Criminology

Course objectives	An understanding of criminology is relevant to a variety of jobs within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology.
Main qualifications	Level 3 Diploma in Criminology
Awarding Body	WJEC
Duration/ Lessons per week	10 x 1 hour lessons over a two week timetable
Entry requirements	Standard entry requirements: a minimum of level 5 in English Language GCSE
Progression opportunities	The Applied Diploma in Criminology supports students wishing to progress to university to study criminology, psychology, criminal justice, law and sociology. The qualification also offers an excellent foundation for students wishing to pursue a vocational path and wanting to consider employment within aspects of the criminal justice system.
Course content	The Diploma comprises four mandatory units:

<u>Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime</u>

This unit prepares students to plan campaigns for change relating to crime. You will study:

- What types of crime take place in society?
- Which crimes are not reported to the police and the media?
- Why are victims sometimes reluctant to come forward?
- Is the media reliable when reporting crime?
- Are we misled by media representations of crime?
- Can police data on crime figures be trusted?

<u>Unit 2: Criminological theories</u>

You will use your understanding of public perceptions of crime from Unit 1 to address the following questions through the study of theoretical sociologists of crime :

(continued overleaf)

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Criminology

Course content

- How do we decide what behaviour is criminal?
- What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance?
- What makes someone a serial killer or abusive to their own families?
- Are criminological theories relevant to all types of crime?
- How are the theories used by politicians and law makers to reduce crime?
- How does this influence policy?

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom

You will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases. You will study:

- What are the roles of personnel involved when a crime is detected, such as forensic experts, pathologists, crime scene investigators?
- What techniques are available to help identify the culprit?
- What happens to a suspect once charged by the police and the Crown Prosecution Service?

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

You will develop skills in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the process of social control in delivering policy in practice. You will consider:

- Why do most of us obey the law?
- Why do we punish people?
- How do we punish people?
- How effective is social control organisations in dealing with criminality?

Assessment

Units 1 & 3: Internally assessed (2 day controlled assessment)
Units 2 & 4: Externally assessed (90 minute examination, total of 75 marks each)

Staff contact

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