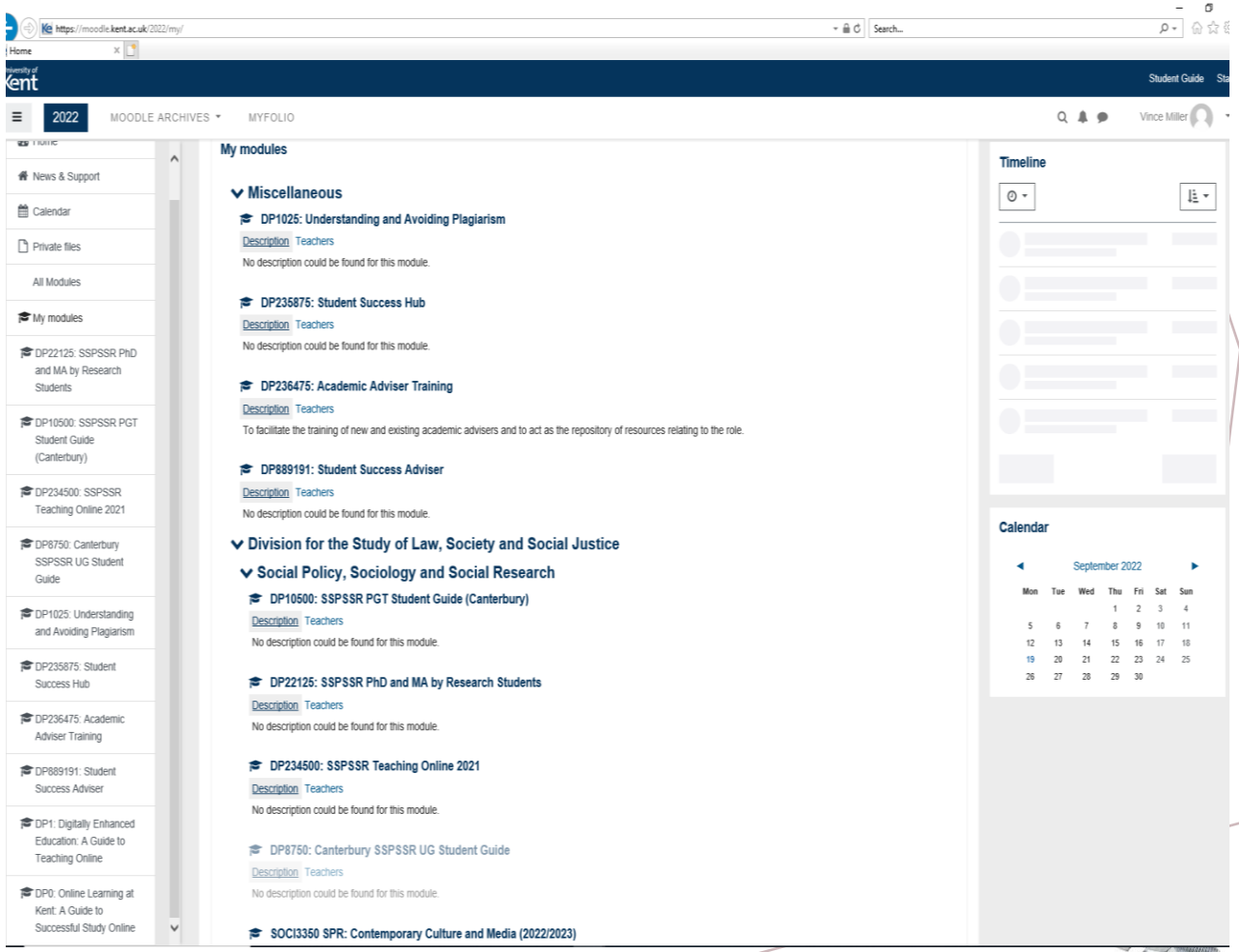
- Doing additional reading:
  - Other suggested reading via Moodle
  - Broadsheet newspapers and magazines - *The Guardian*, *The Economist*, *New Statesman*
  - Online sources of academic publishing – e.g. *The Conversation*

- Meeting with classmates to discuss a reading, lecture or seminar, or to prepare for these.

