



Criminology

Room: 4

What Is This Course About?

Not all types of crime are alike. Are you interested in the different types of crime that take place in our society? Are criminals born or made? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What are the different roles of everyone involved when a crime is detected? Then perhaps you are interested to know more about the new, exciting course in Criminology. Criminology is the study of the reasons why individuals commit crime. By understanding why a person commits a crime, we can develop ways to control crime or rehabilitate the criminal. This course will enable you to use theories of criminality to analyse criminal situations and suggest ways of reducing crime. You will also develop the knowledge and skills to research policy in practice, assess campaigns for changes in awareness and examine information to review verdicts in criminal cases. You will enjoy this course if you like working steadily throughout the year and writing your own notes. You also need good computer literacy.

What Will I Learn?

In Year 12, students will learn about different types of crimes, explanations for why people commit crime and how the media represent certain crimes. They also study real life examples of high-profile crimes and learn about the media campaigns that arise from them, which aim to change the law. In Year 13, students look at what happens at the scene of a crime, the forensic and police investigation process, how cases are prepared for trial, and what happens in the courtroom at a criminal trial. They also look at our current forms of punishments, such as prison sentences, and consider how effective these are for deterring criminals.

Assessment

The course is comprised of 4 units each worth 25% of the overall grade. Two of the units will be assessed through students writing an extended assignment (controlled assessment)

- Unit 1 - Changing Awareness of Crime (Year 12)
- Unit 3 - Crime Scene to Courtroom (Year 13)

The other two units are each assessed by 90-minute external exams

- Unit 2 - Criminological Theories (Year 12)
- Unit 4 - Crime and Punishment (Year 13)

This assessment structure is particularly useful in helping students to spread out their exams and controlled assessment across the two-year A Level course.



Where Will It Take Me?

This course can provide a route into Higher Education to study at degree level in a variety of areas such as Criminology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Law, Psychology and Forensic Science.

The course would also provide an excellent basis to anyone wishing to pursue a career within Social Work, Mental Health, the Police Force, Customs and Immigration, Prison Services, Court Services, Security Services, the NHS, Education and Youth and Community Services. The Social Science team at Corfe Hills School will happily offer support and advice to help inform any decisions you need to make.

What Other Opportunities Exist Outside of Class?

Students are encouraged to read widely around their subject, view documentaries and contribute to debates on theories. Students also have the opportunity to attend a criminal conference where they get to meet ex-offenders, attend a one-night residential trip to London with visits to the Royal Courts of Justice and the Old Bailey Courthouse where they are able to sit in on a real trial, and observe the process. There are also opportunities for students to attend revision workshops and seminars.