

CRIMINOLOGY

2025 – 2026



THE GRANGE SCHOOL



Criminology

Course Details	<p>Exam Board: WJEC</p> <p>Level: Level 3 Applied Diploma</p> <p>Examination Structure: 4 Units each being each value. Unit 1 and Unit 3 are controlled assessments; students are given a brief and have 8 hours to write a report. Unit 2 and Unit 4 are examined.</p> <p>Coursework/Controlled Assessment: 50% of the course (Unit 1 and Unit 3)</p>
Key Learning Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to apply a range of sociological theories to sociological problems. • To evaluate research methods. • To evaluate the sociological theories of functionalism, Marxism, feminism and postmodernism in a range of sociological contexts.
Curriculum Content – Year 12	
Autumn Term (September – December)	<p>Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different types of crime • How can we study the amount of crime being committed? • Why are certain crimes not reported to the police? • What are the consequences of crimes not being reported? • How does the media represent certain crimes? • How do the public perceive certain crimes? • Learn about examples of campaigns that have changed the law • How effective campaigns are in changing the law • Students design their own campaign to raise awareness or reduce a crime
Spring Term (January - April)	<p>Students will write their formal controlled assessment for Unit 1 in January or February. This will be under controlled conditions under high levels of supervision.</p> <p>Unit 2: Criminological Theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we define what is and is not a crime? • How does our idea of ‘crime’ change over time and between cultures? • Criminological theories (explanations of crime) – to include biological, sociological and psychological • How useful are these explanations for explaining crime? • What policies are in place to prevent/reduce crime?
Summer Term (May - July)	<p>Unit 3: Crime Scene to Court Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is involved in criminal investigations? • How are investigations carried out?
Curriculum Content – Year 13	
Autumn Term (September – December)	<p>Unit 3: Crime Scene to Court Room (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is evidence processed? • What rights do individuals have? • What is the criminal justice process? • What factors affect criminal trials? <p>Opportunity to collate notes in preparation for the Unit 3 controlled assessment</p>

Spring Term (January - May)	<p>Students will write their formal controlled assessment for Unit 3 in January or February. This will be under controlled conditions under high levels of supervision.</p> <p>Unit 4: Crime and Punishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are laws made? • How is the criminal justice system organised? • How do we control people's behaviour? • How do we punish people if they commit a crime? • How effective is our system of punishment?
Assessments	<p>Unit 1 and Unit 3 are formal controlled assessments. Whilst undertaking the taught section of this course students will be given the opportunity to practice the assessment criteria and be given feedback to support their controlled assessment.</p> <p>Unit 2 and 4 are externally examined units. Whilst being taught these units students will have the opportunity to complete questions in timed assessments in class and be given feedback for the main types of these questions.</p>
Homework / independent study	<p>Homework set weekly by teachers. Students will be given an assessment timetable at the beginning of the year.</p> <p>An expectation is that students will be doing their own independent reading of the subject and reading broadsheet newspapers to explore what is happening in contemporary Britain.</p> <p>Homework could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading criminology articles / textbooks in preparation for seminar style discussion. • Researching criminological concepts, theories or studies. • Preparing for timed essays.
Equipment required	<p>Students need to buy two textbooks.</p> <p>Napier Press Criminology Book 1 for Year 12 Napier Press Criminology Book 1 for Year 13</p>
Resources available for home-based study	<p>The criminology work booklet that students have access to offers opportunities for extra home study including research tasks and media activities that will broaden their depth of understanding of the course.</p>