



Criminology Handbook



'Criminals, people who commit crimes, usually society rejects these people. They are also part of our society. Give them some form of punishment to say they were wrong, but show them they are part of society and can change.'

DALAI LAMA

Welcome to Criminology at the Gryphon School!

Specification: wjec.co.uk/umbraco/surface/blobstorage/download?nodeId=4752

Course outline:

This qualification looks at the types of crime that take place within our society. How do we decide which behaviour is criminal? How do we explain why some people commit crime and how can we use different theories of criminality to explain this behaviour? You will study real life cases in order to gain an understanding of the criminal justice system from the crime scene all the way to the courtroom and look at how social control is achieved within our society.

Criminology is an Applied General qualification primarily designed to support learners progressing to university; however, much of the course is vocationally relevant, offering opportunities to learn from practical activities and the expertise of professionals currently working in criminology. It offers exciting and interesting learning experiences in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system. If you are fascinated by the workings of crime and punishment, this is the course for you!

So, what will we be studying?

Year 1:

During the first year you will study **two Certificate units**. Within these units you will look at different types of crime and public perceptions of crime, gaining an understanding of why some crimes go unreported to the police and media. The second Certificate unit, through its focus on a series of criminological theories, also allows learners to gain an understanding of why people commit crimes.

Year 2:

During the second year of the course, the **Diploma units** will foster a deeper understanding of the criminal justice system and you will develop the skills needed to examine criminal cases and review verdicts. You'll look at the roles of personnel and processes involved from the moment a crime takes place until the verdict itself is passed. In the final unit, you will apply your knowledge of criminological theories to understand how and why we use punishment within the criminal justice system in order to achieve social control. You will learn how to evaluate the effectiveness of social control agencies, such as the police and prisons, in achieving their aims.

How is the course assessed?

There are two Certificate units, each worth 50% of your Certificate qualification:

- **Unit 1:** This unit is assessed through an 8-hour controlled assessment (internally assessed at your centre and externally moderated)
- **Unit 2:** This unit is assessed through examination. The exam consists of short answer and extended writing questions and lasts 1 hour 30 minutes.

If you decide to continue to study for the full Diploma, there will be two further units to complete. Further to the Certificate units (50% of the full Diploma) each Diploma unit is worth an additional 25%.

- **Unit 3:** This unit is assessed through an 8-hour controlled assessment (internally assessed at your centre and externally moderated)
- **Unit 4:** This unit is assessed through examination. The exam consists of short answer and extended writing questions and lasts 1 hour 30 minutes.

How is the course delivered?

Each unit in this qualification has been allocated a number of guided learning hours (GLH). This is the number of guided learning hours that WJEC expects us to provide to support learners in each unit. Guided learning means activities such as classroom-based learning, tutorials and online learning, which is directly supervised by a teacher,

tutor or invigilator. It also includes all forms of assessment which take place under the immediate guidance or supervision of a teacher, supervisor or invigilator.

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology				
Unit number	Unit title		Assessment	GLH
1	Changing Awareness of Crime	Mandatory	Internal	90
2	Criminological Theories	Mandatory	External	90
3	Crime Scene to Courtroom	Mandatory	Internal	90
4	Crime and Punishment	Mandatory	External	90

Learners must complete **ALL** units.

What skills will I develop?

The study of Criminology will equip you with a wide range of transferable skills:

- the ability to complete project-based research, and to present it
- the ability to collect, analyse and interpret data effectively
- the ability to construct well-informed and reasoned arguments substantiated by relevant evidence
- the ability to learn independently
- the ability to work alongside other colleagues in a professional environment
- the ability to apply your learning in vocational contexts

Department expectations:

- Students will attend all classes
- Students will meet deadlines for all extended learning tasks and will complete independent study. It is suggested this would be for **2 hours** per week.
- All work will be organised systematically in files and/or exercise books.
- You will show an interest in the material and have high levels of self-motivation!
- If you are absent it is **your job to find out what was missed and catch up!**
- Students will check emails on a daily basis

Additional resources and wider reading:

Listed below are a range of resources you might find helpful to support your criminology study – these will suit a variety of different learning styles and preferences!

