

■ FOR MORE INFORMATION
AM FWY O WYBODAETH

Students interested in studying Criminology should contact subject staff or the Learning Manager responsible for the subject.

Subject Staff
Staff y Pwnc

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YSGOL UWCHRADD



HIGH SCHOOL

Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Technology Learning Area

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WJEC
Course Director: Mr Emyr Owen

An understanding of Criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and Sociology and Psychology. WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology that complements studies in humanities. This qualification is designed primarily to support learners progressing to university and is equivalent to one A-Level.

Qualification Structure:

There are 4 units, two are controlled assessment and two are assessed by external exams. The qualification is graded A-E. The four units are:

Changing Awareness of Crime – Controlled Assessment

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? What kinds of crime exist about which we know very little, or which are simply not reported to the police and the media? How do we explain people's reluctance to come forward about crimes of which they have been the victim? Some crimes which seem inoffensive, such as counterfeiting of designer goods, have actually been linked to the funding of more serious crime such as terrorism and people trafficking; so why do people turn a 'blind eye' to these 'mild' crimes?

Criminology Theories – External Exam

This unit considers the reasons why people commit crime. 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 own families? Criminologists have produced theoretical explanations of why people commit crime, but which is the most useful? Are these theories relevant to all types of crime? What can we learn from the strengths and weaknesses of each? How can these theories be applied to real life scenarios and real life crimes?

Crime Scene to Courtroom – Controlled Assessment

This unit looks at what happens from when a crime is committed through to the verdict in court. It considers questions such as – what are the roles of personnel involved when a crime is detected? What investigative techniques are available to investigators to help to identify the culprit? Do techniques differ depending on the type of crime being investigated? What happens to a suspect once charged by the police and the Crown Prosecution Service? What safeguards are in place to ensure a suspect has a fair trial?

Crime and Punishment – External Exam

This unit looks at punishment. Why do most of us tend to obey the law even when to do so is against our own interests? What social institutions have we developed to ensure that people do obey laws? What happens to those who violate our legal system? 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? We spend a great deal of taxpayers' money on social control, so how effective are these organisations in dealing with criminality?

The course also involves practical forensic science problem based learning tasks. Guest speakers from Police, Crime Prosecution Service and other agencies also assist with the course.

The Future:

The main purpose of the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is to use the qualification to support access to higher education degree courses, such as:

- ❖ B.Sc Criminology
- ❖ B.A. Criminology & Criminal Justice
- ❖ B.S.c (Hons) Criminology & Psychology
- ❖ LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- ❖ B.A. (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- ❖ B.Sc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology
- ❖ B.Sc Criminology with Law

Alternatively, the qualification allow learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider 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.