

Terrorism and counterterrorism have dominated domestic and international politics in the opening decades of the 21st century. The challenges facing governments, security services and armed forces in their efforts to protect citizens, businesses, infrastructure and public services have never been so complex or immediate. The resilience of individuals, communities and nations is being tested as never before. The Counterterrorism MSc will address these challenges and draw upon the specialist skills and knowledge of Cranfield's expert staff, to offer students an exceptional and cutting-edge education in this critical area.

Course structure

Students are required to take four core modules and choose up to seven elective modules based on their particular background, future requirements or interests. This is followed by a four-month research project and extended essay.

Individual project

The individual project takes four months from April to July. The student selects from a range of titles, or may propose their own topic. Most are practically or experimentally based using Cranfield's unique facilities.

Future career

We have entered an era where society faces critical issues in relation to terrorism and the fight against terrorism. The MSc Counterterrorism Studies provides a rigorous, evidence-based qualification which will assist graduates to start careers in a wide variety of fields, including those related to security, policing, military, government policy, and international work. Beyond this, the MSc will help assist the careers of graduates who are already working in these and related fields.

Example modules

Modules form only part of the course, with the project(s) and theses making up the balance. Please see the course structure for details.

The list below shows the modules offered in the 2019-20 academic year, to give you an idea of course content. To keep our courses relevant and up-to-date, modules are subject to change – please see the webpage for the latest information.

Compulsory:

- · Applied Counterterrorism,
- · Strategies, Ideologies and Tactics of Terrorism,
- · Understanding Terrorism and Counterterrorism.

Elective (select 70 credits):

10 credit modules:

- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism.
- · Counter-Improvised Explosive Devised Capability,
- · Counterterrorism and Intelligence,
- · Courtroom Skills,
- · Cyber Terrorism,
- · Digital Crime and Investigation,
- · Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution,
- · Firearms Investigations,
- · Fires, Explosions and their Investigation,
- · Forensic Ballistics Investigations,
- Forensic Exploitation and Intelligence,
- · Global Security: Emerging Challenges,
- Introduction to Firearms Investigations and Forensic Ballistics.
- · Investigation and Evidence Collection,
- · National Security: Resilience and Crisis,
- · Protecting Critical National Infrastructure,
- · Reasoning for Forensic Science,
- · Risk, Crisis and Resilience,
- Terrorism Risk Management and Mitigation.

20 credit modules:

Analytical Techniques.

Duration:

Full-time: MSc 11 months, PgDip and PgCert 1 year. Part-time: MSc 3 years, PgDip and PgCert 2 years.

Start date:

October 2020.

Location:

Cranfield.

Entry requirements:

A first or second class Honours degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline (eg. criminology, law, politics, psychology, forensic science, etc.) or the professional equivalent. Students with other degrees who can show a knowledge of and interest in the elements of the subject will also be considered.

Contact details

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For further information please visit www.cranfield.ac.uk/counterterrorism