PUBLIC SERVICES AND CRIMINOLOGY









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Get career ready from day one

Our courses are designed with employability in mind, giving you real-world skills for roles in policing, criminology, the armed forces and more - all linked to Greater Manchester's growing public services and criminology sector.



Learn from industry experts

You'll be taught by experienced tutors who bring real public services and criminology knowledge into the classroom, helping you understand what employers are looking for right now. Find out more about your tutors on our website: tmc.ac.uk/public-services.



Experience public services and criminology in action

Through work placements, employer-led projects and visits to top employers, you'll build practical experience that looks great on your CV.



Discover what inspires you

Start with a solid public services and criminology foundation, then specialise in areas that match your goals and interests as you progress – from forensic investigation to preparing for uniformed service careers.



Go beyond the classroom

Take part in enrichment activities, enterprise challenges and networking events that develop your confidence, leadership and problem-solving skills - all key for success in the public services and criminology sector.



Careers information



Job figures

There were approx. **34,901** employees working in the **Public Services** and **Criminology** sector in Greater Manchester in 2025. This is predicted to increase by **4.4**% by 2028.



Average earnings

The average wage in Greater Manchester is £35,840 per annum (2024).



Replacement demand

Around **7,088** of the current workforce will be reaching retirement in the next 10 years, meaning those jobs will need replacing.

Types of jobs
Army Officer
Border Force Officer
Firefighter
Police Community Support Officer
Police Officer
Prison Officer
Probation Officer
RAF Officer
Royal Marines Commando
Royal Navy Officer

Skills needed
Project management
Data analysis
SQL (programming language)
Project delivery
Stakeholder management
Communication
Management
Planning
Leadership
Problem solving

Examples of GM Employers
Army
Civil Service
Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
Greater Manchester Police
HM Prison Service
Ministry of Justice
Local Councils
Northwest Ambulance Service
Royal Air Force
Royal Navy

Data sourced from Lightcast April 2025.





Where to find us

With excellent transport links, modern classrooms, and vibrant social spaces, you can study Public Services and Criminology in state-of-the-art facilities in Manchester.





- Fitness and performance testing lab with Douglas bags, Cortex Metalyzers, and other specialist equipment
- Full-size, floodlit FIFA-approved 3G pitch with changing and officials' rooms
- Fully equipped fitness suite with treadmills, rowers, bikes, free weights and squat racks
- 30-station gym and strength and conditioning room
- Bookable sports hall and 3G pitch with spectator seating
- Dedicated coffee bar serving Starbucks
- Street food-style lunch options.

I loved my course and the support system.

I felt comfortable getting involved and even recommended the College to a friend who enrolled!

Morgan

Level 3 Public Services

Get career ready with us

We're here to help you achieve your goals and get career-ready. Our courses are designed with top employers to focus on in-demand skills.

From day one, you'll gain hands-on experience to build confidence. By the end, you'll have the qualifications, knowledge, and experience to stand out and take the next step in your career.



Building your employability

To get you career-ready, you'll take part in activities that boost your skills and understanding of the world of work. You'll be supported by a dedicated Employability Co-ordinator who will support you to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours you'll need to thrive in the workplace.

Real-world experience that counts

As part of your course, you'll complete work experience with an employer. We'll help you find a placement where you can:

- Shadow professionals and see how the job is done day-to-day
- Contribute to real projects that develop your skills and strengthen your CV
- Grow in confidence as you put learning into action.

Many of our students make such a strong impression that they even secure part-time or full-time jobs with their placement provider!

We work with leading employers to deliver our placements, including:









Discover where public, services and criminology can take you

We'll introduce you to a wide range of career options in the public services and criminology sector through:

- Take part in army and cadet boot camps to test your fitness and explore armed forces careers
- Experience real-life rescue simulations and safety demos with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service
- Hear first-hand from police, border force and frontline professionals through employer talks and activities
- Join residentials to Mount Snowdon and the Peak District, packed with outdoor challenges and leadership tasks
- Get involved in practical, work-based activities with emergency services across Greater Manchester.

This will help you decide which path to take after your course — whether that's progressing to degree-level study, starting an apprenticeship or going straight into employment.





Courses

We offer qualifications from Level 1 to Level 3. If you haven't already obtained a Grade 4 GCSE in English or maths, you'll study to work towards achieving this qualification.



Criminology and Policing

Level 3 | Openshaw | 2 years

If you're aiming for a career in the police or criminal justice sector, this Level 3 Criminology and Policing course is a great first step. You'll explore real-life CSI processes, criminological theories, and topics like law, psychology, and sociology. You'll gain a full understanding of the criminal process from crime scene to courtroom, while also developing key leadership and workplace skills.

Public Services

Level 3 | Openshaw | 1 year

Our Level 3 course will help you gain the confidence and skills needed to pass the recruitment and selection process for your chosen public service career. You'll develop a strong understanding of government policies, legal systems, and citizenship, while improving your physical fitness through regular training and tests. Leadership and teamwork are key focuses, helping you build the qualities employers value most. You'll put your learning into practice by taking part in emergency incident re-enactments and operating a command and control centre.

Public Services

Level 2 | Openshaw | 1 year

Our Level 2 will see you building on the foundations you learned at Level 1 and taking part in similar drills and routines. You'll also be going out on expeditions and continuing to build your strength and fitness, both in the gym and through water and land-based activities at outdoor pursuit centres. In short, you'll be building the skillsets you'll rely on throughout your career, while exploring in detail all the different types of career paths and employment opportunities open to you.

Public Services

Level 1 | Openshaw | 1 year

If you want to work in the police, fire, or armed services, this Level 1 is a great starting point. You'll develop discipline, teamwork, and fitness through drills, punctuality, and physical training. The course also prepares you for the demands of recruitment by building key personal attributes like courage, respect and perseverance. Alongside this, you'll gain essential knowledge of law, citizenship, and UK government and policy — laying strong foundations for further study and your future career.

SUPPORTED LEARNING

Promoting independence through accessibility and inclusion.

Have you received learning support in the past? Do you have an Education, Health and Care Plan or an identified Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) need? Our Supported Learning team can help students with SEND to achieve their aspirational career goals.

We provide a highly personalised offer for students to create a supportive learning environment for all. Whatever course you choose to study, our provision is specifically designed to support you on your journey to independence and into further education or employment.

Find out more about how we can help you: tmc.ac.uk/supported-learning







Additional Learning Support Team: specialistsupport@tmc.ac.uk
Transition Team: transitionteam@tmc.ac.uk



How to apply

Applying to study at The Manchester College is really easy. Just follow these steps and you'll be on your journey to amazing in no time.



What's next?

You've explored what's possible, now it's time to take your next steps.

To discover more about Public Services and Criminology, and to start your application, scan the QR code or visit: tmc.ac.uk/public-services.





Visit us

There's no better way to get a feel for college than visiting in person.

Join us at one of our open events to:

- Learn more about our courses
- Tour our industry-standard facilities
- Meet our expert tutors
- Ask any questions you may have.

Secure your place now: tmc.ac.uk/events



Keep up to date with us on social media

- **f** The Manchester College
- @TheMcrCollege

M @TheMcrCollege

@TheMcrCollege

Contact Us

Got a question about one of our courses, about The Manchester College or just need to get in touch? Contact us:

- enquiries@tmc.ac.uk
- 03333 222 444







The Manchester College is committed to equality of opportunity, non-discriminatory practices and supporting individual learners. This information is also available in a range of formats, such as large print, on request.