



DOING WHAT
REALLY MATTERS



Prospectus 2026-27

University and college courses
for students in prison

Becoming Someone Again: Why Study in Prison Matters

Max Dennehy, Andrew (Andi) Brierley,
'Mate, you gone legit?': Tension and
loss in status and desistance,
The British Journal of Criminology, 2026

Deciding to change your life is one thing. Staying on that path is much harder.

Many people in prison don't just leave crime behind, they leave behind a world where they were **known, respected, and someone**. In a new life, that can disappear. You can feel invisible, unsure, and like you no longer belong. This is called **"status collapse."** This is one of the hardest parts of change, and one of the main reasons people struggle to keep going.

Why this matters

It's not just about stopping offending. It's about rebuilding **who you are**.

Without new opportunities, it's easy to feel stuck between two worlds, no longer part of the old life, but not yet feeling part of a new one

Where education comes in

Studying in prison helps you rebuild:

- **Identity** – becoming a student, not just a prisoner
- **Confidence** – proving you can achieve something meaningful
- **Respect** – gaining recognition in a positive way
- **Direction** – creating real options for your future

Education gives you a chance to become **someone again**, but on stronger, more stable ground. In the article, one author describes how even something as small as getting a student badge or volunteering role mattered, it meant he was becoming *someone again* in a new world.

You don't lose everything—you transform it

The skills, resilience and awareness you developed before and during prison are not wasted. They can be **reworked and redirected**.

The authors call this a "desistance habitus", using what you've learned in life:

- Reading people
- Surviving difficult environments
- Staying determined under pressure

These can become strengths in education, work, and helping others.

A new kind of respect

The journey is not easy. There may be moments where others question your choices, where "going legit" feels like losing face.

But over time, something changes.

You can build a different kind of status:

- Being someone your family can rely on
- Being someone others look up to
- Being someone who creates opportunities instead of losing them

This kind of respect lasts.

Why choose to study now?

Studying in prison gives you a head start on that journey. It offers:

- A structured way to rebuild who you are
- A chance to prove something to yourself, not just others
- A pathway into new roles, new communities, new futures

Most importantly, it helps answer the question many people face after deciding to change:

"If I'm not that person anymore, who can I become?" Education is one of the strongest ways to change.



Welcome

Welcome to a new academic year at DWRM.

Whether you are continuing your studies with us, thinking about starting, or simply having a look through these pages to see what all this education business is about, I'm glad you picked up this prospectus. People often think studying in prison is mainly about getting qualifications. And don't get me wrong, qualifications matter. They open doors, create options, and give you something solid to build on. But if you ask those of us who have done this journey ourselves, we'll probably tell you that the biggest change happens long before you receive a certificate.

Study changes how you think.

It changes the conversations you have with yourself, the way you approach problems and the way you respond to setbacks. It challenges assumptions you didn't even know you were carrying around. Somewhere between the deadlines, the reading, the frustration of not understanding something first time round, and the moment it finally clicks, you begin to notice something shifting. Not just what you know but, how you think.

I know because I lived it. My own study journey took me from basic skills to doctoral study while serving my sentence. I didn't start out believing I was "academic". I know what it feels like to doubt yourself, to wonder whether you're capable, whether it's worth the effort, whether you'll manage to keep going when prison life makes consistency feel almost impossible. But that is exactly why DWRM exists.

Everything we do is designed by people who understand the reality of studying behind the door because we have done it ourselves. We know that education in prison isn't taking place in ideal conditions. Study time gets interrupted. Motivation comes and goes. Resources are

limited. Some days, opening a textbook feels like the last thing you want to do, and still... students do extraordinary things.

Every year we hear from people who never imagined they would complete a module, write an essay, pass a qualification, or begin thinking about university. Then suddenly they are doing all of those things and encouraging others to do the same. That matters because education is not just about filling time, it is about expanding what feels possible. So, if you are already studying with us, keep going. Your persistence matters more than you probably realise. If you are considering taking that first step, this might be your moment. Not because the timing is perfect, or because you suddenly feel completely ready, but because growth rarely starts with certainty. It usually starts with curiosity.

And if you are reading this thinking, I'm not sure education is for me, good. Ask questions, stay curious. Have a conversation with us. You do not have to have your entire future mapped out to begin; you just have to start somewhere.

This year, make the most of what is on offer; why don't you challenge yourself intellectually. Explore subjects you never thought you would be interested in. Allow yourself to think differently about what you are capable of becoming. You are not doing this alone, you are part of a bigger community, one which is global in fact. And we are all supporting you. You remain at the centre of everything we do. You are, and always will be, our why.

