

# Level 3 Criminology

## FAQs (September 2021)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### Does this Criminology qualification carry UCAS points?

Our Level 3 Criminology qualifications have been approved by Ofqual and Welsh Government. The qualification carries UCAS points and appears on the [UCAS Tariff Calculator](#). Grades converted to UCAS points are listed below for your convenience.

Grade	Diploma	Certificate
A*	56	
A	48	24
B	40	20
C	32	16
D	24	12
E	16	8

Criminology is the only Applied General Qualification approved in this category and will be included on the Performance Tables in 2022 and 2023. Find further information on Performance Tables and funding on the UK Government website [here](#)

#### Which universities accept WJEC Eduqas Level 3 Applied Criminology?

Many universities accept this qualification. However, entry requirements vary considerably across institutions. Students should always check with their chosen university to confirm their individual entry requirements for their chosen undergraduate courses.

#### Where can I find the specification?

The latest versions of our specifications can be found on the WJEC ([wjec.co.uk](http://wjec.co.uk)) and Eduqas ([eduqas.co.uk](http://eduqas.co.uk)) websites by selecting 'Criminology' from the drop-down homepage menus.

#### Is there a recommended order/structure to follow when teaching the specification?

We would recommend covering the units in chronological order. There are synoptic elements in Units 2 and 4, which the candidates may miss out on if they haven't already covered Units 1 and 3. Although centres are permitted to deliver this qualification in the way that best suits them, it should be noted that to receive a Certificate both Units 1 & 2 must be successfully completed. Successful completion of the additional Units of 3 & 4 will allow the Diploma to be awarded. No accreditation is available for completion of Units 1 & 3 only or Units 2 & 4 only.

## How are grades awarded for the Level 3 Criminology Certificate and Diploma?

All details on grading can be found in the Certificate and Diploma specifications (Chapter 4). To gain each qualification – Certificate and Diploma – candidates must meet a threshold of 80 marks on the uniform mark scale. (UMS). This must consist of at least 40 UMS from each of the controlled assessment units (a pass) and at least 30 UMS from each of the examined units (a near pass). For example, a candidate could achieve 35 UMS for Unit 2 but would have to achieve at least 45 UMS from Unit 1 in order to reach the 80-UMS threshold. The same rule applies to Units 3 and 4. **Please note that this near pass rule only applies to the examined units. Candidates must achieve a minimum 40 UMS in the controlled assessments.**

Unit weighting	Maximum Raw Mark	Maximum UMS Mark	A	B	C	D	E	N
<b>Unit 1 (Internally Assessed) 25% or 50% of Certificate</b>	100	100	80	70	60	50	40	
<b>Unit 2 (Externally Assessed) 25% or 50% of Certificate</b>	75	100	80	70	60	50	40	30
<b>Unit 3 (Internally Assessed) 25%</b>	100	100	80	70	60	50	40	
<b>Unit 4 (Externally Assessed) 25%</b>	75	100	80	70	60	50	40	30

For the Level 3 Applied Diploma, a Grade A\* will be awarded to candidates who have achieved a Grade A (320 uniform marks) in the overall qualification and at least 90% of the total uniform marks for the two additional diploma units (units 3 and 4).

Further information on calculating UMS equivalents for raw marks can be found by accessing our UMS Grade converter [here](#).

### **If something is listed as an example in the assessment criteria, is it important to teach this example during the unit?**

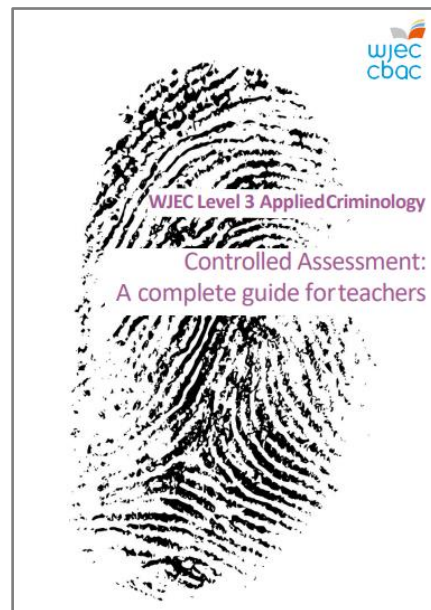
The specification is designed to allow teachers to teach to their strengths, for example: if you feel comfortable teaching Bandura as an individualistic theory of criminality (named on the spec as part of Unit 2, AC2.2) then you can teach this theory. However, if you are not very conversant with his work and decide to teach Bowlby's theory instead this is perfectly acceptable.

