



CRIMINOLOGY

QUALIFICATION: WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Criminology

Examination Board: Eduqas

What is Criminology?

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance? How do we explain why people commit crime? What happens to those who commit a crime? Why and how do we punish people? What organisations do we have in our society to control criminality?

Criminology is the study of crime and criminals. An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers, and social workers. With their critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, criminology graduates are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics.

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

- No previous Criminology study is expected.
- You should keep in mind that Criminology is a Social Science subject. A good standard of English is compulsory, and an interest in research and construction of formal argument is vital.
- There are strong links to Psychology, Sociology, Law, and History.
- There is a great deal of analysis and evaluation in Criminology. You should enjoy applying different theories to scenarios and thinking synoptically across a variety of situations.
- Students will be expected to have a grade 5 or above in English and a grade 4 or above in Science and Maths.

What will I learn on this A Level course?

Unit 1: Changing awareness of Crime (Coursework) (50%)

- Types of crime
- Reasons for crime
- Consequences of crime
- How crime is represented in the media
- Impact of media's representation on crime
- Crime Statistics
- Campaigns for change and the use of media for change

Unit 2: Criminological Theories (Exam) (50%)

- Compare criminal behaviour and deviance using social, legal definitions and a variety of crime.
- How crime is socially constructed using law, sociological and psychological theory.
- Biological theories behind crime.
- Individualistic theories from psychology.
- Understanding situations of crime.
- Evaluating criminological theories
- Policy development.
- Social changes and campaigns.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course will appeal to students who:

- Enjoy taking a methodical approach when examining how and why people behave in certain ways.
- Enjoy practical as well as theoretical work.
- Would benefit from having 50% coursework.
- Wish to complement other AS and A levels such as Psychology, Sociology, Biology, History, English and Geography.

What could I go on to do at the end of my course?

- Degree courses in Social Sciences, Law and Criminology
- Police training
- Social Work

Further information about psychology is also available on -

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology/criminology-level-3-from-2015/index.html>