



Criminology

Overview

How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? How do we explain why people commit crime? What makes someone a serial killer or abusive to their families? These are all questions you will explore on the WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology. With a focus on applied learning, you will gain the understanding to evaluate the impact of criminological theories on policy making. This qualification combines controlled assessments and external exams, allowing you to develop a range of valuable skills while exploring intriguing topics.

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Students will follow the WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Criminology (code 4543QC) in Y12 and the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology (code 4543QD) in Y13.

Year 1 (Certificate) You will explore how criminality is defined over time and between cultures. You will study biological, sociological, and individualistic theories of why crime happens and apply them to real life scenarios. Media representations of criminals and campaigns to elicit change are having increasing impact on public perceptions of crime.

Year 2 (Diploma) You will track criminal processes from crime scene to courtroom, examining the factors which influence the fate of criminal suspects. You will look at the personnel involved in criminal investigations and the techniques that are used, including forensics, offender profiling and surveillance. You will study the criminal justice system and evaluate the aims of using different forms of punishment to tackle crime

Expectations

Students will be expected to purchase core texts that will cover their study, but additional reading and research is also expected. Students can expect to engage in whole class discussions and should be prepared to have their view challenged as well as challenging the viewpoints of others. Daily reading of current affairs is essential as well as researching key criminological case studies to support application of knowledge.

Extra-Curricular Activities/Independent Learning Opportunities

A trip to the law courts in London, opportunities to listen to speakers both inside and outside of school, student conferences.