- Accessing audio-visual materials
  - i.e. documentaries, podcasts, films, radio shows etc.

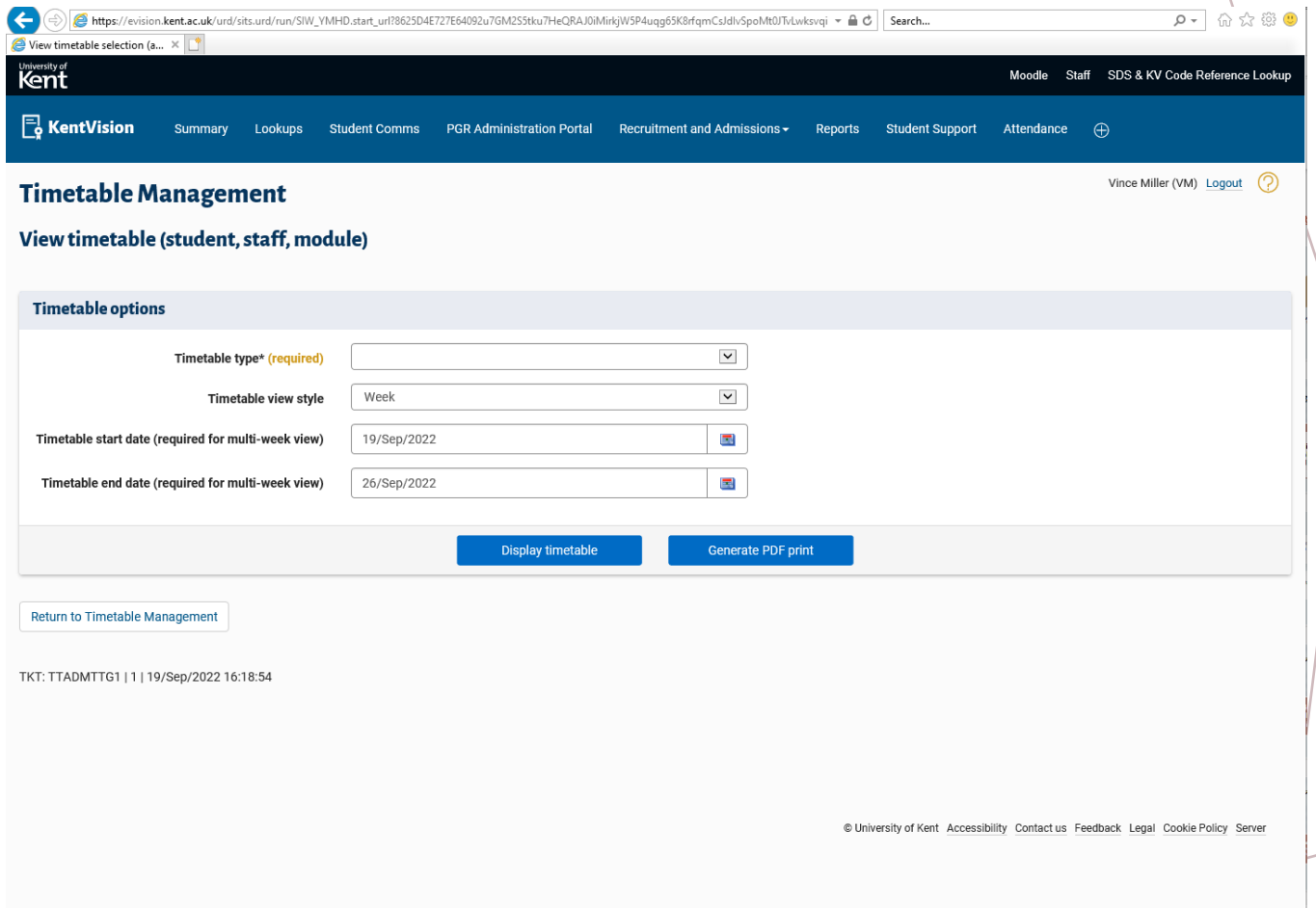
YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE INVOLVES 5 DIGITAL PLATFORMS:

- **Moodle**: course contents, essay submission readings and much else!