## INTERNALLY ASSESSED UNITS / CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS (UNIT 1 AND UNIT 3)

I am new to Criminology and have not delivered controlled assessments before. What training material is available?

Before you begin planning, please refer to the following resources:

- a) **Webinar** on conducting controlled assessment sessions. It can be accessed here: [https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology-level-3/?sub\\_nav\\_level=prerecorded-webinars#tab\\_training](https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/criminology-level-3/?sub_nav_level=prerecorded-webinars#tab_training)



- b) **Teacher handbook for controlled assessment.** You will find this complete guide on our secure website in the same folder as you will find the Learner Assignment Briefs (see instructions in Appendix A of this booklet).

### What is controlled assessment and how does it differ from an examination?

Internal assessment of WJEC vocational qualifications takes the form of controlled assessment. Controlled assessment tasks are administered and assessed internally and a sample submitted to WJEC Eduqas for moderation. Controlled assessment is intended to:

- ensure that all candidates spend approximately the same amount of time on their assignments (with the exception of those with access arrangements)
- prevent third parties from providing inappropriate levels of guidance and input
- mitigate concerns about plagiarism and improve reliability and validity of results
- allow centres a reasonable degree of freedom and control
- allow candidates to produce an original piece of work.

We remind centres that WJEC Level 3 Applied controlled assessment tasks must take place under **high levels of control (unless noted otherwise in the learner assignment brief) and under formal supervision** by staff or outside personnel.

Please refer to the [WJEC Guidance on Controlled Assessment](#) on the website and to the Controlled Assessment Teacher Handbook that can be located within the Learner Assignment Brief folders on our secure website (see Appendix A) for further information on administering the controlled assessment sessions. Be aware that access to the internet is a requirement for specified tasks within Criminology Unit 1 only. **No access to the internet should be granted for any other task.**

### Where can we find the assignment briefs?

The assignment briefs can be found on the secure website (see instructions in Appendix A of this booklet). There are four assignment briefs available for each internally assessed unit and the centre may choose which of these best suits their learners. Learners should not have access to the final brief or tasks prior to the controlled assessment.

### How do we structure the controlled assessment hours?

The controlled assessment tasks for Criminology are designed as **summative assessments** and must be taken once teaching for that particular unit has ended. The required hours can be structured in the way that best suits the centre and cohort. For example, Unit 1 controlled assessment must be completed in 8 hours. As long as the work and prepared notes produced by candidates is securely stored at the end of each sitting (with no access available to candidates), the centre can organise these hours as they choose.

### Which materials can candidates take into the controlled assessment?

The **summary page** of each learner assignment brief details the precise requirements for completing controlled assessments and centres must adhere to this guidance. Guidance states that candidates may take their **class notes** into the controlled assessment environment to assist them. Class notes are defined as those supplied by the teacher (in note or PowerPoint form) as well as the candidate's personal notes and work from their studies and lessons, should they wish to include them. Teachers are advised to design teaching materials to allow candidates to complete their **own research** where possible so that they are producing their own notes from the outset. They should not be reliant on material and case studies fed to them or re-produced directly from the textbook. This can lead to issues of plagiarism and can lead to mark adjustments. Candidates **must not** have access to the WJEC Criminology endorsed or any other textbook during the controlled assessment but may take in **concise notes** based on parts of the content, should they wish to.

As noted on page 11 of the specification, *'the assessor can determine which resources learners should be provided with to ensure fair and valid assessment takes place'* and therefore, centres and invigilators should ensure that candidates do not have access to storage devices or completed assessment tasks which contain detailed teacher feedback. All work submitted for assessment should be **original** and produced under controlled assessment conditions. Work that is not original should be referenced, where relevant, and candidates should be fully aware that they must not plagiarise other material. **Consequently, during the Unit 1 controlled assessment, candidates should not have access to any previously designed campaign materials for LO3. Centres should ensure that candidate notes do not contain designed materials that could be copied.**

**In addition to candidate work, do we need to secure student notes between controlled assessment sessions?**

Yes. Centres should collect completed student notes for checking prior to the first controlled assessment sitting. Centres should then store candidate notes securely between controlled assessment sittings. Once students are aware of a task/the tasks, they should not be allowed further time to prepare or augment their notes. Secure storage minimises the need for laborious re-checking of notes by invigilators.

