



Level 3 Diploma

Criminology

Criminology Level 3 Diploma follows the WJEC specification and will give learners an introduction to criminal justice. It develops the understanding to support entry to higher education courses in the humanities sector.

What Entry Requirements Do I Need?

Normal Sixth Form entry requirements will gain access to the course. A GCSE grade 4/5 in English is necessary as you will need to express yourself clearly in writing. The ability to work independently is desirable.

How Will I Be Assessed?

- Units 1 and 3 are assessed internally under controlled conditions.
- Units 2 and 4 are assessed externally in 90-minute examinations.

What will I learn on the course?

Throughout the course you will develop:

1. Your ability to learn independently.
2. A range of generic and transferable skills.
3. The ability to solve problems.
4. The skills of project-based research, development and presentation.
5. The ability to work co-operatively with others.
6. The ability to apply learning in vocational contexts.

Topics include:

Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime, includes different types of crime and the effects of whether crime is reported or not.

Unit 2: Criminological theories, includes social constructions of crime and deviance and biological theories of crime.

Unit 3: Crime scene to courtroom, develops the understanding of the processes involved in criminal investigations such as forensic and surveillance techniques.

Unit 4: Crime and punishment, develop an understanding of the criminal justice system of England and Wales, including the processes used in law making and models of criminal justice.

Why study Criminology?

There are several reasons why criminology is important:

Reduction in crime: Criminology helps society understand, control, and reduce crime. Studying crime helps discover and analyse its causes, which can be used towards crime reduction policies and initiatives.

It helps understand the mindset of criminals:

Criminology helps understand the mindset of criminals, why they commit crimes, and the factors that affect them. This helps in the proper allocation of resources to control crime.

Reform of criminals: As well as controlling and reducing crime, criminology can also suggest appropriate measures for the rehabilitation of criminals.

What kind of person studies this course?

Criminology is a great subject for anyone with an interest in a degree in criminology, law, sociology or psychology. If you want to establish your career in the field of criminology, you will be able to take up many exciting careers, such as:

Criminologist: This career requires at least a master's or a doctorate degree, and they specialise in areas like environmental criminology or psychological criminology. They also help improve police functioning with predictive policing and community-oriented policing. Criminologists usually work in universities, NGOs, legislative bodies, public-policy organisations, and research facilities.

Forensic psychologist: In order to work as a forensic psychologist, you need to have an undergraduate degree in criminology and a master's or doctorate in psychology. Forensic psychologists may also work in roles such as jury consultant, criminal profiler, and expert witness.

Community development worker: Working in community development will help you bring about social change and improve the quality of life in different communities. In this role, you will be the link between communities and authoritative bodies.

Probation officer: If you are working as a probation officer, you will be managing criminals upon their release from institutions to protect the public and to reduce their chances of committing a crime again.