

POST 16 SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Name of Subject - Criminology

Which Examination Specification is Studied for this Course?

WJEC Applied Diploma in Criminology.

Why should I study this course?

Criminology is the study of crime from a social perspective: the causes of crime, the social impact of crime and the criminals involved in the crime. Criminologists study criminology in an attempt to better understand what motivates the criminal to act in a criminal manner.

There are 4 units of study for the Applied Diploma in Criminology.

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime: Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? What kinds of crime exist about which we know very little, or which are simply not reported to the police and the media?

Unit 2: Criminological Theories: How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance? How do we explain why people commit crime? What makes someone a serial killer, or abusive to their own families?

Unit 3: Criminological Theories: What are the roles of personnel involved when a crime is detected? What investigative techniques are available to investigators to help to identify the culprit? Do techniques differ depending on the type of crime being investigated?

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment: Why do most of us tend to obey the law even when to do so if it is against our own interests? What social institutions have we developed to ensure that people do obey laws? What happens to those who violate our legal system? Why do we punish people?

Who is suitable to study this course?

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology. Criminology is an excellent Level 3 course for progression to University due to the critical analysing skills gained from the qualifications Courses could include; Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Forensic Science.

What GCSE Qualifications Support the Study of this Course?

English Language, Maths and Citizenship

What are the Qualification Requirements for this Course?

Minimum of five grade 4's at GCSE including English Language and Maths

How is the Course Delivered?

You will be taught for 4 hours per week, led by one member of staff. You will be expected to consolidate learning, complete homework tasks and independent study each week. You will have access to a Criminology Google Classroom where a bank of lesson and revision resources are stored, and where written work and assessments can be submitted.

Subject Overview		
Half Term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	U1 Changing awareness of crime: Analyse different types of crime, Explain why certain crimes are unreported, Explain consequences of unreported crime, Describe media representation of crime, Explain impact of media representations on public perception of crime, Evaluate methods of collecting statistics about crime	U3 Crime Scene to Courtroom: Explain how evidence is processed, Examine the rights of individuals in criminal investigations, Explain the requirements of the crown prosecution service for prosecuting suspects, Describe trial processes, Understand rules in relation to the use of evidence in criminal cases
Autumn 2	U1 Changing awareness of crime: Compare campaigns for change, Evaluate the effectiveness of media used in campaigns for change, Plan a campaign for change relating to crime, Design materials for use in campaigning for change, Justify a campaign for change	U3 Crime Scene to Courtroom: Assess key influences affecting the outcomes of criminal cases, Discuss the use of lay people in criminal cases, Examine information for validity, Draw conclusions from information

Spring 1	U2 Criminological Theories: Compare criminal behaviour and deviance, Explain the social construction of criminality, Describe biological theories of criminality, Describe individualistic theories of criminality	U4 Crime and Punishment: Describe processes used for law making, Describe the organisation of the criminal justice system in England and Wales, Describe models of criminal justice
Spring 2	U2 Criminological Theories: Describe sociological theories of criminality, Analyse situations of criminality, Evaluate the effectiveness of criminological theories to explain causes of criminality	U4 Crime and Punishment: Explain forms of social control, Discuss the aims of punishment, Assess how forms of punishment meet the aims of punishment, Explain the role of agencies in social control, Describe the contribution of agencies to achieving social control,
Summer 1	U2 Criminological Theories: Assess the use of criminological theories in informing policy development, Explain how social changes affect policy development, Discuss how campaigns affect policy making	U4 Crime and Punishment: Examine the limitations of agencies in achieving social control, Evaluate the effectiveness of agencies in achieving social control
Summer 2	U3 Crime Scene to Courtroom: Evaluate the effectiveness of the roles of personnel involved in criminal investigations, Assess the usefulness of investigative techniques in criminal investigations	

How is the Course Assessed?

Unit 1 - Changing Awareness of Crime - Internal coursework assessment
Unit 2 - Criminal Theories - External examination.
Unit 3 - Crime Scene to Courtroom - Internally coursework assessment
Unit 4 - Crime and Punishment - External examination.

What is our Recommended Subject Reading list to Support your Study?

Criminology Book One for the WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate & Diploma book 1 and 2

1984 – George Orwell

Folk Devils and Moral Panics – Stanley Cohen

A Glasgow Gang Observed – Patrick James

Gang Leader For A Day – Sudhir Venkatesh

Fake Law – The Secret Barrister

Traces: Memoir of a Forensic Scientist and Criminal Investigator – Patricia Wiltshire

My Life With Murderers – David Wilson

A wide range of newspapers including The Guardian and Independent

Any crime documentaries.

<https://revisesociology.com/tag/criminology/>

<https://criminology.uk.net/>

https://www.wjec.co.uk/en/qualifications/criminology-level-3/#tab_overview

