

Advanced Higher Modern Studies



Course: Law and Order

Teacher: Ailidh Grieve

What the course covers:



- Understanding Criminal Behaviour
- Responses by Society to Crime
- Research Methods
- Dissertation

How is the course assessed



- **SQA Exam**
 - 90 marks (64%)
 - 3 hours
 - 2 x 30 mark essay questions
 - 2 source questions

- **Dissertation**
 - 50 marks (36%)
 - Completed in class/at home

Where can course content be found?



- **Notebook:** Class work and course information can be found on the Notebook app. Students have the choice between completing work on Notebook or in a jotter.
- **Teams:** Links to relevant news articles, official documents, journal articles etc. are posted on Teams for students to access.
- **Books/Internet:** Pupils have access to Criminology Library, however the most up-to-date information can be found on the internet.

Class Assessments/Homework:



- **Class Assessments:** There is an exam style essay at the end of each of the topics. There will also be timed source questions.
- **Homework:** Homework is a mixture of research tasks, preparation for essays, preparation for source questions and the on-going dissertation task.
- **Unit Assessments:** These are no longer compulsory but are still useful for students to complete as practice and as a fall-back option. If a student finds the demands of the overall course too challenging, students can complete the unit assessments and be credited for participating in the course at a Grade D level.
- **Dissertation:** Dissertation preparation will begin after Christmas and pupils will work on this in class and at home ahead of submission at the end of March.

The Dissertation



- The dissertation should be **5000** words.
- Pupils will get a list of SQA approved questions to choose a topic.
- It requires **independent research**. Students may wish to carry out **primary research** (i.e. conduct their own survey).
- A detailed description of what is entailed can be found on the SQA website and in the students' Notebooks.

The Prelim



- The Prelim will consist of **unseen essay questions** and **source questions** based on the elements of the course that we have covered so far.
- To prepare for this, students should engage in **regular revision**. They should use class notes, previous essays + essay plans, previous source questions and SQA past papers and marking instructions.
- They should look carefully at **previous feedback** in order to identify what they need to improve on.
- Some students find making **mind maps** or **flashcards** helpful. Others will benefit from **practising exam style questions**.
- They need to pay particular attention to remembering **detailed statistics and examples** for each topic as well as relevant **international examples**.

What can you do to help?



- Ask your young person about current news stories relating to Law and Order around the world.
- Look out for relevant documentaries from around the world (there are quite a few on BBC iPlayer and Netflix)
- Encourage your young person to stick to the agreed deadlines or ask for an extension if necessary.
- Read over practice essays and dissertation chapters and tell them if anything doesn't make sense to you as the reader.
- Encourage your young person to create revision materials.
- Quiz students on how law and order in the UK compares to countries around the world (they should be able to provide you with a list of international comparisons for every topic)

Further Support:



- **Staff:** Students can ask Miss Grieve for support either in person or by email. They can also post more generic questions to the Teams page for either the teacher or their peers to answer. Pupils can also attend Supported Study for extra clarification or support.
- **SQA:** SQA past papers + marking instructions are available on the SQA website. The Understanding Standards website also provides good exemplar answers.