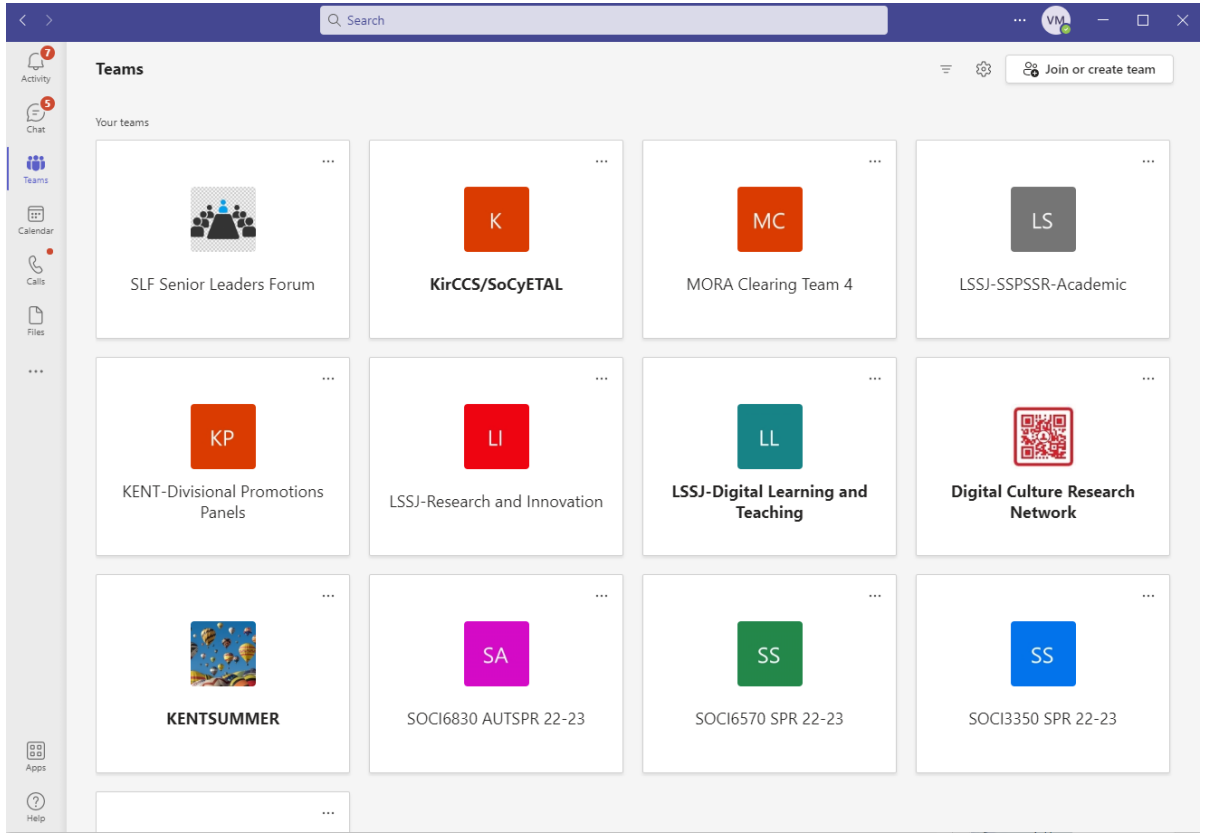
YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE INVOLVES 5 DIGITAL PLATFORMS:

- **Moodle**: course contents, essay submission readings and much else!
- **Kentvision**: timetables, scheduling



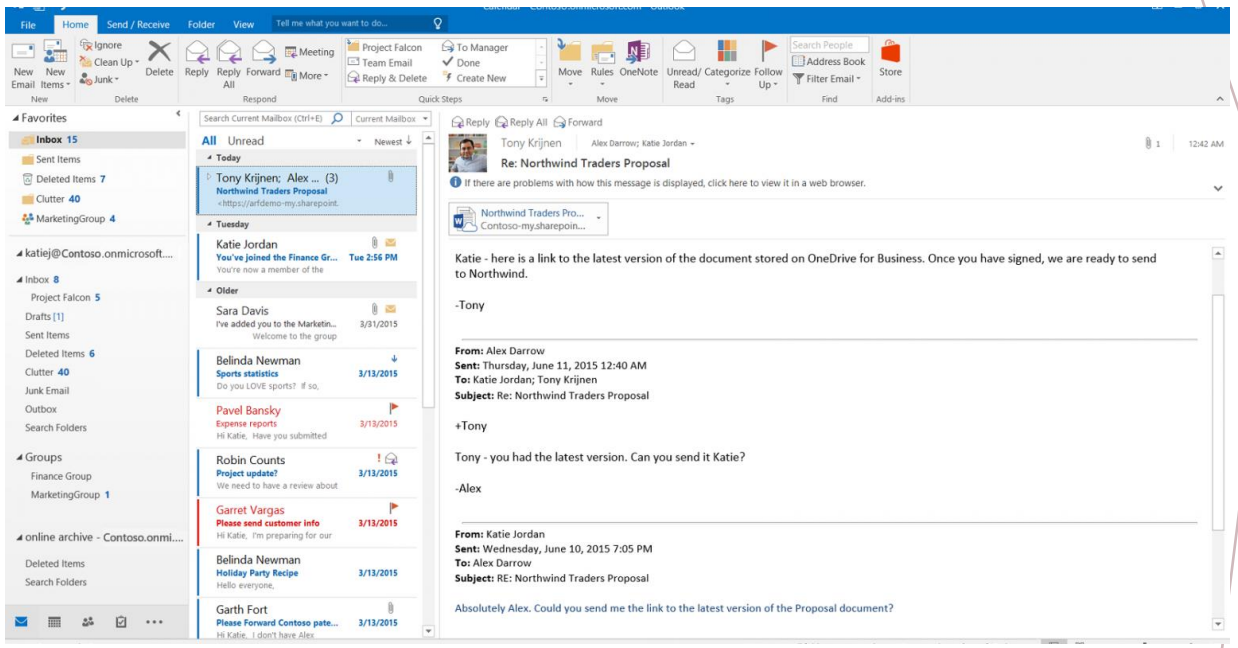
YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE INVOLVES 5 DIGITAL PLATFORMS:

- **Moodle**: course contents, essay submission readings and much else!
- **Kentvision**: timetables, scheduling
- **Teams**: Meetings, course actions



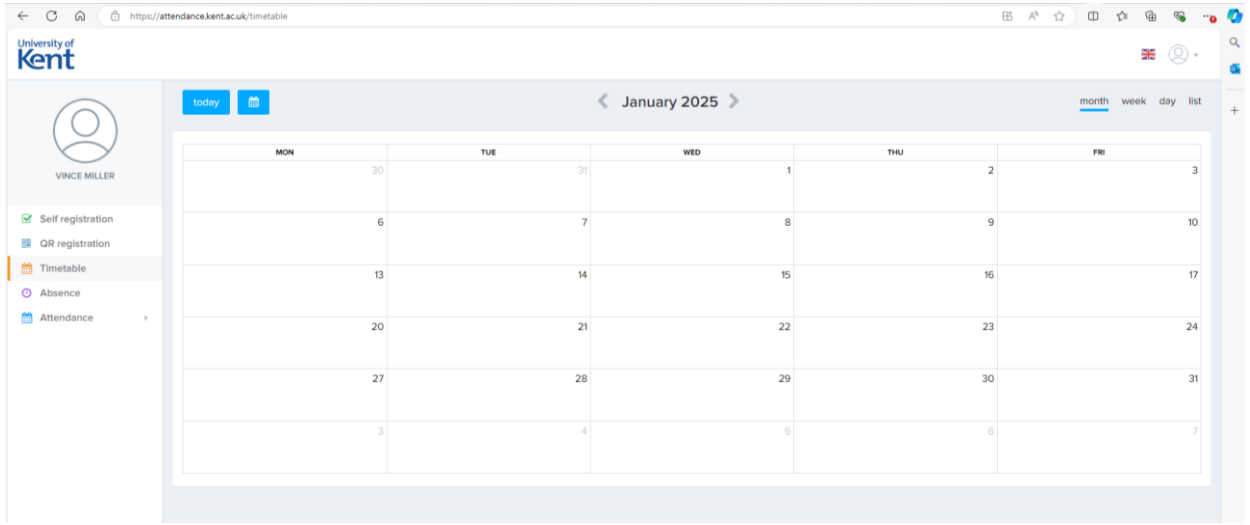
YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE INVOLVES 4 DIGITAL PLATFORMS:

