

# CRIMINOLOGY

## TRANSITION



### Eduqas Level 3 Criminology

**Course Leader: Jake Mitchell**

**Course Length: 2 Years**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to Criminology!

This course will give you an introduction to criminal justice. It will combine well with other qualifications such as Psychology, Sociology and Humanities, and enable you to progress into further study at university or into employment e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

As part of our teaching we will make sure your learning is vocationally relevant and to do this we will have guest speakers such as community police officers, local political representatives, Neighbourhood Watch and practising psychologists. We will also arrange visits to workplaces to consider who makes rules by which individuals must abide and consider how these rules are applied.

## **CONTENT and STRUCTURE**

For the first year of this course you will complete 2 units. We will give you an overview of the second year during our Induction Lessons and at the start of the course.

### **Unit 1 Changing awareness of Crime**

This unit will explore the different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported.

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society?

What kinds of crime exist about which we know very little, or which are simply not reported to the police and the media? How do we explain people's reluctance to come forward about crimes of which they have been the victim? Some crimes which seem inoffensive, such as counterfeiting of designer goods, have actually been linked to the funding of more serious crime such as terrorism and people trafficking; so why do people turn a 'blind eye' to these 'mild' crimes? What methods have governments and other agencies used to raise social awareness of these crimes?

Many people learn about the fear and fascination of crime from the media, but is the media a reliable source of information? To what extent are we misled by our tastes in programmes and newspapers about crime? Who decides what behaviours should be against the law? Who gathers information about crime? Can this information be trusted? Can we trust our own instincts?

Humans tend to judge others behaviour by a variety of moral principles, not all of which are consistent or based on accurate information. We gain our ideas of morality from a variety of sources and one of the most important is the mass media. Police gather information about crime; but the data can be inaccurate. Criminologists have developed procedures to learn about crime, but these too have their limitations.

Knowing about the wide range of different crimes and the reasons people have for not reporting such crimes will provide an understanding of the complexity of behaviours and the social implications of such crimes and criminality. At the end of this unit, you will have gained skills to differentiate between myth and reality when it comes to crime and to recognise that common representations may be misleading and inaccurate. You will have gained the skills to understand the importance of changing public perceptions of crime. You will be able to use and assess a variety of methods used by agencies to raise awareness of crime so that it can be tackled effectively. You will have gained the skills to plan a campaign for change in relation to crime; for example to raise awareness, change attitudes or change reporting behaviour.

## **Unit 2 Criminological Theories**

This unit will help you to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what you have learned in unit 1.

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 makes someone a serial killer, or abusive to their own families? Criminologists have produced theoretical explanations of why people commit crime, but which is the most useful? Are these theories relevant to all types of crime? What can we learn from the strengths and weaknesses of each? How can these theories be applied to real life scenarios and real life crimes?

Knowing about the different types of crime and the criminological approaches to theory will give you a sharper insight into the kind of thinking used by experts and politicians to explain crime and criminality. Public law makers are informed by theory and apply these theories to their own solutions to the problem of crime. By undertaking this unit, you will learn to support, challenge and evaluate expert opinion and be able to support your ideas with reliable and factual evidence.

At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to evaluate some criminological theories and know there are debates within the different theories. You will understand how changes in criminological theory have influenced policy. You will also have gained the skills to apply the theories to a specific crime or criminal in order to understand both the behaviour and the theory.

### **ASSESSMENT IN YEAR ONE**

Unit 1: internal assessment / coursework. You will be given a brief that sets out an applied purpose i.e. a reason for completing the tasks that would benefit society, a community, organisation or company. You will be required to Plan, Design and Justify a campaign and discuss elements of crime within your coursework. This is to be completed as directed by your teacher but can be either individually or through group work.

Unit 2: 90-minute examination. Short and extended answer questions, based on stimulus material and applied contexts. Each question will have a problem-solving scenario.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

- Attend all lessons
- Catch up with work missed
- Complete all work to the best of your ability and not submit work of below this standard.
- Responsibility for your own work and ensuring deadlines are met
- Reading around the topic.

Equipment required for the course.

- A lever arch file
- Plastic wallets
- Pencil
- Pens (including a highlighter)
- Lined Paper

## **RESOURCES**

### **Textbooks**

**Napier Press Criminology Book One**

**ISBN 9780993423598**

### **Additional books**

WJEC Level 3 Applied certificate & Diploma Criminology (Carole A Henderson)

ISBN: 978-1-911208-43-3

WJEC Level 3 Applied certificate & Diploma Criminology: Study and Revision Guide (Carole A Henderson)

ISBN: 978-1-911208-96-9

### **Websites**

Napier Press website. This has some sample briefs, and downloadable student workbooks  
<https://criminology.uk.net/>

Crime Statistics for England and Wales [www.crimestaatistics.org.uk](http://www.crimestaatistics.org.uk)

Crime Survey for England and Wales <http://www.crimesurvey.co.uk>

BBC iPlayer Crime and Justice Documentaries  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06886ny>

Eduqas exam board: <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/criminology/index.html>

## **SUMMER PROJECT**

1. Research and find definitions for the following types of crime:

- a. White-collar crime
- b. Moral crime
- c. Individual crime
- d. State crime
- e. Technological crime

For each type can you find a case example?

2. View Crime Statistics for Dursley (school postcode GL11 4BY). Compare crime rates for your postcode and a city e.g. Bristol (BS1 1BT). <https://www.police.uk/your-area/>

- a. Question: What does crime information tell you about the two areas?  
What does crime information not tell you about the two areas?

3. Watch at least two of the documentaries below and summarise the findings of each in 50 – 100 words

[The Big Cases - BBC iPlayer](#)

4. Follow the news over the summer and keep a scrapbook (real or virtual) of any crime stories in the press. These can be local, national or international.
5. If you have a smartphone, set alerts for news apps to look for crime statistics and the types of crime mentioned above.

### **For any further information please contact:**

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