

Criminology

Learn how to best use the library and its print and online resources for your criminology modules.

1. Subject support for Criminology students



Your Academic Liaison Librarian for Criminology is Charlie Brampton. You can contact Charlie at any point in your course if you would like help with finding the books and journal articles you need, searching for sources, using online resources or referencing.

She's based in the Headington Library and her contact details are at the end of this guide. The Library course resource page for Criminology has links to important online resources, help with referencing and information about how the library can help with your assignments:

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/criminology>

2. Searching the Library's collections

The library website is at <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library> and this is always the best place to start. Use the search box to start searching for resources available within the library and online. Just select the tab that best describes what you're searching for, type your search words in the search box and click *search*.

Search the library

LibrarySearch Books Journals Databases Reading lists Library website

LibrarySearch

3. Reading lists

Reading lists for each of your modules are available online and include direct links to the relevant resources. You can see the reading list on each module's Moodle page, or you can use the *Reading lists* tab in the library search box to look up the module number or name.

4. Finding books and ebooks

Use the *Books* search tab in the library search box to search for books held in any of our four libraries. The results screen will tell you if a book is available and give you the call number (this shows where it's shelved). You can click on the book title and click *place hold* to request items which are on loan or held at another Brookes library.

Ebooks are also displayed in the search results. You will need to log in with your Brookes student number and password when prompted. Our ebooks are on various different platforms so options for viewing and downloading will vary. Just ask us if you need any help with ebooks.

5. Useful call numbers

You will find books and other material of interest and relevance to your study of criminology in many different areas throughout Headington library. Books are shelved next to books on the same or similar topics. To get started, try looking at:

345 Criminal law
364 Criminology
365 Prisons

If you need help finding these numbers on the shelves in the library, you can download a map or take a virtual tour at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/access-and-accessibility/locations-and-opening-hours/headington-library>.

6. Starting research: reference works

The library holds a wide range of reference works such as specialised dictionaries and encyclopaedias, which can offer a useful starting point for your research. They may be helpful for getting an overview of a subject, looking up unfamiliar terms, or finding details about a specific concept.

Oxford Reference Online contains a wide range of dictionaries and reference materials and you can quickly search across all these books for a particular word or concept.

<http://www.oxfordreference.com.oxfordbrookes.idm.oclc.org/>

7. Journals and journal articles

Journals provide one of the best sources of information for current research and discussion. The library subscribes to a wide range of journals in criminology and other related subjects. Have a look at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/criminology?acc=faq-1#faq-1-link> to find out more about why journals are so useful in criminology.

Almost all of the journals we subscribe to are available in an online format. You can either browse a journal to see what articles have been published in it or, if you have a reference to an article, you can jump straight to that article.

Remember, when you look at a reference to a journal article, there will be two titles in the reference. Look at this example:

Hughes, C.E. and Stevens, A. (2010) 'What can we learn from the Portuguese decriminalization of illicit drugs?', *British Journal of Criminology*, 50(6), pp.999-1022

The first title, 'What can we learn from the Portuguese decriminalization of illicit drugs?' is the title of the article. The second title, 'British Journal of Criminology' is the title of the journal the article was published in.

To find a journal article, the easiest option is to just type or paste the title of the article into the LibrarySearch tab of the *Search the library* box. Don't search for the whole reference.

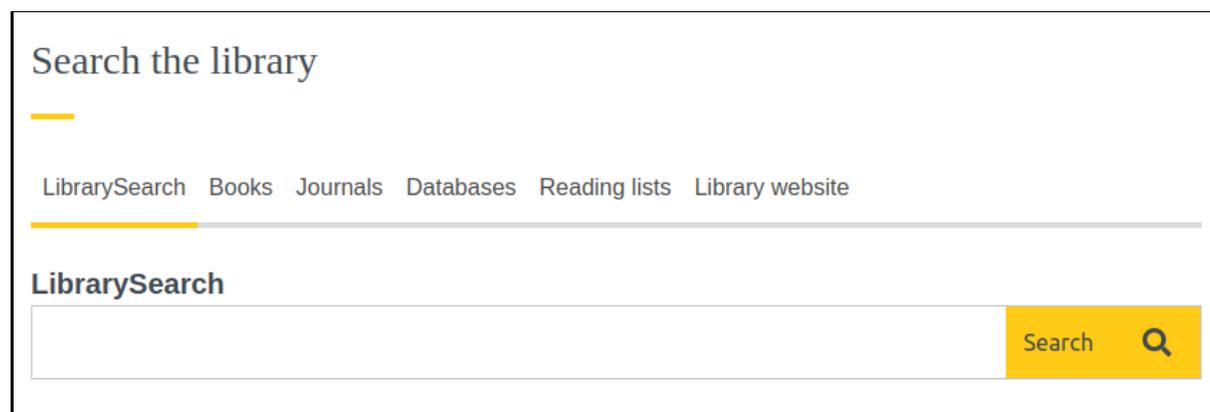
If you don't have a particular article in mind but just want to browse through a journal, copy or paste its title into the *Journals* tab of the *Search the library* box

Once in a journal you can:

- Look for a list of volume numbers or a 'browse' option in order to navigate to a particular article.
- Look at the most recent issue to see what current research is being published.
- Search for keywords or topics, in order to find other relevant articles.

