

CRIMINOLOGY

(Level 3 Applied Diploma)

Entry Requirements: Grade 4 in English Lang

Exam board: WJEC

Full Subject Specification website: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/21xjkr24/wjec-applied-diploma-in-criminology-spec-e-03-06-2020.pdf>

Why study Criminology:

An understanding of criminology is pertinent to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work as well as sociology and psychology.

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of law, psychology and sociology that go well with studies in humanities.

This is an 'Applied General' qualification which means it is designed mainly to support students progressing to university. It offers exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning for Sixth Form students through applied learning, i.e. through acquiring knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts associated with the criminal justice system. This qualification would support learners' progression from any study at Level 2, particularly GCSEs in Citizenship, Humanities, History, Law and Sociology.

Each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which therefore acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose requires learning that is related to authentic case studies. It also requires students to consider how the use and application of their learning has an impact on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment. The applied purpose will also allow students to learn in such a way that they develop:

- the skills required for independent learning and development
- a range of skills that are generic and transferable
- the ability to solve problems
- the skills of project-based research, development and presentation
- the essential ability to work in conjunction with other professionals, in a professional environment
- the ability to apply their learning in vocational contexts

Subject Specification Outline:

This specification consists of 4 mandatory units:

Unit 1 (Changing Awareness of Crime) will enable students to demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported.

Unit 2 (Criminological Theories) will allow students to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1.

Unit 3 (Crime Scene to Courtroom) will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. Students will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases.

Unit 4 (Crime and Punishment) is where students will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

Progress Assessment:

As well as ongoing formal half term assessments, you will be regularly set a variety of practice exam questions which will be completed both in class and as homework. You will also be set learning tasks to support and supplement the internally assessed units.

Teacher, self and peer-assessment will be used throughout by means of exam board mark schemes coupled with the expertise of teaching staff.

Final Exam Format:

You will complete internal assessments for Unit 1 and Unit 3 and will sit two exam papers, one each for Unit 2 and Unit 4, (1 hour 30 minutes each) at the end of Year 13.

Self Study Requirements:

For every hour spent in the classroom during a fortnightly period, you will be expected to spend the equivalent amount of time outside the classroom completing learning tasks set by teaching staff. Full details about the nature of these tasks will be available at the end of each lesson from teaching staff.

Progression Pathways:

The principal purpose of the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is to use the qualification to support access to higher education degree courses, such as: Criminology, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Criminology and Psychology, Law with Criminology, Criminology and Sociology, and Psychology and Sociology.

Alternatively, the qualification allows students to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within aspects of the criminal justice system, such as the Courts and Tribunals Service the National Probation Service, or the National Offender Management Service.