

WJEC CRIMINOLOGY

OVERVIEW

This course explores the study of criminality and analysis of criminal situations in both a theoretical and practical way. You will address such questions as; Why do people commit crimes? What are their motivations? Can we predict criminal behaviour?

The course takes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding the causes of criminality and the role of the Criminal Justice System. You will study theories of criminality, apply them to real life cases and use theory to understand how changes can be made in Criminal Law and Social Policy.

You will be required to work with others on the course to explore debates and issues, develop ideas, and critically evaluate what you find. You will need to be able to read a lot of source material linked to recent legal changes, trends in social change and controversies in law. This course is based on the quality of the portfolio you create throughout the year, through lesson work and homework, which you will use in the controlled assessments.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Grade 4 in English Language

ASSESSMENT

Two units by exam and two by controlled assessments (not coursework). You will have one exam and one controlled assessment in the first year and the same again in the second year. All units are equally weighted and are worth 25% of overall grade.

Year 12

Unit 1 – Controlled Assessment

Unit 2 – Exam

Year 13

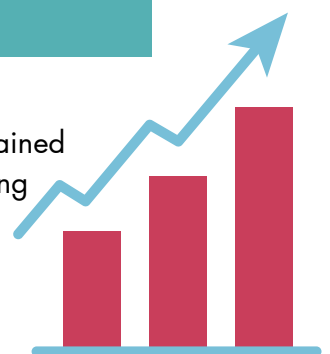
Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment

Unit 4 – Exam

COURSE UNITS

Unit 1 – Changing Awareness of Crime – Assessed by 8 hour controlled assessment

In this unit, you will plan a campaign for change relating to crime using the knowledge gained about different types of crime, the impact of the media and evaluating methods of collecting information about crime.



Unit 2 – Criminological Theories – Assessed by a 1.5 hour examination

This unit covers criminal and deviant behaviour, social construction of criminality, theories of crime and the evaluation of these theories. You will look at how theories, social change and campaigns inform policy.

Unit 3 – Crime Scene to Courtroom – Assessed by 8 hour controlled assessment

In this unit, you will explore issues within the Criminal Justice System, and gain the understanding required to examine verdicts in criminal cases. This includes the role of personnel in criminal investigations, how evidence is processed, the rights of individuals and the Crown Prosecution Service.

Unit 4 – Crime and Punishment – Assessed by a 1.5 hour examination

This unit draws on your knowledge of previous units; you will need to apply an understanding of the theories and processes of bringing the accused to court. You will evaluate the effectiveness of social control, law-making processes, and models of justice and aims of punishment.

FURTHER INFORMATION

This subject will work well with many other subjects such as Law, Sociology, Applied Science, Psychology, and History. The course would particularly appeal to you if you are someone who is interested in understanding why people behave the way that they do; If you are able to critically analyse information from a variety of sources and if you have a desire to understand how the criminal justice system within the UK operates.

For further information, contact us:

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