8. Researching a topic

A good way to start is to search for your topic in LibrarySearch:



If you want to go further, you should use one of our databases. Databases are tools that allow you to research a topic and find good-quality academic materials written about it. Some suggestions are listed below and they can all be accessed from the *databases* tab of the *Search the library* box or from <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/criminology?acc=faq-0#faq-0-link>

- **Academic Search Complete:** This is a full-text database providing full articles and abstracts, across a wide range of subjects.
- **HeinOnline:** HeinOnline includes a large collection of full-text journals, mainly in law. Their Criminal Justice and Criminology collection is particularly strong on American and English topics.
- **Westlaw:** This is a law database, and is useful for researching criminal law and the English and Welsh criminal justice system
- **Sage journals:** This database contains journals published by Sage, covering a wide range of

subjects within the social sciences, humanities and life sciences. Many criminology journals are published by Sage.

If you want to learn more about how to research a topic in criminology, have a look at the resources and ideas available at: <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/criminology/#courseworkquestion>.

Note that databases may cover journals and other publications which are not available from Brookes Library. See section 12 of this guide for how to access material from other libraries.

9. Finding newspaper articles, TV and radio programmes

To find newspaper articles, try Lexis+ (for UK news sources), or Factiva (for international news sources). We also have digital archives of historical newspapers. See our news sources page at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/collections/news-sources> for links to all of these options.

This page also provides information about Box of Broadcasts (BoB). BoB lets you view and record radio and TV programmes broadcast in the UK. Some curated lists of good programmes and podcasts are available at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/criminology/other-criminology-resources/>.

10. Statistics and other government publications

A wide range of authoritative and current statistics is available online. Look at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/collections/statistics> to get some ideas for sources.

There is some specific guidance to finding and using crime statistics at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/criminology?acc=faq-6#faq-6-link>.

Information about searching for and using government publications can be found at: <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/resources-and-services/course-resource-help/international-relations-and-politics#governmentpubs>

11. Referencing with the Brookes Harvard style

Citing your sources - also called referencing - is an essential part of your academic work. The Criminology departments recommends using the **Harvard** referencing system. For guidance on how to reference your sources in the Harvard style, take a look at these resources available on the library website (<http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/library-services/information-skills/citing-references-in-your-work-and-plagiarism/>)

- The Library guide *Citing your references using the Harvard (author-date) system* (available from the referencing page above or in print from the JHB Library Help Zone)
- **Cite Them Right Online** is an online resource accessible from the above referencing page and gives guidance on referencing in Harvard and information about plagiarism.

Find out more about referencing and see some examples at <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/criminology/referencing/>.

EndNote is software that can help you to store your references and create bibliographies. See our EndNote Web pages at <http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/library-services/endnote/> for more information

12. Beyond Brookes

When doing research for an in-depth project such as your dissertation you are likely to come across references to publications which are not held at Oxford Brookes Library. The Interlibrary Loan team may be able to supply you with most other items you need. Journal articles can usually be supplied in three working days; other materials will take longer. You can find out more at:

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/how-to/use-the-interlibrary-loan-service>.

You may find it useful to use other UK university libraries (for instance if you are away from Oxford in the vacations or if you live some distance from Oxford Brookes). You can apply for access through the SCONUL Access scheme. Full information on how to apply is at:

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/access-and-accessibility/access-to-other-libraries>.

Criminology students registered on a dissertation module are entitled to apply to join the Bodleian Library at Oxford University. Find out more and download an application form from

<https://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/access-and-accessibility/access-to-other-libraries>. You can search the Bodleian catalogue (SOLO) at <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

Getting help and finding out more

More online information can be found on the Criminology help pages, at

<http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/criminology/>

If you need any help with finding or using library resources for criminology please contact

Charlie Brampton (Academic Liaison Librarian) using the contact details below.

Email: c.brampton@brookes.ac.uk

Tel: 01865 483077

JHB 112, Headington Library, Oxford Brookes University

Twitter: @brookeslibrary

Instagram: @oxfordbrookeslibrary