



CRIMINOLOGY

WJEC AS/A2 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade C or above in English (Lang or Lit) plus a Grade C in Maths or Numeracy

TEACHING & LEARNING

PROFILE

Criminology examines the sociological, psychological and legal aspects of crime and deviance. The course examines a wide range of criminological themes allowing learners to consider Criminology in action. For example: Have you ever seen how crime campaigns achieve social change? Have you wondered about theories behind the Krays' criminal behaviour? Have you considered the uniqueness of fingerprints and how they are used to convict offenders? Have you ever considered the role of the police, courts and CPS and whether the criminal justice system is fair? The course is a Level 3 Diploma and so is equivalent to an A Level but with a more vocational approach. Units 1 and 2 combine at the end of Year 12 to achieve a Level 3 Certificate; these also combined with Units 3 and 4 at the end of Year 13 result in a Level 3 Diploma.

CONTACT

Mrs Stanford

Mr Robinson

Assessment Structure:

Year 12: Level 3 Certificate

Unit 1 (controlled assessment) 50%

Unit 2 (examination) 50%

Year 13: Level 3 Diploma

Unit 3 (controlled assessment) 50%

Unit 4 (examination) 50%

Units 1 and 3 are assessed internally before the summer examination series and then moderated externally. Units 2 and 4 are both externally assessed in the summer examination series. The qualification is graded A-E.

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime

Students will:

- Analyse different types of crime
- Explain reasons for underreporting of these crimes and the consequences of this
- Describe media representation of crime and the impact on public perceptions of criminal behaviour
- Evaluate crime data collection methods
- Compare campaigns for change and evaluate their success
- Plan, design and justify their own campaign for change

Unit 2: Criminological Theories

Students will:

- Compare crime and deviance and explain them both as social constructs
- Describe biological, individualistic and sociological theories on crime
- Analyse situations of criminality and evaluate theoretical explanations of these situations
- Assess how these theories, social changes and crime campaigns inform policy development

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

Students will:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of personnel and investigative techniques used in criminal investigations
- Assess how criminal evidence is processed
- Examine the rights of suspects, victims and witnesses
- Understand the prosecution process
- Discuss the use of laypeople in criminal proceedings as juries and magistrates
- Review criminal cases, examining the validity of the information and drawing conclusions
- Unit 4: Crime and Punishment
- Students will:
 - Understand the criminal justice system including law making, the organisations involved and models of criminal justice
 - Explain types of social control, the aims of social control and whether forms of social control achieve the aims
 - Explain the roles of agencies in social control and their contribution to the maintenance of a functional society
 - Examine the limitations of social control and examine their effectiveness

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

Students will:

- Understand the criminal justice system including law making, the organisations involved and models of criminal justice
- Explain types of social control, the aims of social control and whether forms of social control achieve the aims
- Explain the roles of agencies in social control and their contribution to the maintenance of a functional society
- Examine the limitations of social control and examine their effectiveness

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

It is ideal for students considering careers in the police, courts, forensic science etc and forms an excellent base knowledge for future study in subjects such as Law, Sociology and Social Policy.