

6

FORM

Advanced Level

CRIMINOLOGY



Subject Information Sheet



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Course Aims:

Not all types of crime are alike. Are you interested in what different types of crime take place in our society and what kinds of crime exist, about which we know very little? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What are the roles of personnel involved when a crime is detected? Perhaps you are interested to know more about this exciting subject?

This course is designed to offer you a chance to learn about crime in the real world by exploring case studies of different types of crime and criminals. You will cover a range of exciting topics where you will gain the required understanding and skills relevant for your chosen career path.

Course Content and Assessment:

In Year 12 students will study towards the Certificate. The course is assessed through two exams; an 8 hour internal controlled assessment in January and a 90 minute external exam in May.

Students must pass the certificate to progress onto the diploma in year 13.

In Year 13, students will again be assessed through an 8 hour internal controlled assessment and a 90 minute external exam in May.

A Level Overview:

Unit 1: Changing Awareness in Crime (Internally Assessed) - The purpose of this unit is for learners to plan campaigns for change relating to crime. At the end of this unit, you will have gained skills to differentiate between myth and reality when it comes to crime and to recognise that common representations may be misleading and inaccurate.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories (Externally assessed) - The purpose of this unit is for learners to apply their understanding of the public perceptions of crime and campaigns for change studied in Unit 1 with criminological theories to examine how both are used to set policy. At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to evaluate some criminological theories and know there are debates within the different theories.

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom (Internally assessed) - Through this unit, learners will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases. At the end of this unit you will have gained the skills to review criminal cases, evaluating the evidence in the cases to determine whether the verdict is safe and just.

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment (Externally assessed) - The purpose of this unit is for learners to develop skills in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the process of social control in delivering policy in practice. Through this unit, you will learn about the criminal justice system in England and Wales and how it operates to achieve social control.

Learning Methods:

Each lesson will focus on a key Assessment Criteria for the unit you are studying which will help you to gradually build up your own file of comprehensive notes for each unit. Independent research and note-taking are a key feature of most lessons and home learning tasks as you progress through the course. Units 1 and 3 focus on developing your organisation and extended writing skills in preparation for the Controlled Assessments.

Career Opportunities:

This course can provide a route into Higher Education to study at degree level in a variety of areas such as Criminology, Criminal Justice, Psychology and Forensic Science. This course would also provide an excellent basis to anyone wishing to pursue careers within the police, as a social worker, youth workers or community development workers.

Entry Requirements:

- Grade 4 or above, in English
- Grade 4 or above in Maths.
- You should have a strong GCSE profile overall with a grade 4 in another written subject such as History, Geography or Media Studies

Staff Contacts

Mrs McCarthy - Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5

Mrs Boyton - Quality of Education Lead Key Stage 5

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Web Link Address

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