

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma Criminology



Introduction:

Criminology is the scientific study of crime, criminals and the causes of these within society. It includes elements of psychology, law and sociology which complements studies in humanities. WJEC Criminology specifically explores:

- The different types of crimes and perceptions of crime.
- Why people commit crime.
- The structure and function of the criminal justice system.
- The effectiveness of different agencies in controlling crime.

Criminology is a theoretical subject that requires learners to apply knowledge to a wide range of examples and criminal cases.

Course structure:

The course is structured through four units:

Year 12:

- **Unit 1 (Internally assessed):** Different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported.
- **Unit 2 (Externally assessed):** Criminological Theories.

Year 13:

- **Unit 3 (Internally assessed):** The structure and function of the criminal justice system from crime scene to court room.
- **Unit 4 (Externally assessed):** The effectiveness of agencies in the criminal justice system in achieving social control.

Entry requirements:

- Grade 5+ in GCSE English Language and Literature.

Careers:

A good grade in WJEC Criminology can help to unlock a wide range of careers within:

- Uniformed services
- Probation service
- Prison service
- Forensic psychology
- Court services
- Crime scene investigation
- Youth services
- Policy advisory
- Research
- Intelligence Analysis

Learners develop a range of transferable skills such as project based research and presentation supporting access to employment, apprenticeships and higher education.

Assessment:

Internal assessment (50%):

- **Year 12:** Unit 1 Controlled assessment (8 hours – 25%)
- **Year 13:** Unit 3 Controlled assessment (8 hours – 25%)

External assessment (50%):

- **Year 12:** Unit 2 examination. (1 hour 30 minutes – 25%)
 - Short answer and extended response questions.
- **Year 13:** Unit 4 examination. (1 hour 30 minutes – 25%)
 - Short answer and extended response questions.