**What feedback can we give to candidates during controlled assessment?**

The assessor **must not** provide feedback once the controlled assessment has started. Candidates can have no assistance during the task (regardless of how many sessions take place), and any assistance given, e.g. marking drafts, would constitute malpractice.

**What advice can we give candidates?**

Centres should make students fully aware of the assessment criteria for each unit. Centres may also advise candidates on a suitable structure for their completed assignment but must not provide model answers specific to the tasks they will undertake. Students must be made aware that direct lifting from published materials will be treated as plagiarism. Candidates are permitted access to have summaries of cases, notes on the assessment criteria etc. but candidates should put their ideas **into their own words**. Giving candidates sufficient warning and time to prepare usually minimises instances of improper conduct by candidates.

**Are candidates allowed access to the internet for all tasks in the internal assessments?**

No. The **summary page** for each controlled assignment details controls for internet access. Centres should consult their IT departments for assistance in adhering to the controls stated. This could include the setting up of a secure storage area for candidates to save their work at the end of each sitting and enabling/disabling internet access in line with the Unit 1 controls. Unit 3 does not allow access to the internet. Evidence of internet access in candidate work will be treated as malpractice.

**Should candidates refer to the assignment brief while discussing each assessment criteria?**

Candidates **must** refer to the brief when it is clearly identified as part of the task i.e. Task 6 Unit 1 and Tasks 8 and 9 for Unit 3. Reference to the brief is required by the mark scheme and **failure to refer to the brief in these tasks will limit marks**. Therefore, candidates should refer to the brief where relevant and support their knowledge and understanding with other examples they have studied. Candidates should note where examples are required by specific assessment criteria.

**Can I share the assignment briefs with candidates prior to controlled assessment?**

No. From September 2020, centres should make students fully aware of the assessment criteria but **must not share the briefs or tasks with candidates until the controlled assessment begins**. Candidates will be tested on their ability to apply knowledge and understanding gained through the

study of the specification to the scenario presented in the chosen brief.

### **Can I teach Unit 1 LO3 using the crimes evident in the assignment brief?**

Yes. You should cover the entire range of crimes listed in the specification, but candidates should not be aware of the content of the brief before the controlled assessment takes place. They should be taught the principals of designing a campaign in various contexts so that they may apply those skills to a previously unseen context within the controlled assessment environment. They should not be taking exemplars of campaign materials designed by themselves or others into the controlled assessment environment.

### **Are assessors required to write comments and justifications when marking the internal assessments?**

Yes. We ask that teachers provide concise comments and justifications in the body of the candidate work to make it easier for our moderators to understand where the candidates have been awarded their marks and where the assessment criteria have been addressed. Make sure the location of each assessment criteria is identified through concise annotations. Brief justification comments should be added to each relevant section of the mark sheet (mark sheets are included with each assignment brief and separate Word versions are available on our open website).

### **Do you offer marking training?**

Although we do not offer direct training to individual centres, there is a range of materials to support you with the marking and standardisation process. These include a step-by-step PowerPoint guide to marking each assessment criteria, annotated mark schemes and exemplar work with full senior moderator commentary. For confidentiality purposes, these are stored on the secure website. A reminder that you should not, under any circumstances, be sharing any marked exemplars or confidential information concerning the controlled assessment with your students.

### **When should I submit marks and work to WJEC?**

Once the work is marked, the marks must be inputted on the Internal Assessment Mark Input Screen (IAMIS) via the WJEC Secure Website. All marks should be submitted to WJEC by the **8<sup>th</sup> of May** each year. Once marks are submitted, the system will automatically generate the details of the requested sample (list of candidates).

Centres should upload the sample work requested by **15<sup>th</sup> May** and should not substitute the requested work with work by different candidates.