Reading List – Criminology:

- 1984 – George Orwell
- Folk Devils and Moral Panics – Stanley Cohen
- A Glasgow Gang Observed – Patrick James
- Gang Leader For A Day – Sudhir Venkatesh
- Fake Law – The Secret Barrister
- Traces: Memoir of a Forensic Scientist and Criminal Investigator – Patricia Wiltshire
- My Life With Murderers – David Wilson
- A wide range of newspapers including The Guardian and Independent

Watching List – Criminology:

- Any documentaries, including Panorama, Louis Theroux, Stacey Dooley, Mind of a Murderer etc

- Black Mirror series (Netflix)
- The Fall (Netflix)
- McMafia (previously BBC i-player)
- Dangerous Minds
- Chernobyl (drama)
- When They See Us (Netflix)
- The Society (Netflix)
- Blood Diamond
- Ted Talks/Crime/Criminal Justice
- The Innocence Files (Netflix)
- Cold Case Files (Netflix)
- I Am A Killer (Netflix)
- The Stanford Prison Experiment (Youtube)
- The Push – Derren Brown (Netflix)

Suggested materials required for September:

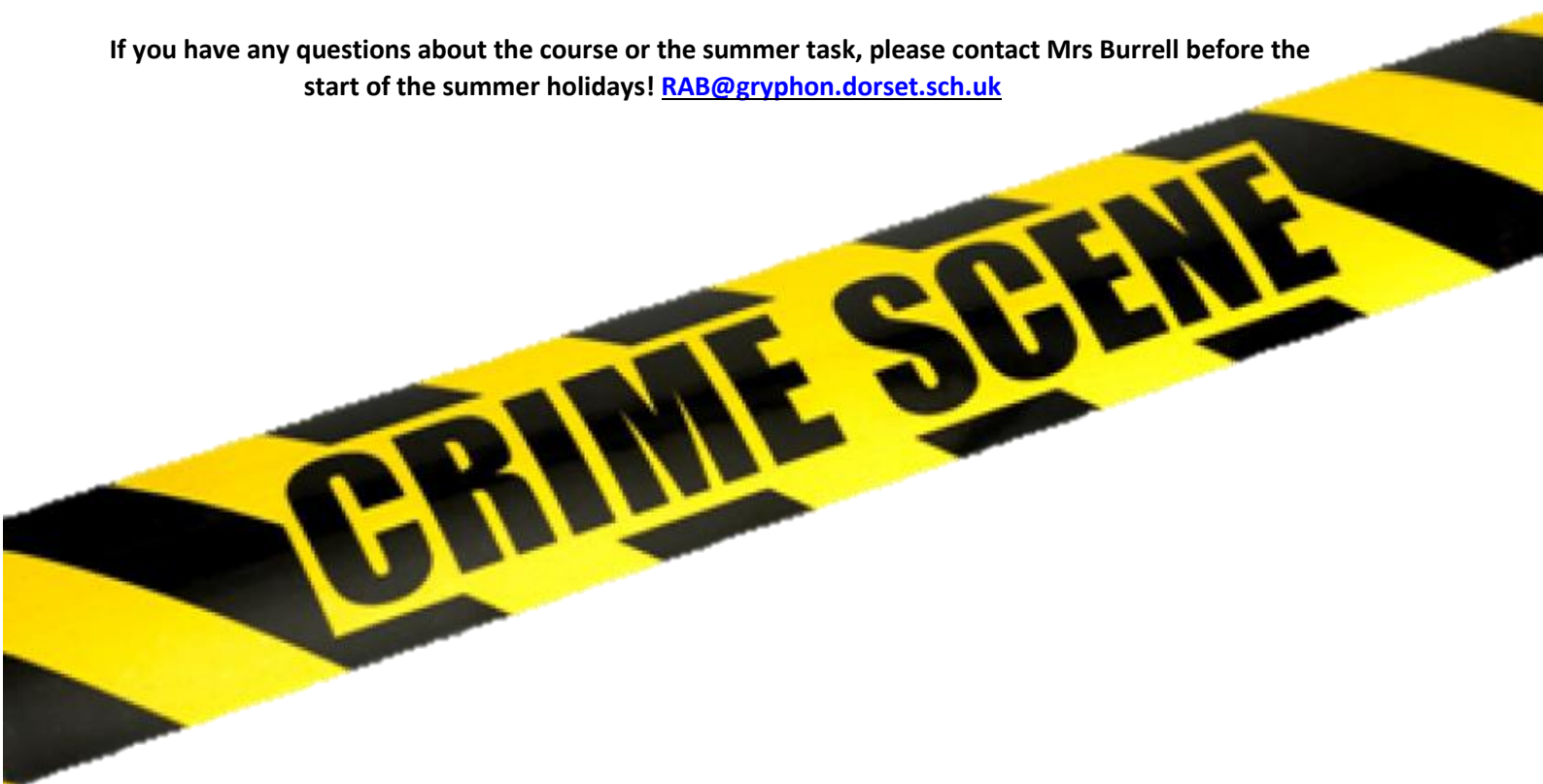
It is recommended that you purchase four ring binder folders over the two years and label these Units 1 – 4. This will make the work you complete easier to organise.