Dan
CO-DIRECTOR, DWRM,
ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

Doing What Really Matters

DWRM is a Social Enterprise with a mission to ensure that every prisoner has the opportunity to become a student.

We know that this can be a constructive way to use your time while you are in prison, can give you the chance to explore new subjects and debates and can also give you a renewed hope for the future.

We are proud of our strategy which focuses on Education, Employability and Engagement. This brings lots of opportunities including our Learning Communities project which you can read about on pages 16 & 17.

We offer study skills support in all subject areas and we act as the bridge between you and the university. We want you to know that you are not doing this alone.

We have all found our study experiences to be enjoyable as well as challenging. We hope that you will also have fun as you get started on your new and unique study experience.



Create accessible higher education opportunities

Facilitate learning communities



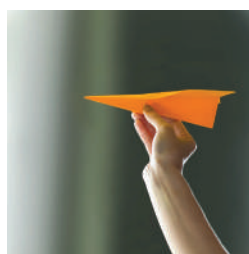
Provide holistic prep for post release



Career focused routes



Create and deliver solutions



Influence the evidence base



Empowering people through Education, Employability and Engagement to create Cultures of Acceptance

DWRM envisions a future where prison experience drives positive change. We bring together expertise and evidence with our commitment to inclusion as the catalyst for this change.

1 Create accessible higher education opportunities for people in prison	2 Facilitate learning communities of excellence; Reduce the isolation of prison-based study	3 Provide holistic and relevant preparation for post-release employment	4 Generate career-focused routes into meaningful futures	5 Enable people with lived experience of prison to create and deliver solutions	6 Influence the evidence base and advocate for prison education policy reform
--	--	--	---	--	--

These 6 areas of focus demonstrate our commitment to the all-round benefits of education.



How it works

Because we understand all the barriers, at DWRM we are committed to offering you a high standard of service and support. With us you get:

- Real university courses from reputable universities who work in partnership with us to support students in prison.
- Access to digital offline study materials (via Coracle Chromebooks in most prisons).
- Advice about the best start for your journey into Higher Education, such as the role of Foundation years to help students who may not have achieved A levels or BTECs to reach pre-university levels
- Personal support via the most convenient means for you – call our free phone number, write to our PO Box, use Email a Prisoner or ask your Distance Learning Co-ordinator to contact us on your behalf.
- Help with essential study skills, including digital literacy, (especially when you are released).
- Access to tutor support via scheduled telephone “drop-in” seminars.
- Support to ensure that your learning is not interrupted by transfers. You can put our freephone number on your PIN and call us if you move – we’ll make all the rest of the arrangements.
- Assistance with funding applications and advice about student loans.
- The opportunity to finish your studies on campus or online if you’re released during your course, with support from our peer mentors. All our partner universities have committed to supporting this.
- Specialist recruitment support for people with convictions, linking you in to the right employers, with support to write a strong disclosure statement.

What does it all mean?

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For university study, you will usually need GCSE English (Language or Literature) and Maths Grade 4/C or above - or the equivalent (such as Level 2 Functional Skills).

For some courses you will also need Level 3 qualifications like A Levels or BTECs to qualify. Each course is worth ‘UCAS points’ – for example, a C grade at A level is worth 32 points. Universities specify how many points you need to start their course. Your Prison Education Manager will have a table to help you calculate your points or you can contact us for help and advice.

FOUNDATION YEAR

A popular option for people who have been out of education for a few years or are nervous about committing to a full degree. You’ll cover a range of study skills and some introductory topics for your chosen subject.

Where possible we try to provide funded opportunities to get you started with your studies, which we know is especially important for people on long sentences.

DWRM in numbers

456

STUDENTS HAVE
STARTED OR
COMPLETED
MODULES SO FAR

7

CONTRIBUTIONS
TO RESEARCH OR
POLICY REFORM

48

PRISONS WHERE
WE HAVE
STUDENTS

2613

FREEPHONE
CALLS FOR STUDY
SUPPORT TAKEN IN
2025

We are delighted that so many of you are using our freephone number to speak directly to the academic teams at your universities. We are taking about 300 calls a month, and if you can't get through, our voicemail messages are checked throughout the day.

Our students tell us that they enjoy discussing different points of view without a specific agenda being proposed, because this enables them to develop their own ideas and perspectives.

Tutors have told us that being able to speak directly to students about their assignments results in a high standard of work and they have all been impressed at the level of engagement and interest shown by students.

We know that many of you are now using Coracle devices, and we are continuing to push for greater access to technology. Even if your prison does not have a contract with Coracle, please speak to us about other options. You should be allowed time in the Education department to type up your assignments.

Quotes from student feedback, 2025

"The way DWRM organises and manages the distance learning process has been exceptional."

"Studying has given me hope for the future in terms of finding a job upon release."

"The phone-in sessions to speak to tutors and the library team have been invaluable."



Curious Minds: Your Student Newsletter

Curious Minds is the quarterly newsletter for people studying in prison with DWRM—and for those thinking about starting. It is sent to all registered students, as well as anyone who has expressed an interest in study.

What is it?

Curious Minds is a **student-led community in print**, created by serving prisoners, former prisoners, academics and DWRM staff. It brings together real stories, advice and opportunities from across the student community.

What will you find inside?

Each issue includes:

- **Real student voices** – honest accounts of studying and changing direction
- **Motivation and encouragement** – showing what is possible
- **Study skills guides** – practical help with learning and assignments
- **Celebration of success** – recognising student achievements
- **Opportunities** – new courses and future pathways

Recent themes have included overcoming isolation and the importance of support—reminding you that you are not alone in your learning journey, as well as a focus on the transition from studying in prison to employment opportunities after release, with real experiences from those who have trod this path.

Why it matters

Studying in prison can feel isolating. Curious Minds helps you stay connected, motivated and focused by linking you to a wider community of learners doing the same thing.

It shows that education is not just about passing courses—it's about building confidence, purpose and a new future.

Coming next: a study skills book

The success of the Curious Minds study guides has led to an exciting next step—a **new study skills handbook for students in prison**, due for publication in 2027.

- It will include **16 chapters** on key study topics
- Written by **students (in custody and after release) alongside academics**
- Edited by DWRM and university partners
- Published in the UK and US, in **print and eBook formats**

This book has grown directly from student feedback—showing that your ideas and experiences shape what DWRM creates. Copies are planned for wide distribution, with the aim of reaching prison libraries.

Get involved

You can contribute your own writing, ideas or feedback to future editions. Your voice matters—and it helps shape both the newsletter and future projects like the upcoming book.



In short: *Curious Minds* connects you to a community, keeps you motivated, and shows what is possible through education—while giving you a chance to be part of something bigger.

Index of Courses

Coming Soon	8
A level options, Open Study College	9
L3 Access to Health Diploma, McTimoney College	9
Language and Thinking, DWRM	10
L3 Help to Start your own Business, Rocketeer	10
L4 Cert HE, University of Essex	11
Business & Management	
Law with Criminology	
Healthcare Management	
Psychology	
BSc Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Portsmouth	12
BSc Maths, University of Greenwich	12
BA Business and Management, Northumbria University	13
L7 MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Law	13
BA (Hons.) Sports Management, Global Institute of Sport	14



Watch this Space

New partner universities
coming soon

We expect to be offering a wide
range of courses including:

Politics
History
Sociology
Philosophy
Creative Writing
in early 2027

and will share details as
soon as they are finalised.

A wide range of Level 3 options

OSC is a distance learning course provider that has helped over 110,000 learners globally take the next step towards achieving their ambitions. Whether you're looking to start a new career, get to university or just want to stretch yourself academically, OSC can help.

- Exactly the same qualifications you would receive in traditional school or college.
- Flexible! No set start date and no scheduled classes to attend or a timetable to follow.
- All qualifications are independently accredited by established awarding organisations.

Available courses

Choose from a wide range of A Levels including accounting, business studies, law, sociology and politics, plus Level 3 courses such as garden design, electrical theory and maintenance, sports coaching, fitness and health, business-start up and more.

Costs and funding

Costs for an A level are about £500. A list of grant funding organisations can be found in the Hardman Directory in your prison library, or you can pay for the course yourself.

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Maths and English Level 2

ASSESSMENT

Exams: you will need to arrange with your education department to sit these at the end of your course on the dates set by the exam body, so please check that they can arrange this. We will provide details of the exam board and course code you need. You can also choose to study the course without sitting the exam.

DATES AND TIMINGS

Rolling start dates and flexible course length but fixed exam dates (May / June)

QUALIFICATIONS

A Levels, other Level 3 qualifications

Level 3 Access to Health Diploma

Awarded by Ulster University, the Access to Health programme enables students who have not got mainstream entry qualifications to progress to further study.

The key aims of the programme are to enable students to improve their ability in English and Study Skills, particularly in the area of health; gain knowledge and skills for optimising career opportunities; gain a sound foundation in the basic concepts of chemical and physical science; explore basic concepts and theories within the context of health and the wider science arena. The course has been adapted to be suitable to study in prison.

Available courses

Students studying on the programme will complete modules in:

- Academic English and Study Skills
- Human Biology
- General Science
- Clinical and Professional Practice

Costs and funding

Full cost £1500, but students may be eligible for funding support through the college. Please apply prior to acceptance.

