

6th Form – WJEC Criminology Curriculum Road Map

Links to literacy

We develop literacy through reading subject specific literature aloud and encouraging the reading of news articles and journals to further develop our understanding. We regularly discuss key concepts in class and apply knowledge to assignments and controlled assessments.

Year 1 – Spring Term

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime – Controlled Assessment

We complete our Controlled Assessment which involves planning a campaign for change relating to crime, designing the materials for that campaign and justifying our methods and choices.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories - Examined Unit

We investigate Biological, Individualistic and Sociological theories of criminality and how they apply to situations of criminality.

Year 2 – Autumn Term

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Court Room – Controlled Assessment

We learn to understand the process of criminal investigations from crime scene to the courtroom. We do this by investigating the roles of personnel, different investigative techniques, how evidence is processed and the rights of individuals in criminal investigations.

We explain the requirements of the CPS for prosecuting suspects, the process of Trials and the rules in relation to the use of evidence in criminal cases.

Year 2 – Summer Term

Exam Preparation

Subject Intent statement

Combining elements of Sociology and Psychology, Criminology enables you to analyse and evaluate the causes of crime, the theories which seek to explain criminality and the methods used to tackle it and achieve social control. We learn Criminology to develop an understanding of modern society and to develop the skills to collect, analyse and interpret data effectively and construct well-informed and reasoned arguments supported by valid evidence. It can open the door to any number of career paths that require understanding of the criminal justice sector.

Year 1 – Autumn Term

Unit 1: Changing awareness of Crime - Controlled Assessment

We begin by investigating how Criminologists define criminal behaviour before analysing different types of crimes, the reason certain crimes are under-reported and the consequences this has individually and as a society.

We study how crime is represented in the Media and the impact this has on public perception of crime. We also look at how crime statistics are recorded and the validity and accuracy of these methods.

The Autumn term ends preparing for the Controlled Assessment by researching campaigns for change and the methods they use to gain support and achieve their objectives.

3

Year 1 – Summer Term

Unit 2 Criminological Theories – Examined Unit

We evaluate the effectiveness of criminological theories to explain the causes of criminality, how they have informed policy development.

We also analyse how social change affects policy and how campaigns can affect policy making.

5

Year 2 – Spring Term

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment – Examined Unit

We understand and explain the organisation of the criminal justice system in England and Wales and the process used for law making. We investigate different models of criminal justice and evaluate their effectiveness.

We explain different forms of social control and the aims and effectiveness of punishment.

We investigate the contribution and effectiveness of agencies in social control.

6

2

1