

Criminology Diploma Level 3 WJEC

The applied Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities. It should not however be combined with A Level Sociology, as there is too much of an overlap. It has been designed to offer exciting and interesting experiences that focus on developing an understanding of theories of crime and criminality along with the processing of crime through societal institutions.

Course Structure

This course is modular rather than linear. You will complete one controlled assessment and one externally assessed exam in each year of study. Each module is referred to as a unit and all 4 units are equally weighted. Unit 1 explores changing awareness of crime and is examined by controlled assessment. Unit 2 explores theories of crime and is externally assessed. Both unit 1 and 2 are completed and assessed in the first year of study. Unit 3 develops a detailed understanding of the criminal justice system and is assessed by controlled assessment. Unit 4 explores the philosophy of punishment and is assessed by an external exam. Both unit 3 and 4 are completed and assessed in the second year of study.

Skills & Knowledge

There are 3 Assessment objectives that will be targeted in all exam practice and extended writing, A01-Knowledge and understanding, A02-Application of relevant examples and A03- Analysis and Evaluation. Completing the course will enable you to develop supporting and conflicting arguments on a range of issues. There will be an emphasis on evaluation linked to reliability and validity of evidence.

Assessment

50% of the course is examined through 2 externally assessed exams. One in the first year of study and one in the second year of study. The remaining 50% of the course is examined through two 8 hour controlled assessments – one in the first year of study and one in the second year of study.

Opportunities & Enrichment

A regular enrichment trip is organised to the Old Bailey where students witness first hand a real life criminal court in session from the Public Gallery. External speakers will provide an insight into how institutions within the criminal justice system function and the type of jobs available.

Future Careers & Pathways

This qualification allows students to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the Crown Prosecution Service, the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.