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Maths and English Level 2 and an interest in science

ASSESSMENT

Short weekly tasks for informal tutor feedback and a mixture of formal coursework and exams for each module

DATES AND TIMINGS

Starts in February and lasts for 1 year

QUALIFICATIONS

120 credits at Level 3 which is sufficient for university entry

Language and Thinking

Your ideas matter. This course gives them room to grow.

Have you ever read something that stopped you in your tracks — made you see the world differently? Have you ever had a thought you couldn't quite find the words for? Language and Thinking (L&T) is a course built around exactly that: the moment when ideas start to click.

Developed from a programme with a proven track record in US prisons through the acclaimed Bard Prison Initiative, L&T is an intensive introduction to university-level study — and it's completely free. No prior qualifications needed. Just curiosity and a willingness to engage.

You'll read across different genres, write regularly, and take part in lively discussions — in small groups where every voice counts. The course is designed to help you read more closely, think more clearly, and write with greater confidence. It's not about getting things "right." It's about learning to ask better questions and discovering what you actually think.

L&T is delivered through printed materials, recorded sessions, and — where possible — in-person workshops. Once you've completed the programme, you'll be supported to set up your own study group, giving you the chance to lead learning yourself and help others find their academic footing.

This course is your entry point into higher education — and into a community of learners across England and Wales, backed by our university partners.

Free. Flexible. Yours.

To find out more

CONTACT

DWRM at info@dwrm.org.uk or 0800 987 5953

Help to start your own business

The mission at Rocketeer is to simplify the complicated process of creating and starting a business in today's digital and tech world.

Rocketeer offer two new business related courses designed to allow people in prison to keep up to date with new developments in business. Whether you are looking for employment in digital marketing, or want to understand how best to market your own business, these courses will provide you with up-to-date insights and give you the confidence to launch a successful campaign.

AI-Powered Digital Marketing: The New Way To Reach

Your Customers: Discover how AI is revolutionising digital marketing in this comprehensive course. Learn to leverage cutting-edge AI tools for email, social media, paid advertising, and SEO strategies. Gain the skills to create cohesive marketing campaigns that effectively reach and convert customers across multiple platforms.

AI-Powered Business Startup: Launch Your Business the

Smart Way: In today's digital landscape, adopting AI is crucial for startup entrepreneurs to gain a competitive edge. This course equips non-coders with practical AI strategies for idea generation, market research, marketing, customer support, and website creation. Gain essential skills to enhance business operations and competitive advantage through a 'human + AI' approach.

Costs and funding

Each course costs £475 and needs to be self-funded.

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

English Level 2 and an interest in business / marketing

ASSESSMENT

You will receive a detailed study pack and have assignments to complete for marking and feedback.

DATES AND TIMINGS

Courses last for 9 months and can be started at any time.

QUALIFICATIONS

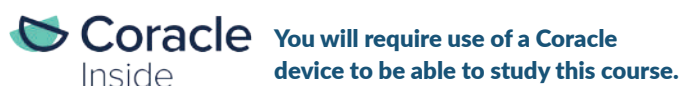
All courses are certified by the Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs (IOEE)

One year university qualification, with options to continue

Build a Bigger Future, One Step at a Time. Business, Law, Healthcare, Psychology.

At Essex, we don't look at who ticks all the boxes, but at who is up for a challenge and you will earn your qualification by committing to an intellectual and cultural journey.

A Certificate in Higher Education (Cert HE) is equivalent to the first year of a degree and is a fully accepted higher level qualification. On completion, you can opt to continue your study to complete a full degree. The Cert HE will take 16 months to complete and requires 15 hours of study per week.



You will require use of a Coracle device to be able to study this course.

Available courses

Cert (HE) Business and Management Grasp fundamental management skills and key business concepts, with our CertHE Business and Management. This course will develop your understanding of the four main decision-making areas to consider in business and explores core topics within management such as HR, finance and marketing.

You'll study interesting topics, including:

- how to establish effective working teams
- marketing fundamentals and the impact on consumers
- the economic environment within which businesses operate
- financial and management accounting

Cert (HE) Law with Criminology Fascinated with crime stories? Study our CertHE Law with Criminology and take the first step to developing your understanding of criminal law.

Equivalent to the first level of undergraduate study, this course covers a range of interesting topics, including:

- the legal framework that underpins the UK judiciary, executive and parliament, and the Human Rights Act
- key principles of prevention, intervention and rehabilitation of offenders within the criminal justice system
- influences of criminal behaviour, and the social and economic effects upon both communities and the state

Cert (HE) Healthcare Management Gain a solid understanding of leadership and managerial approaches across a variety of healthcare contexts, in our CertHE Healthcare Management. Throughout the course, you'll consider the management principles that underpin healthcare services, while exploring key management topics such as finance, HR management and business management. You'll also learn to recognise

contemporary challenges associated with healthcare management and develop your understanding of effective communication processes.

Explore a broad range of exciting topics, including:

- global disease patterns and the importance of control
- budgeting, cost management and capital investment analysis
- the key drivers for developing healthcare policies
- HR theories and practices in a global context
- evaluating your academic, personal and professional skills

Cert (HE) Psychology Fascinated by what makes people tick? Our CertHE Psychology could be the first step into an exciting career in psychology. You'll explore key topics such as human memory, cognition, the ways in which people – as individuals or in groups – influence one another, and much more. Delve into the science of the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, and learn about the different fields within psychology. You'll also examine how psychology can be applied to real-life settings and help us to understand the thoughts and actions of individuals and social groups.

Explore a broad range of topics, including:

- the history of individual differences, and the ethical issues and controversies it raises
- the ethical and cultural approaches to mental health, stress and wellbeing
- the role of psychology in analysing how attitudes are formed and changed
- theories and methods in the field of social psychology
- an introduction to the study of human memory and cognition

Costs and funding

16 month course £6996 fees (funded by student loan)

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Flexible entry. You just need to demonstrate aptitude to study and Level 2 Maths and English.

ASSESSMENT

Written assessment to be submitted to the Essex online platform via DWRM.

DATES AND TIMINGS

Start dates throughout the year

QUALIFICATIONS

Complete modules worth 15 or 30 credits at Level 4, with 120 credits required for Cert HE qualification.



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

L4-6

Criminology and Criminal Justice

This course examines the causes and consequences of crime and how this intersects with related disciplines such as sociology and psychology.

It will be suitable for people who have completed Foundation level study

You will explore responses to crime from multiple perspectives and will be encouraged to draw on your own experiences of the justice system, as well as questioning contemporary crime, control, justice and investigation methods and forms of policing.



Coracle
Inside

You will require use of a Coracle device to be able to study this course.

Available courses

BSc (hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice

Debate and question contemporary crime, control and punishment and criminal justice system issues such as investigation methods and forms of policing

Explore responses to crime from multiple perspectives as you study its relationship with other disciplines including law, sociology, psychology and the history of police science

Costs and funding

£3260 per year payable by student loan

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Open entry requirements, if you do not have Level 3 qualifications you will need to submit a full written application

ASSESSMENT

Essays and reports alongside informal assessment and quizzes.

DATES AND TIMINGS

4 ½ years part-time study starting in September

QUALIFICATIONS

Gain a Cert HE after 18 months or a Dip HE after 36 months



UNIVERSITY OF
GREENWICH

L4-6

Mathematics Degree

Greenwich University believes in giving students the skills that employers value and the confidence to achieve great things.

Their maths courses are highly regarded, being ranked 3rd in the UK in Maths for Student Satisfaction (Complete University Guide, 2022).

Available courses

BSc (hons) Mathematics

By studying a degree in maths, you will grow as a mathematician, gaining analytical skills that you can apply to problems in the real world. You will also learn how to use mathematical software so you can understand the strengths and limitations of computers and other tools.

You will learn to identify and analyse relevant data to solve problems and develop skills such as logical analysis, deduction, mathematical modelling, problem-solving and the appropriate application of mathematical concepts.

Costs and funding

Full-time study £9790 per year

Part time study £2312 per 30 credits

Payable by student loan

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

104 UCAS points from A levels which must include grade C or higher in A level maths

ASSESSMENT

Each course has formal assessments which count towards your grade. Some courses include 'practice' assignments, which help monitor your progress..

DATES AND TIMINGS

3 year full time course starting late September

QUALIFICATIONS

Each module is worth 15 or 30 credits. You require 120 credits at each of Level 4, 5 and 6 to complete your degree.



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

L5+6

The
University of
Law

L7

Top up degree options in Business and Management

This flexible, business management course is open to those with a Level 4 qualification in a business or management related subject.

It is designed for people who are employed, or have access to organisational experience. During each of the nine 20-credit modules you will study, you will be encouraged to tailor your projects and assessments to your current role or any future one you aspire to. At the end of the course, you will also complete a 60-credit Professional Project, in which you will be able to draw on both the theories you have learnt and your practical experience.



Coracle
Inside **You will require use of a Coracle device to be able to study this course.**

Available courses

Modules are delivered in a flexible carousel structure allowing multiple start dates during the year.

You will be on track to top up your qualification and graduate with a BA in Business and Management in a little over three years, part-time. However, there is the opportunity to take a little longer if you need to.

Costs and funding

Full fee £5600 per year payable by student loan

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Must have a Level 4 qualification (eg Cert HE or HNC)

ASSESSMENT

Essays and reports

DATES AND TIMINGS

3 years part-time, starting in October, January, April and July

QUALIFICATIONS

BA (hons) Business and Management

MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice

You will gain a systematic understanding and critical awareness of key principles of criminology, developing knowledge of the history of ideas, the cultural context, and the social and political theories that inform and influence the practice of criminology.

Students will graduate with the ability to identify appropriate methodologies for dealing with complex problems and design and successfully complete a substantial empirical criminology research project, systematic review or systematic case study, informed by wide understandings of criminology in the contemporary world.

Much of this course focuses on topical debate – helping you to look at things critically and from different perspectives. You also have a choice of two routes to take on your course:

- **Desistance and Resettlement Route:** You will have the opportunity to engage with key issues related to prisons, probation and rehabilitation and resettlement. You will also be able to work with criminal justice organisations on a digital co-production project
- **Social Justice Route:** This route takes a critical approach in investigating the criminal justice system. It examines how the system has been perceived and resisted by those working outside of institutional power structures. It investigates how criminology is a 'rendezvous discipline' by engaging with, and pushing at, the margins of the discipline, the relationship between social marginalisation and criminalisation, and how to put the 'margins' at the centre. This route is ideal for those who want to work to shape the system from either outside or within the system

Costs and funding

£10,300 payable by post graduate student loan

Key facts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

UK bachelor's degree in any subject at 2:2 or above, or equivalent qualifications.

DATES AND TIMINGS

Start dates September and February

CO-PRODUCTION OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

If you do not want to study for a post graduate qualification, but are interested in participating in academic study at this level, we are seeking participants for the co-production projects which form part of the Desistance and Resettlement Route.

For aspiring sports leaders

The Global Institute of Sport (GIS) is the leading provider of ground-breaking sports university degrees worldwide.

GIS is ranked #1 worldwide for sports employment outcomes for its graduates by Sport Business magazine.

Its unique focus on collaboration with the sports industry is exemplified in its partnerships with more than 50 leading sports organisations, including the Premier League and The Football Association.

GIS is a college of the University of East London; graduates of this programme will be awarded a degree from UEL.

Available courses

BA (Hons.) Sports Management

Unlock your future in the exciting world of sports management with this dynamic course, designed to launch your career in one of the fastest-growing industries.

You'll dive deep into the business of sport, learning how to analyse the external forces shaping the industry while mastering the essential skills of communication, problem-solving, and leadership.

This course will empower you with cutting-edge, evidence-based strategies, preparing you to tackle real-world challenges and drive success in your sports management career.

You'll explore everything from sports marketing and fan behaviour to strategic event management, gaining practical insights through case studies, live discussions, and direct industry insight.

With this course, you'll be fully equipped to take the sports business world by storm and make an impact in the global marketplace.

Costs and funding

£9790 per year; three year degree course, payable by student loan

Key facts

LEVEL OF STUDY

Undergraduate

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

96 UCAS points. Professional experience and industry qualifications can be assessed for applicants without the necessary UCAS points.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be required to submit coursework assignments in each module.

DATES AND TIMINGS

Every September and January

QUALIFICATIONS

Cert HE (after 1 year)
Bachelor's degree with Honours (after 3 years)

How your Student Finance will work

We have been advised that the new Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) will replace the current student finance arrangements in January 2027. We will update our guidance on eligibility and finance entitlement as soon as the new system is launched. When you take a student loan to pay for your university tuition fees, it will be paid directly to the university - once the loan company has approved your eligibility.

This guide explains exactly what to expect with regard to the repayments of that loan.

1

Repayment start for Plan 5 loans

(for new undergraduate students from 2023 onwards).

Applies whether you are employed, self-employed or released from prison in the future.

- You only start repaying once you earn **£25,000 a year or more**
- Repayments are **9% of anything you earn above £25,000**
- If you earn **below £25,000**, you repay nothing
- If your income drops below the £25,000 a year threshold, repayments **stop automatically**

2

How repayments are taken

- Repayments come straight out of your wages through the tax system, just like PAYE tax
- You never have to arrange payments yourself
- If you are not working or earning below the threshold, you pay nothing

3

Calculation examples

Salary	£25,000 threshold		Repayment per month	Repayment per year
£24,000	Below		£0	£0
£26,000	£1,000 above	9% repayment equals...	£7.50	£90
£35,000	£10,000 above		£75	£900
£50,000	£25,000 above		£187.50	£2,250
£100,000	£75,000 above		£562.50	£6,750

4

Interest and how it works on Plan 5

(Plan 5 loans charge interest at the rate of inflation (Retail Price Index - RPI). There is no extra interest added. This means that:

- Your loan grows only in line with inflation
- It does not behave like commercial debt or credit cards
- You never pay more interest than the rate of inflation

5

Loan write-off

- Any remaining balance is written off after 40 years
- It does not matter how much you have repaid
- If you never earn above the threshold, you may never repay anything and the loan is still written off

6

If a borrower dies before the loan is repaid

- The loan is cancelled immediately
- The Student Loans Company only needs proof (e.g., death certificate)
- It is not passed to family members
- It is not taken from the person's estate

This is very different from normal debt.

7

Credit file and borrowing

A student loan:

- does **not** appear on your credit file
 - does **not** affect your credit score
 - does **not** stop you getting a mortgage, car finance, or other credit
- The only time it may be considered is when a lender checks affordability because repayments reduce take-home pay slightly.

Please contact DWRM if you have any further questions:
Freephone 0800 987 5953 or
info@dwrm.org.uk



Take Charge of Your Learning Journey

Create Your Own Learning Community

Have you ever wished for more meaningful educational opportunities during your sentence? Do you enjoy discussing ideas with others and helping fellow students learn? You have the power to create valuable learning spaces—right where you are.

Why Start a Learning Community?

- **Personal Growth:** Develop critical thinking, leadership, and communication skills
- **Community Building:** Form meaningful connections through intellectual engagement
- **Ongoing Education:** Continue learning regardless of sentence length or student loan eligibility
- **Empowerment:** Take an active role in your education and help others do the same

DWRM has developed 2 programmes to get you started:

1. Language and Thinking (L&T)

The L&T programme equips you with fundamental skills for academic success through:

- Critical analysis of texts and ideas
- Reflective writing practices
- Collaborative discussion techniques

What Others Have Said:

"The L&T programme helped me see myself as a genuine student capable of university-level work. Now I'm helping others discover the same thing about themselves."

2. Thinking Out Loud – Philosophy for the Real World

Cut through academic jargon and explore life's biggest questions through music & film. This course brings philosophy to life—debating morality, identity, justice,

and free will in open, thought-provoking discussions.

- Debate philosophical themes in music, film, and TV
- Unpack big questions and dilemmas
- Develop intellectual freedom and think critically
- Discover your voice

What Others Have Said:

"This course opened my mind—I question everything now. It's the best thing I've done in years."

"I'm using parts of my brain I forgot I had. I'm starting to see the bigger picture."

How it works:

- Use self-study materials at your own pace
- Receive training on facilitating your own study group
- Join scheduled telephone support sessions
- Lead philosophical and critical thinking discussions using our guided materials
- Get ongoing support from partnering universities to lead sessions with other students

Resources provided:

- Comprehensive printed materials
- Recorded sessions on DVD
- Training in group facilitation

Supported By:

This initiative is a collaboration between DWRM and multiple universities, with support from generous grant funding.

Contact:

Speak to your education department today to request an application form and begin your journey as both a learner and a leader.

Developed by people who have navigated the journey from prison education to academic study—we understand where you are and where you can go.

DWRM student contract

Your commitment to us

We are here to support you and make sure your studies are both successful and enjoyable.

Studying at this level requires focus and staying power, as well as academic ability. You will need to plan your time carefully to make sure you complete all the reading, watch all the recorded lectures and get your assignments submitted on time. The universities we work with offer as much flexibility as possible, recognising the constraints of the prison regime, but they cannot offer unlimited extensions because they have to meet exam board deadlines.

Here's what we need from you:

- Read all the **induction** materials to make sure you are familiar with what is required and the format of the study materials.
- Check the **timetable** for the whole course, make a note of **key submission dates** and plan your time accordingly.
- Make sure you know how to find all your study materials on the **Coracle device** (if you have one). Ask us if you are not sure. We know you might not have used a laptop in a while, and we can talk you through how to find all your materials.
- Arrange to use **computers** in the Education Department if you need to write up an assignment or prepare a presentation.
- **Contact us** for help as soon as an issue arises, don't leave it to the last minute.
- Tell us if you **move** to a new prison or when you are released. The sooner the better. We can help you to continue and complete your studies as long as we know where you are. Our freephone number works when you are out too.

Guidance for calling in for study support

When participating in the drop-in sessions we recommend the following steps for maximum support:

- **Prepare ahead:** Before your session, review your course materials and note down any topics or concepts you would like to discuss.
- **Prepare your questions:** Jot down questions you would like to be answered. Having a clear list will help you cover all your concerns during the session.
- **Engage actively:** Actively participate in discussions, do not hesitate to ask your questions, and seek clarification on the topics you find unclear.
- **Take notes:** Jot down the key points and answers provided during the session, they will be useful references for your on-going study.
- **Follow up:** If you need more assistance or clarification after the session, do not hesitate to reach out to your tutor the following week. You can also call or send messages outside of the drop-in times and the DWRM team will assist you.
- **Stay engaged:** We expect you to connect with your tutor once a fortnight, this will help ensure your ongoing progress and support.

Your engagement with us is a vital component to your study with us and a key to your success on the course. Regular communication helps us provide you with a more personalised support that will help you in navigating the challenges you may face on your learning journey.

Post release options

When you are approaching your release date, as our student you can contact us to discuss continuing support:

- Approximately 12 weeks before your release, please let us know if you want to complete an initial IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) document about yourself and your employability or continuing education goals.
- We will set up a call with you, to go through the IAG and start to have a sense of what you would like/are able to do.
- We will take into account any known licence conditions or restrictions and discuss the best options for your specific circumstances.
- We will follow with emails (via EMAP) to finalise the details.
- We hope to have a rounded idea of your areas of interest and skill by the time that you are released.
- If you wish to continue studying, we will support you with your transition to study in the community.
- If you are seeking work or training, we can offer support on our Employability programme.

If you are already released by the time that you are near the end of your studies

- When you are within 12 weeks of your proposed course completion, you can be referred to our Employability programme.

- We will provide you with a brief IAG document to complete, as above
- We can then set up a call to go through the IAG to understand what you would like to do
- We will follow that up directly and start to work with you online or face to face, depending on circumstances and distance

OUR EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME:

Once we have established some baseline information about you, we can start to address any practical gaps (e.g. CV/ Personal Disclosure Statement and work-based skills) and also look at suitable employment, training or other education options.

You may also be offered the support of a mentor, to further enable your employability journey.

"Before I took the course, I wouldn't have had the courage to ask anyone for a job... It opened my mind. I thought I was no help to anyone but now I can have confidence looking for jobs."



Rebooted is a charity that gives former prisoners laptops to help them continue access to education on release. If you're studying inside and want to continue, apply for a free laptop using the form on your Coracle laptop.



WORKING CHANCE

Unlocking women's potential

Support to access education or training for women with convictions: If you identify as a woman or non-binary, you can get support to access education or training from the charity Working Chance. Whether you're going back to college, looking for a change in career, or need a qualification to get the job you want, education or training could be for you. We can support you with applications, personal statements, and disclosing your conviction if you need to. As an employment charity, we can also help you to access training alongside finding a paid job For more information head to www.workingchance.org or email media@workingchance.org

Next Steps

Found a course you like?
Here's what to do next:

1

Seek approval

Speak to your Distance Learning Coordinator about your interest in Higher Education. Remember that you will need approval from your Prison Governor via the SIFT.

2

Apply to us when you're ready

Complete our application form, which is available from your education department, and send it to us. Or contact us by post: PO Box 6219, Sheffield S2 9JQ, by email: info@dwrn.org.uk (we also use email-a-prisoner) or by Freephone: 0800 987 5953 to express your interest. Include information about your existing qualifications, your education, career goals and release date. If you are an ISP, tell us your next possible parole release date.

3

Completing your application

We book an initial session with you to review your application and establish your personal goals and existing qualifications, so that we can complete your application on your behalf. We have rolling deadlines for all applications.

4

Apply for finance

We will explain how to apply for student finance (loan, grant or sponsorship). If you want to start your loan application, ask your Distance Learning Coordinator (or us) for an application form. You must be within 6 years of your release date to be eligible for a loan, 8 years for a Foundation year. If you are not eligible for a student loan, we can help you to apply for a scholarship. For example, Longford Trust can cover the cost of one university module for serving prisoners who cannot access other finance. The application deadline for Longford Trust funding is June 5th every year; application forms are available from DWRM or Longford Trust at PO Box 72887, London N2 2FG.

5

Induction

If the university accepts your application, we will send you full course details and info on the admissions process.

The key steps

- Your education department has copies of our application form.
- You need your Prison Governor's permission to apply.
- Apply when you're ready: we accept applications right through the year.
- We can help you apply for student finance or scholarships.
- We'll stay in touch throughout your studies.





DOING WHAT REALLY MATTERS

DWRM, PO Box 6219, Sheffield S2 9JQ
info@dwrn.org.uk www.dwrn.org.uk 0800 987 5953