- **Moodle**: course contents, essay submission readings and much else!
- **Kentvision**: timetables, scheduling
- **Teams**: Meetings, course actions
- **Outlook**: Email, check daily at least! Best way to contact staff.



YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE INVOLVES 5 DIGITAL PLATFORMS:

- **Moodle**: course contents, essay submission readings and much else!
- **Kentvision**: timetables, scheduling
- **Teams**: Meetings, course actions
- **Outlook**: Email, check daily at least! Best way to contact staff.
- **Presto:** Attendance



PART THREE:

WHAT WILL MY ASSESSMENTS BE LIKE?

ASSESSMENTS

These vary from module to module – each has its own pattern, so pay attention to Moodle and in the first week of term

Assessments we use include:

- Seminar Participation
- Coursework
  - Essays
  - Poster Presentations
  - Reflective Writing
- Tests (e.g. Multiple Choice Questions)
- Written Exams

WHEN ARE ASSESSMENTS?

Always within the term in which the course happens

A ‘small one’ before 6th week

The main one due in the 10th week

- Day of week may vary

ACADEMIC 'CRIME': PLAGIARISM!

Academic integrity is very, very important. *Plagiarism* is essentially passing off someone else's work as your own in your essay.

*****Plagiarism is classed as cheating and is taken very seriously at University level*****

To avoid plagiarising in your work, *make sure* that you:

- Cite all sources, including sources on the internet;
- Cite all sources accurately and fully;
  - So that someone else could fine them!
- Avoid paraphrasing large sections of texts;
  - You're welcome to quote people though
- Access our online guidance (*there's lots of it!*)

grammarly

ChatGPT

Claude
BY ANTHROP\C

Copilot

deepseek

PART FOUR:
WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

KENT CRIMINOLOGY'S ACADEMIC STAFF

YOUR LECTURERS ARE:

- RESEARCHERS
- EDUCATORS
- GOVERNMENT ADVISORS
- WRITERS
- FORMER POLICE, LAWYERS, CIVIL SERVICE, PSYCHIATRISTS

A BROADER COMMUNITY...

- PHD CANDIDATES
- PRACTITIONERS
- EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS
- OTHER EXPERTS

New Horizon Youth Centre

PART FIVE: *WHAT AM I JOINING?*

University of Kent

- **10 schools**
  - School of Computing, School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physics, School of Arts and Architecture, School of Psychology, School of Economics and Politics & International Relations, School of Social Sciences, Kent Law School, School of Humanities, Kent Business School, School of Natural Sciences

SSS

- **School of Social Sciences**
- Contains Criminology, Sociology, Social work
- Philanthropy, CHSS, PSSRU, Centre for Child Protection

KENT CRIM

- **Kent Criminology Community**
- Our informal label for all current and former criminology staff and students

Kent Criminology

University of Kent

University of Kent

UNIVERSITY of GREENWICH

NEWS

Home | InDepth | Israel-Gaza war | War in Ukraine | Climate | UK | World | Business | Politics | Culture

Family & Education | Young Reporter

UK's first 'super-university' to be created as two merge from 2026

BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Attend all sessions on your modules