The moderation team will then moderate the work. Be aware that WJEC Eduqas may contact the centre at any time following 15<sup>th</sup> of May to request further samples of candidate work. Any extra work requested must be uploaded without delay.

### **What paperwork is required?**

Each piece of candidate work in the sample should be accompanied by a signed Candidate Mark

Record Sheet. This **must** be signed by both candidate and assessor and (where relevant) the Lead Assessor. Work submitted without authentication will not be moderated and candidates will not be awarded a mark. Each centre should also include a copy of the Quality Assurance Form (available on the open website) to briefly document the internal standardisation procedure at the centre and one copy of the selected Learner Assignment Brief/s.

### **What feedback will we get once the moderator receives the work?**

Each centre will have access to a comprehensive report written by the moderator. This will be available via the Internal Assessment Mark Input System on results day by clicking on 'View Moderator Report'. Reports will comment on the nature of the administration and the accuracy of the marking. Please read these reports carefully.

On results day, the Principal Examiner/ Moderator Report will be published on the WJEC and Eduqas public websites. Please ensure that you read this feedback carefully.

### **Can candidates resit an internal assessment?**

Yes. If the work has already been submitted to WJEC for moderation, the candidate won't receive a grade until August on A-Level results day, therefore if they wish to resit it would have to be in the following academic year with a different brief.

Please be aware that a resit is very different to a fresh attempt (see next question). Resits are arranged via the Awarding Organisation and are only available to candidates who have previously submitted marks to WJEC for that unit.

### **Can candidates attempt an internal assessment for the second time in the same academic year (fresh attempt)?**

Candidates must pass **all** units to receive a grading for the Certificate and Diploma (incl. near pass for externally assessed units – please see above for further details on this). Candidates may attempt the controlled assessment for the second time at the centre during any academic year but must use an **alternative brief**. Where a candidate attempts the controlled assessment for the second time within the academic year, the centre must identify these candidates by submitting **BOTH** attempts if they are part of the sample requested for moderation. Centres may input the highest mark gained by the candidate by the 8<sup>th</sup> of May deadline. Candidates who are attempting the task for the second time should not have access to their first marked attempt in the interim period as this would constitute feedback. Centres should schedule the controlled assessment tasks accordingly if they wish to give candidates and opportunity to attempt the task for a second time before marks are submitted.

### **Can we use 'live' briefs for mocks and practise?**

No. Live briefs are for the purposes of final assessments only. If you wish to produce an example brief for illustrative or practise purposes, you are free to do so. However, candidates must not see or attempt the final tasks prior to the controlled assessment sessions.

### **EXTERNALLY ASSESSED UNITS (Unit 2 and Unit 4)**

**If something is listed as an example (e.g.) in the assessment criteria, can this example be used to form an exam question?**

No, the actual question cannot focus on a listed example. However, the candidate may use the listed examples in their answer. Mark schemes will make clear that it is acceptable to use other relevant examples other than those listed in the specification.

**Are there any sample assessment materials (SAMs) available?**

Yes, the original SAMs and Past Papers (from 2016) can be found on the subject page of the WJEC and Eduqas websites or via the secure website (see instructions at the end of this booklet). There are also sample mark schemes for each examined unit.

**Where can we find grade boundaries from previous exam series?**

As with the internally assessed units, grade boundaries for the examined units are not fixed and can vary each year. You can find the boundaries awarded for each unit from each session on the WJEC website [here](#). Simply choose the appropriate year, session, subject and option from the drop-down options.



## RESOURCES AND TRAINING

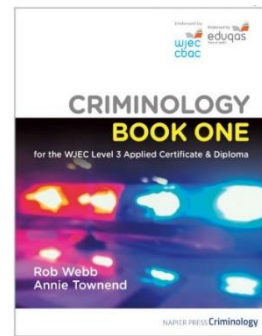
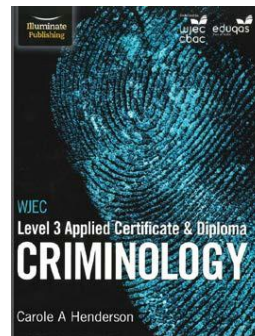
### Where can I find teaching and learning resources to support this qualification?

