

Criminology Curriculum Summary 2024

Vision:

While studying Criminology, students experience enjoyable lessons which challenge their understanding of what crime is and what causes criminality, and how to develop academic literacy in essay writing and numeracy when analysing data collected during research. We encourage students to be ambitious in their learning by tackling difficult topics such as the psychodynamic explanation of criminality, and outside of their learning in their career goals such as studying for a doctorate in forensic psychology. Criminology students are expected to be determined to complete all work to the best of their ability and to meet their academic goals. We want students to leave criminology with a passion for the subject. Criminology is a Social Science (Business, Criminology, Health and Social Care, Psychology and Sociology) which are a broad range of real-world subjects, which give students knowledge of how to be a kind and well-rounded human being and improve their community.

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology-level-3/#tab_keydocuments

Yearly Intent Statements

Year 12: By the end of the Y12 criminology students will:

- Understand the different types of crimes and how these are presented in the media.
- Explore the crime that does not tend to get reported to the police or reported by the media.
- Plan campaigns for change relating to crime.

- Develop an understanding of a wide range of theories as to why people may become criminals and how these theories impact policy.

Year 13: By the end of the year criminology students will:

- Continue to build on their understanding of types of crimes and theories of crime by investigating the processes involved in processes of criminal investigation.
- Apply their foundation knowledge to the role of policy in punishment of criminal behaviours and evaluate the effectiveness of agencies in achieving social control.

Rationale behind sequencing:

Year 12

The sequence has been carefully thought out to ensure that topics are interleaved, build on prior learning and provide foundations for learning in the future. The WJEC specification has been designed to give students the foundation of understanding what crime is and how it is reported as to allow them to apply various theories of crime to this base knowledge. Once students understand the different types of crime and the different theories, they can evaluate the application of these theories to explaining the variation in criminal behaviour and to assess the validity of these theories.

Year 13

Once students are able to analyse different types of crime and evaluate theories of crime, they move on to look at the process involved in the criminal investigation process. This follows a logical order from crime scene to prosecution. This gives



students an understanding of the importance of different agencies involved in getting a prosecution. The final unit of the course brings all prior knowledge together by giving students an understanding of punishments for criminal behaviour and the agencies involved in this. Students apply their knowledge of theories of criminality to the punishments and link this to social policy changes.