Establish connections and relationships with your coursemates

Get involved in our events for crim students across all stages

Follow us on Instagram: @kent_criminology

SUPPORT FROM YOUR COMMUNITY

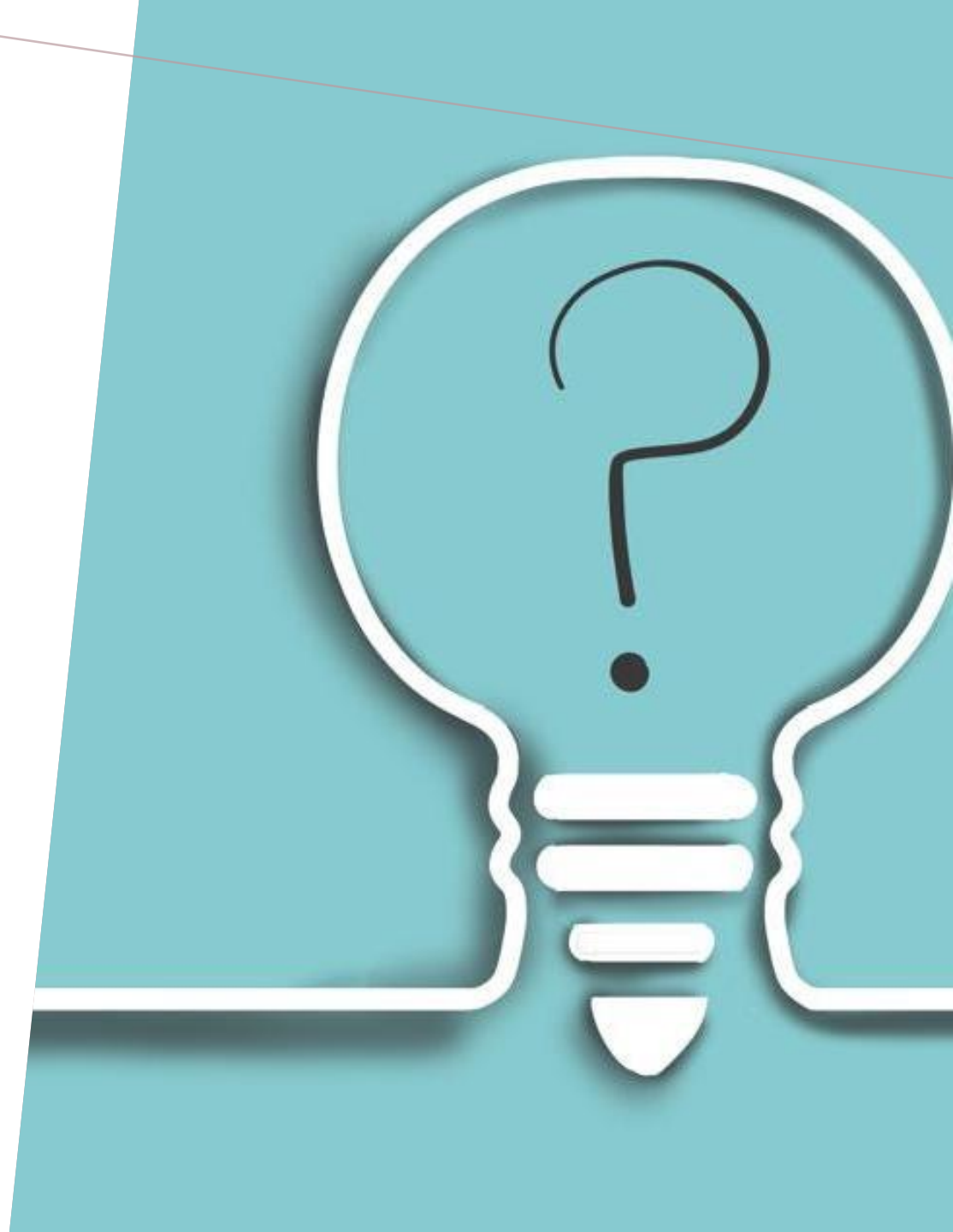
University will hopefully be fantastic and rewarding for you, but sometimes it can be challenging as well. **You aren't alone – you are part of a shared community**

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you're struggling, or worried about how someone else is coping.

People you can contact include:

- Your **Academic Adviser**: make sure you attend the meetings and contact them if you have any problems.
- Your **Seminar Tutors:** available to help if you have questions about your modules.

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

You can always follow up via email:

j.d.cunliffe@kent.ac.uk