UNODC’s Education for Justice (E4J) initiative, a component of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, seeks to prevent crime and promote a culture of lawfulness through educational activities designed for primary, secondary and tertiary levels. These activities will help educators teach the next generation to better understand and address problems that can undermine the rule of law. At the university level, E4J supports academics to teach in UNODC-mandated areas. The areas addressed in the university modules range from crime prevention and criminal justice, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, organized crime, cybercrime, wildlife crime, anti-corruption, firearms, counter-terrorism to ethics and integrity. The modules are designed for lecturers to adapt and integrate into their courses.
Addressing a broad range of topics, the University Module Series on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice equips students with knowledge about the fundamental role that effective, fair, humane and accountable crime prevention and criminal justice institutions play in support of the rule of law, human rights, and fundamental freedoms for all. Key thematic areas include: crime prevention; access to justice; strong and accountable justice institutions and actors; the broad-based and multi-disciplinary strategies needed to end violence against women and children; and the role of United Nations standards and norms in upholding human dignity for those in contact with justice systems.

Developed through a multi-disciplinary and collaborative process, the university modules draw on the diverse scholarly insights and invaluable regional expertise of more than 50 academics, practitioners and international experts from around the world. The result is a series of modules that provide tertiary educators with materials to teach on human rights and the rule of law – and their relevance to various topics on crime prevention and criminal justice in global, regional, and local settings. Independent academic review and validation confirm the modules as a robust and useful resource for academics working across a range of disciplines.

The multi-disciplinary modules are designed for use as stand-alone teaching resources, or as a means of enhancing existing courses in criminology, law, political science, international relations, sociology, and many other disciplines. While the broad range of examples used to elucidate the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice ensures that they are relevant globally, the modules can be adapted by lecturers to address issues relevant to diverse regional contexts. The E4J Teaching Guide on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice provides lecturers with additional guidance on teaching the modules across multi-disciplinary settings.