

Level 3 Applied Certificate and Diploma in Criminology

Exam Board: WJEC 601/6248/X and 601/6249/1

Subject Specific Criteria:

- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language

Introduction

Criminology (from Latin *crimen*, "accusation"; and Greek *-λογία*, *-logia*) is the scientific study of criminal behaviour, on individual, social and natural levels and how it can be managed, controlled and prevented.

This course will enable students to use theories of criminality to analyse criminal situations and make recommendations for policy. Students also develop the knowledge and skills to research policy in practice, assess campaigns for changes in awareness and examine information to review verdicts in criminal cases.

Units of study:

Year 12

- Changing Awareness of Crime
- Criminological Theories

Year 13 :

- Crime scene to Courtroom
- Crime and Punishment

Assessment

There are two internal and external assessments. In both years, there will be one eight hour-controlled assessment administered by the school and one external 90-minute examination. All assessed elements are worth 25% of the Diploma. A combination of short and extended writing questions will require students to demonstrate knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation skills. The exams for Units 2 and 4 are synoptic and require students to draw on information from the other Units.

Personal Qualities

There is no requirement for students to have studied Criminology previously at GCSE, for most students this is a completely "new" subject and therefore it is important to do some research into what the subject entails prior to starting the course. Key skills will be taught throughout the course, however a genuine interest and enthusiasm for studying, discovering and analysing criminality within society, current affairs and political issues is key.

Recommended links with other subjects

Criminology combines well with many study areas. Sociology, Psychology, English Literature and Language, Religious Studies, History and Business Studies are useful partners. It also is useful for those seeking careers in criminal justice and forensics.

After Sixth Form

Skills and knowledge developed throughout this course are valued for a range of degree courses at university. Many universities offer Criminology degrees as well as combined courses whereby students can study Criminology alongside another subject such as Sociology, Psychology and forensics.