

# Subject: Criminology

## Curriculum Staff: MGI



Key Stage 5 - Intention Statement: "One part at a time, one day at a time, we can accomplish any goal"

How does Criminology develop:	
Respect	Students consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment.
Courage	Confidence is gradually built up in some difficult topic areas, students develop advocacy and debating skills, becoming stronger public speakers
Community	The impact that all aspects of community have on an individuals are considered, including family, education, and society, to understand how each of these influence behaviour, particularly criminal behaviour.
Wisdom	Reasons that underlie actions of individuals are considered, encouraging students to look at broader reasons for actions and to look at 'bigger pictures' and not just snapshots of behaviour.

**Intention Overview:** The intention with Criminology is to provide students with an introduction to criminal justice. It is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities. It has been designed to offer exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning for students through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system. It also helps students to understand the criminal justice system which impacts on their own behaviour and conduct in UK society. It requires students to consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment. An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology, which they may choose to progress into. Many learners progress onto studying criminology at a higher level. The course is a pathway to a number of careers, with many of our criminologists going on to study at a higher level. The course progressed onto are varied subjects, including criminology as a discrete subject, sociology, nursing and social work amongst others. Criminology is a strong subject for progression onto many careers. These include nursing, social work, probation work, law, prison officers, teaching and emergency services.

Curriculum Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Criminology course is designed to give the opportunity for students to be awarded either the WJEC Applied Certificate or Applied Diploma. It is accessible for all students as it is graded A*-E. The first unit (Changing Awareness) will enable the students to demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. The second unit (Criminological Theories) will allow students to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1. If students only successfully complete these two they can be awarded the Certificate. To gain the Diploma students have a further two units to pass and draw upon their knowledge developed in the first year of the course. The third unit (Crime Scene to Courtroom) will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. Students will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases. In the final unit (Crime and Punishment), students will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.</li> <li>The course is assessed through 50% controlled assessment and 50% external examination. This means the course is suitable for different types of learners. For the controlled assessment units each assessment criteria is marked over a series of mark bands which are clearly explained in what is needed to achieve that level of depth. This enables students which means students understand what they need to do to access the higher mark bands.</li> </ul>

## Essential Skills to Develop

### Subject Specific Skills

The applied nature of the course allows students to learn in such a way that they develop skills required for independent learning and development, a range of generic and transferable skills such as critical thinking, and report writing and time management, the ability to solve problems, the skills of project based research, development and presentation, the ability to work alongside others and the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts.

### Supportive Learning Skills and Attributes

Throughout the course students will be expected to work independently as reading/researching around topics areas is vital to further develop knowledge and understanding. This is encouraged through keeping up-to-date with the latest news and watching television documentaries. Many students do this anyway as they have a personal interest in this genre of viewing to start with. Criminology is a popular subject with the media so there is always a wealth of information to be gained from these sources and students are keen to do this in their own time. They are also eager to discuss what they have learned in class. Students will also need to complete work outside of lesson, through designated homework tasks in order to meet stringent deadlines. Using the google classroom helps to take place.

Re-submission of work until it is of the highest standard is required across the course, with google classroom the facilitating tool for this. Students are encouraged to keep trying until they meet their target grade as a minimum. Feedback focuses on improvement of skills, exam technique and criminological literacy, such as using key terms in the appropriate context.

Numeracy skills are employed in many aspects of the course as there is data to be analysed throughout many aspects of the Criminal Justice System and how agencies within it perform. The scientific focus of the criminological theories also adds to the active use of numeracy in the evaluation and analysis of the theories.

### Cultural Capital (opportunities and experiences)

- **Students are taken on a visit to a Crown Court and are shown into the jury waiting room and deliberation room. They are able to explore a real court room whilst the court is not in session and ask questions to a member of court staff**
- **Assessment criteria include consideration of what constitutes crime and/or deviance in various cultures and to compare them to each other, and analyse the reasons for these differences, which are often based in religious beliefs.**
- **Opportunity is given for the students to participate in the Bar Mock Trial Competition**
- **The course is a pathway to a number of careers, with many of our criminologists going on to study at a higher level. The course progressed onto are varied subjects, including criminology as a discrete subject, sociology, nursing and social work amongst others.**
- **Criminology is a strong subject for progression onto many careers. These include nursing, social work, probation work, law, prison officers, teaching and emergency services.**

### Implementation:

- The Programme of Study is written in advance with the use of WJEC exam board and reviewed regularly.
- All students at KS5 will receive 7 discrete lessons per fortnight.
- Lessons are written by MGJ.
- Subject knowledge and good practice in the teaching of law are enhanced by cooperation with a colleague at another centre, including moderation of assessments
- **Measuring Impact:**
- Regular questioning, debates and discussions. Metacognition strategies; re-capping at short term, mid and longer term intervals and dual coding. Mini exam Assessments regularly. Formal Assessments at the end of

topics. Teacher marking and DIRT improvements. Consistency and impact through session drop-ins, QA, and data analysis.

- Controlled assessment units are delivered first and marked so students have marks 'banked' prior to exam
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