

CRIMINOLOGY

Criminology is the scientific study of crime and criminals. Ever thought why different people commit different crimes? Why do serial killers commit crime? Why do some people report crime and others don't? How much does the media influence our perception of crime? How do psychology and sociology explain crime? What happens during a criminal investigation? Who decides what laws to make? How do judges decide on the appropriate punishment for a criminal? It would be criminal not to take this course!

COURSE DETAILS:

Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime (Controlled assessment)

Unit 2 Criminological Theories (exam)

Unit 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom (Controlled assessment)

Unit 4 Crime and Punishment (exam)

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING:

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime

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 the skills to differentiate between myth and reality when it comes to crime and to recognise that common representations may be misleading and inaccurate.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories

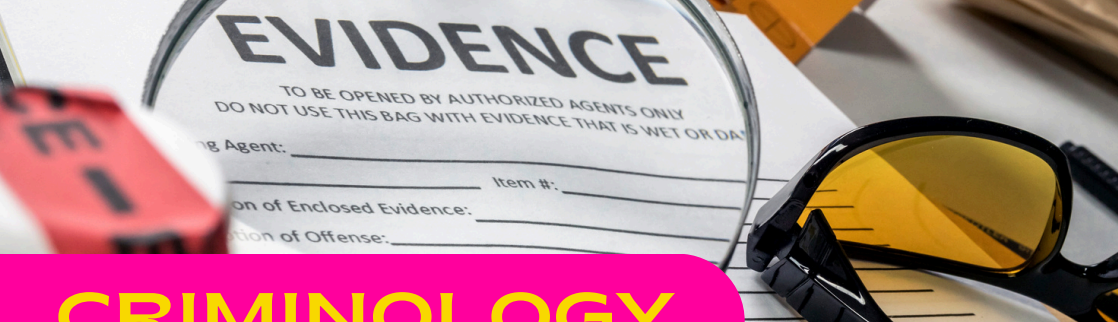
How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance? How do we explain why people commit crime? What makes someone a serial killer, or abusive to their own families? Criminologists have produced theoretical explanations of why people commit crime, but which is the most useful?

EXAM BOARD:

WJEC

ASSESSMENT:

THERE WILL BE FOUR UNITS OVER THE TWO YEARS THAT YOU WILL BE EXAMINED ON AS THE COURSE PROGRESSES. EACH UNIT NEEDS TO BE PASSED TO COMPLETE THE COURSE. THIS COURSE PROVIDES UNITS IN A MIX OF EXTERNAL EXAMS AND OPEN BOOK CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED OVER A NUMBER OF DAYS IN OUR IT ROOMS. EACH UNIT EQUATES TO 25% OF THE OVERALL GRADE. IT IS GRADED AT A*-E.



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Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

Develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases. What investigative techniques are available to investigators to help to identify the culprit? Do techniques differ depending on the type of crime being investigated? The criminal trial process involves many different people and agencies. Learning about the roles of these will give you a clearer insight into what happens once a crime is detected and the process that leads to either a guilty or non-guilty verdict.

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

Why do we punish people? How do we punish people? What organisations do we have in our society to control criminality or those who will not abide by the social rules that most of us follow? You will learn about the criminal justice system in England and Wales and how it operates to achieve social control.

OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES:

- We hope to provide the chance to visit the criminal and civil courts, together with talks from local Police and welfare institutions.

WHERE NEXT WITH THIS COURSE?

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many jobs and courses whether that be in social work, local government or roles in sociology and psychology. Alternatively, it could help access employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service and the law generally.

The diploma in criminology is equivalent to an A level and therefore gives the same UCAS points. Many students who study criminology go on to study a degree in this or other subjects.



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