Past exam papers and the Learner Assignment Briefs can be found on the [WJEC secure website](#). There is also a selection of marked controlled assessment work. Please use these exemplars for training and standardisation purposes within your departments but they should not, under any circumstances, be shared with candidates or shared with other teachers via social media sites. These must be kept confidential. **You must liaise with your Exams Officer to ensure that you have access to this secure site.**

Useful documents can also be found on the Level 3 Criminology homepages of the WJEC and Eduqas websites. These include a folder of material to support new centres.

On our homepages you will also find:

- [Specifications](#)
- [CPD schedules, materials and webinars](#)
- [Exam walk-throughs](#)
- [Grade boundary information](#)
- [Online Exam Review](#)



### Is there a textbook to support this qualification?


There are two textbooks, endorsed by WJEC, which cover all units of the Applied Certificate and Diploma. Second editions of both textbooks were published in 2021. You can purchase these textbooks directly from the publishers.

1. Henderson, C 2021, *Criminology*, [Illuminate Publishing](#)
2. Webb, R, Townend, A 2021, *Criminology* (Books One and Two), [Napier Press](#)

### When will Professional Learning (CPD) events to support our delivery of the course be held?

Get in touch

Have a question?  
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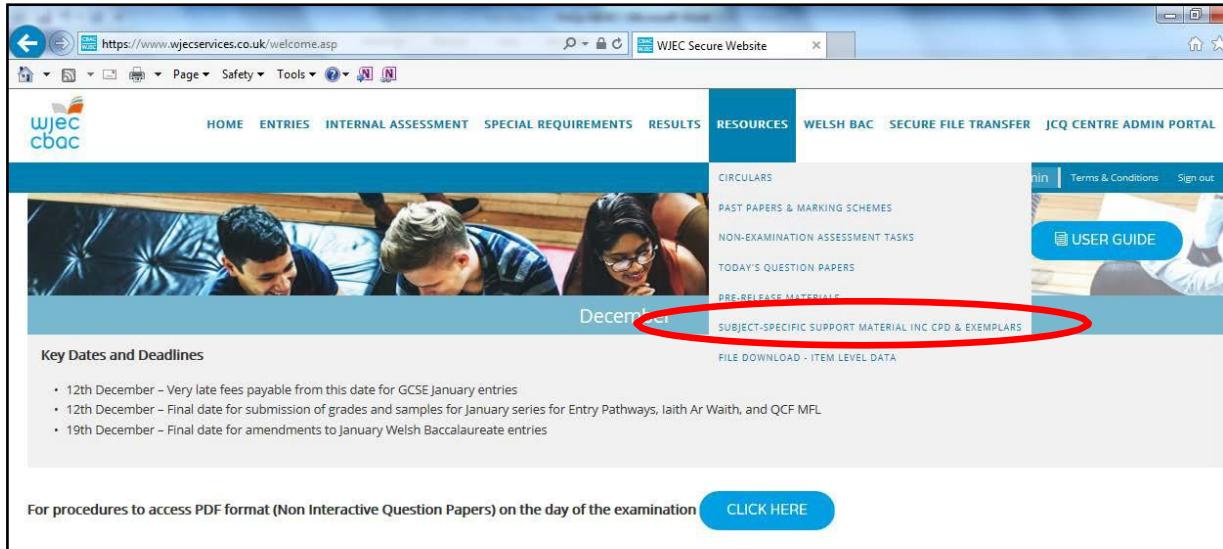
Professional Learning events (for new and established centres) take place every year. The dates can be found on the WJEC and Eduqas website [Professional Learning](#) pages. Please check regularly and **subscribe** to our subject updates via the WJEC Eduqas Criminology homepages to ensure that you are being kept informed of latest news and developments.

### How do I become an examiner or moderator for Level 3 Applied Criminology?

We are currently recruiting new examiners and moderators and would very much welcome your application. You can submit your details and register your application via the appointees system on the [WJEC website](#).

