

# Course Outline

**School / Portfolio:** Faculty of Education and Arts

**Course Title:** OFFENDER PROFILING

**Course ID:** ATSGC3473

**Credit Points:** 15.00

**Prerequisite(s):** (ATSGC1283 and ATSGC1284)

**Co-requisite(s):** Nil

**Exclusion(s):** (ATSGC2473)

**ASCED Code:** 099903

## Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

## Learning Outcomes:

### Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe and identify key developments in the history of offender profiling.
- K2.** Obtain an enhanced awareness of offender typologies within the context of a range of criminal behaviours.
- K3.** Identify and explain profiling methods for a range of offenders and offending behaviours.
- K4.** Contextualise offender profiling within the investigative and prosecutorial stages of the criminal justice process.

### Skills:

- S1.** Critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of various profiling methods.
- S2.** Explain and analyse the different purposes and uses of profiling.
- S3.** Identify and critically compare the strengths and limitations of profiling.

### Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply critical thinking to key debates concerning criminal profiling methods.
- A2.** Explain the role of criminal profiling in the Australian Criminal Justice System
- A3.** Analyse individual offender profiles and contextualise these within broader offender typologies and apply their knowledge of profiling methods to the criminal justice system

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## Course Content:

Topics may include:

### Module One: History and Theory

- Introduction and History of Offender Profiling
- Models of decision making in Offender Profiling

### Module Two: Practice

- Profiling Homicide
- Profiling Arson
- Profiling Sexual Assault
- Paraphilias and Sexual Disorders
- Equivocal Deaths, Psychological Autopsy and Indirect Personality Assessment
- Personality Disorders and Psychopathy
- Linking Serial Crimes
- Geographical Profiling
- Emerging Themes and Future Directions

## Values and Graduate Attributes:

### Values:

- V1.** After successfully completing this course students will recognise the deep complexities in the development of criminal profiling and its use in the criminal justice system.
- V2.** After successfully completing this course students will appreciate the role of criminal profiling at the investigative and prosecutorial stage within the criminal justice system.  
After successfully completing this course students will appreciate the unique challenges faced by
- V3.** the criminal justice system in incorporating profiling methodologies into the detection, investigation and prosecution of offending behavior.

### Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students expand upon their ability to identify and understand the role and evolution of profiling as a discipline	High
Self Reliance	Students consolidate their skills in independent research and analysis	Medium
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives about contemporary criminological issues pertaining to the development and application of profiling techniques.	High
Social Responsibility	Students expand upon their understanding of criminological study, the determinants of offending behaviour and the application of profiling techniques.	Medium

## Learning Task and Assessment:

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Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, S3 A1	On-campus and distance students will complete an online quiz.	Online Quiz	10-20%
K1, K2, K3, K4 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3	Research and writing skills will be assessed in the submission of an informed, sustained and substantiated piece applying practical and theoretical knowledge in relation to criminal profiling and its use in the criminal justice system	Research Essay	30-50%
K1, K2, K3, K4 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3	Students display comprehension of course materials, relevant concepts, debates and scholarly perspectives, applying and synthesising knowledge and critical analysis.	Examination	40-50%

## Adopted Reference Style:

APA