

NPA in Criminology (Course Code: GR4E 46)

SCQF Level 6 (18 Credit Points)

Why study NPA in Criminology?

Criminology is the scientific study of crime and criminals. You will consider the causes of crime, how it is measured and methods to prevent crime from occurring. You will learn about Forensic Psychology, developing an understanding of different psychological theories of criminal behaviour, including psychopathy and extraordinary criminal behaviour. Through bite-sized chunks of learning, you will discover the main principles involved in the prosecution of crime in Scotland and explore the effects of crime on the individual and the community.

You will also develop a range of knowledge and skills specific to the study of criminology, including:

- ◆ how the study of crime and criminology contributes to our understanding of the modern world and human behaviour
- ◆ an understanding of the criminal justice system
- ◆ an open-minded, critical and evaluative approach to study
- ◆ the importance of evidence-based research, including investigation and research skills
- ◆ the causes of crime, including competing views, perspectives, theories and evidence

What will I study?

The Award consists of three units -

Criminology: Nature and Extent of Crime

You will learn:

- the view that crime is a contested, changeable concept and not one which is fixed
- there are problems in defining crime, such as cultural and historical bias.
- how we measure and collect data on crime within society.

Criminology: Forensic Psychology

You will learn:

- about definitions of forensic psychology
- the role of forensic psychologists in the criminal justice system
- the nature & nurture theories of crime
- about Forensic Psychology & The “Extraordinary Criminal”.

Crime and the Law

You will examine:

- relevant and contemporary aspects of crime, criminology and the law in Scotland and the UK
- the legal rights and responsibilities of citizens in the UK
- the causes of crime
- the impact of crime on victims and their families
- the social and economic impact of crime.
- the different ways that the police and legal system attempts to prevent and then respond to crime with an analytical approach.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment can take place at appropriate points as candidates progress through the tasks within the Units.

Evidence of assessment can be presented in a format which best suits the individual candidates and the activities being undertaken.

Evidence can include written answers, charts, graphs and digital submissions in a number of formats.

There is no external exam