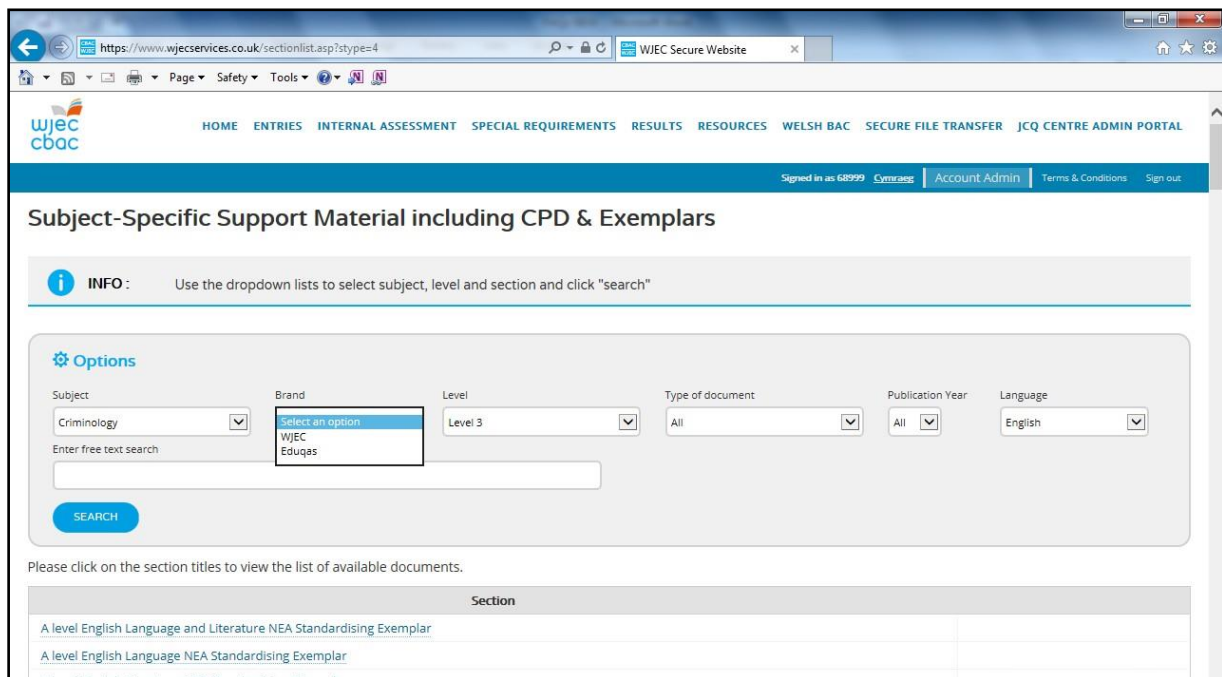
## APPENDIX A: NAVIGATING THE WJEC SECURE WEBSITE

Once you have logged in to WJEC Secure Website you will see the following screen:



Hover your cursor over the 'Resources' tab and click in to '**Subject Specific Material Including CPD & Exemplars**'. If you cannot see the same features on your secure website home screen after logging in, this may be because your Exams Officer hasn't given you full access to the secure site. Your Exams Officer can upgrade your permissions quickly and easily when they sign in.

Using the drop-down buttons, perform the search seen below to access all Criminology materials. All materials are available by selecting either WJEC or Eduqas and you can filter your choice further using the 'Type of Document' menu.



Scrolling through this page you will see Past Papers and Mark Schemes from each examination year as well as CPD materials. Two Zip files contain all Learner Assignment Briefs available to use for Units 1 and 3. These Zip files also contain copies of the annotated mark schemes for each unit and a complete teacher guide to controlled assessment.

Any new exemplar work to support centres with the delivery and marking of the controlled assessments will appear here.

### Search Results

[NEW SEARCH](#)

**Options**

Subject: Criminology | Level: All | Type of document: Controlled Assessments | Publication Year: All | Language: English | Brand: WJEC

Enter free text search

[SEARCH](#) Records found 2

#### Level 3 Criminology (New 2015)

Filename	Description	Subjects	Levels	Brand	Attachments
<a href="#">NEW! UNIT 1 LEARNER ASSIGNMENT BRIEFS.zip</a>		Criminology	Level 3	WJEC	
<a href="#">NEW! UNIT 3 LEARNER ASSIGNMENT BRIEFS.zip</a>		Criminology	Level 3	WJEC	