There is **no requirement** to purchase any books/revision guides as materials will be provided by your teacher, however if you do wish to buy something for your own personal use we recommend the following that can all be purchased on Amazon:

[Criminology Book One for the WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate & Diploma: Amazon.co.uk: Webb, Rob, Townend, Annie: 9781838271503: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/9781838271503)

[Criminology Book Two for the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma: Amazon.co.uk: Webb, Rob, Townend, Annie: 9781838271510: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/9781838271510)

If you have any questions about the course or the summer task, please contact Mrs Burrell before the start of the summer holidays! RAB@gryphon.dorset.sch.uk



SUMMER TASKS!

Complete the activities below prior to starting the course in September.

Task 1:

What is the difference between **crime** and **deviance**? Give some examples of each one too!

A crime is...

E.g.

Deviance means...

E.g.

Task 2:

Can you identify these famous faces and match them with the crime they committed? Is this crime or deviance?



.....



.....

- A. Trespassing and damage of property leading to loss of owner's income
- B. Arrested for possession and being under the influence of drugs, possession of an unloaded gun and trespassing
- C. Arrested for protesting outside the South African embassy against unfair treatment of Black people in South Africa
- D. Arrested for assault, driving under the influence of drugs, driving whilst license was suspended
- E. Avoiding paying £20 million in tax that would help to pay for the NHS, Welfare and Schools in this country
- F. Driving under the influence of alcohol and causing a collision injuring two other people

Answers will be provided in the first lesson of the year!

Task 3:

Nature vs Nurture – The Big Debate

There are many ways of explaining why certain people do things in certain ways. For example, biologists think that people behave as they do because they are controlled by nature. This is known as 'nature theory'. Humans are compared to animals and seen to act on instinct. Sociologists however, believe that people behave as they do because they are taught how to behave. For example, the sociologist Michael Haralambos states, 'Human beings learn their behaviour and use their intelligence whereas animals simply act on instinct.' This is known as 'nurture theory.' Nurture refers to the way you are brought up. It is also a reference to socialisation, the lifelong process by which we learn our culture, values, norms and how to behave.

Research the childhood backgrounds of **any notorious serial murderers** such as Fred West or Harold Shipman. The focus should be on life history and not subsequent crimes. Create a timeline of their life in as much detail as you can below:

Thinking about what you have read about nature and nurture, which explanation could account for their criminal behaviour? Explain why.

Task 4:

Find out what the following key words mean and complete the table below:

Key term	Definition
Criminology	
Crime:	
Social definition	
Legal definition	
Deviance	
Genocide	
Nature/nurture	
Decriminalisation	
Moral panic	
Norms	
Civil liberties	
Statute	
Miscarriage of Justice	

Task 5: How good a witness would you be?

Take the Eye Witness Testimony test!

Watch the video. When it tells you to pause, write down what you remember about the criminal!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6eknHXGM0c>

Description:

Gender:

Hair colour and length:

Clothing:

Anything else significant:

Were you right?

Now look at how the unreliability of eye witness testimony can affect real cases.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-SBTRLoPuo>

