



An introduction to the Criminology Diploma



What is Criminology?

The study of crime, explanations for crime and social reactions to crime.

What do Criminologists do?

Criminologists working with law enforcement **take a hard look at offenders, identifying their situations and motives along with societal impacts, generational changes and other trends.** They also tap into ethics, investigating why people commit crimes.



Structure of the course

Year 1:

Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime (internal assessment)

Unit 2 Criminological Theories (examined)

Year 2:

Unit 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom (internal assessment)

Unit 4 Crime and Punishment (examined)



The specification

WJEC ENTRY LEVEL FRAMEWORK SPECIFICATION



What is a diploma?

- It is a level 3 qualification which is the equivalent level of an A level.
- It is assessed slightly differently with a combination of exams and internal assessments.
- You are given **two** resit opportunities for your external exams.
- You have **one** resit opportunity for each internal assessment.
- The external exams are e-assessments (electronically assessed)



Assessment

Unit 2 and 4 external assessments - 1 hour 30 minutes

Unit 1 and 3 internal assessments - 8 hour controlled assessments



Unit 1

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime

Internal/Controlled assessment: 8 hours

- The purpose of the unit is to **plan a campaign for change** relating to crime...
- The focus of the unit is on **unreported crime** and the consequences of such crimes.
- **Media representation** of crime and how campaigns for change can raise awareness of unreported crimes in society.
- Apply your knowledge and understanding to a scenario an unseen assignment brief when the controlled assessment begins.



Unit 2

Unit 2: Criminological Theories

External examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

- This unit focuses on **why people commit crime** and includes a study of a range of **theories of criminality**
- **What makes someone a serial killer, or abusive to their own families?**
- **How do Criminologists explain crime?** How credible are these explanations?



Unit 3

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

Internal/Controlled assessment: 8 hours

- The focus of Unit 3 is the **Criminal Justice System** from the identification of the crime through to the **verdict**.
- What **investigative techniques** are available to investigators to help to identify the culprit?
- At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to
- review criminal cases, **evaluating the evidence** in the cases to determine whether the verdict is safe and just.



Unit 4

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

External examination: 1 hour 30 minutes

- Apply understanding of theories and processes of bringing the accused to court.
- How and why do we punish?
- Evaluate the effectiveness of social control



How can I prepare to study Criminology?

- Complete the **summer work** set on the Google Classroom.
- Start watching the **news every night**. Be aware of what is happening in society and how crime is portrayed in the news.
- Read! Get stuck into both **non-fiction and fictional crime novels** to spark your interest.
- Watch **documentaries** about real life crimes e.g. Jack the Ripper or Ted Bundy.



Careers in Criminology

Criminology is a very useful subject for a variety of careers including:

- Policing
- Social work
- Prison officer
- Civil service
- Probation
- Politics
- Teaching/ lecturing
- Law

Find out more about careers in Criminology here:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/criminology>



Beyond the curriculum

Possible extra curricular trips could include a trip to London to explore various attractions such as the Jack the Ripper museum and visits to Plymouth Court.

