

Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Board and Specification: WJEC/EDUQAS
Staff: Head of Psychology & Criminology
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Subject specific entry requirements:

- Grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics
- Grade 4 or above in GCSE English Literature and/or Language
- Grade 5 in GCSE Science

What skills are required of students?

- Independent study and research
- Applying learning to real life scenarios
- Clear and detailed note making
- Effective organisation
- The maturity to deal with challenging, sensitive topics

Course Details

Criminology can be described as the scientific study of crime, criminals and the criminal justice system. The Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology combines elements of psychology, law and sociology, whilst complimenting studies in humanities. As an Applied General qualification, the course is equivalent to one A level and attracts the same amount of UCAS points. Throughout the course, you will develop your understanding of key ideas, theories and principles of criminology; applying these to a range of cases studies and scenarios. In addition, students will examine how the police regulate social order, the structure of the criminal justice system and the correlation between crime, punishment and behaviour. The course consists of 50% controlled assessment and 50% exams. Learning is supplemented by trips and outside speakers.

Course Structure

Students will study four mandatory units over two years as follows:

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime – 8hrs controlled assessment (Year 12)

Unit 2: Criminological Theories – 1½ hr exam (Year 12)

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom – 8hrs controlled assessment (Year 13)

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment -1½ hr exam (Year 13)

The first mandatory unit will enable the student to demonstrate an understanding of the different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported.

The second mandatory unit will allow students to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1.

The third mandatory unit 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.

In the final mandatory unit, learners 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.

What kinds of work will you do in class and at home?

Research
Writing notes
Revising key topics

Essay writing
Challenging discussion
Responding to documentaries

What other A-levels does your subject connect well with?

Psychology, Sociology, RS, English, Biology, Politics, History.

What types of university course will be helped by this A-level?

- BA/BSc Criminology
- BA Criminology and Criminal Justice
- BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology
- LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- BA (Hons) Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology
- BSc Criminology with Law

Alternatively, an understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology.