Name _____

Yr 12 Criminology: Bridging Project

Criminology is a study of criminal justice and law enforcement. It looks at crime, offenders and victims. Who are these and how are they investigated?

Part of what you study in the first year is the study of some of the theories within criminology that try to explain why a person commits a crime and the public's response. We look at theories throughout the course and in greater detail in the second part of year 1 which continues through into second year.

To get you started on the journey of studying criminology, we have set you some interesting activities to complete prior to your course commencing later this year. These are designed to engage your thought processes within criminology and to get you asking questions and in your search for answers.

The booklet includes a range of materials and tasks and you will need access to the internet for some of them but not all of them. You will need to read articles, watch programmes and formulate your answers down in writing. We want you to be inspired, to go further than the work we have set today and to research, watch and discuss as much as you can within the field of criminology.

We want you to use this booklet as a guide to start you down your path in the study of criminology and to help build your excitement. It's an ideal time to show us how enthusiastic you are and get you into the practice of reading research, watching crime programmes and hopefully discussing and debating crim with friends and family.

If you have any questions, please email either teacher below and remember to bring your completed bridging projects with you in September.

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Name _____

Task 1:

Draw an image of a **stereotypical** criminal. Try to include features you think a criminal has. Don't draw any specific criminal- just what the average criminal looks like. Don't worry- we are not judging you on your drawing skills!

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Task 2

Read the following article on the age of responsibility -

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-50763713 BBC News Responsible Child: Can a 10-year-old be a cold-blooded murderer?
(by Serena Kutchinsky)

Choose a side-give your argument as to why this age is appropriate or inappropriate for criminal responsibility. Use the article to help.

Research other children who have killed and try to add this research into your argument to validate it, as well as the points made in the article. Remember if you make a statement, you need to back up what you are saying with evidence you have gathered for it for example,

"By setting the age of criminal responsibility at 10, it allows flexibility in the addressing of offending behaviour by children, whilst allowing early intervention to help prevent further offending."

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Task 3

Watch the TED talk – “Exploring the mind of a killer” with Jim Fallon

https://www.ted.com/talks/jim_fallon_exploring_the_mind_of_a_killer?language=en
6 mins 32

What are 5 key points of the talk that stood out to you?

1.

2.

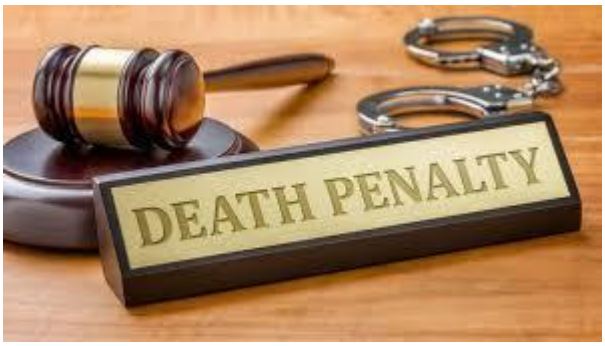
3.

4.

5.

Name _____

Task 4



Do you believe in the death penalty?

Give your top 5 arguments for why we should have/shouldn't have the death penalty, depending on what you believe.

You need to give valid, reasoned arguments. You can use real cases to support what you are saying.

Try to think as a criminologist and don't just rely on your personalised feelings e.g. do not say it is wrong because… "I don't believe in it". Instead, look at religious arguments, acts of miscarriages of justice, crimes committed by those released from prison as a repeat offender etc.

Be passionate in your argument but find evidence to back up what you are saying- use statistics, theory, quotes, cases etc.

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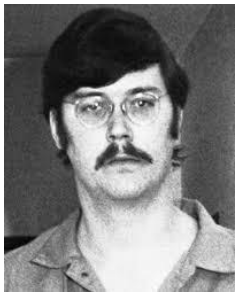
Task 5

Can you spot a killer from an innocent person? Are their certain characteristics that are genetic that means you will become a criminal? Are some people born evil? Lombroso was a theorist who helped found modern day psychological profiling and he believed your facial features gave crucial clues as to whether you were born to be a criminal.

Or is it down to how we are nurtured? Are criminals created as a result of the environment they grow up in? Bandura believed we learned our criminal behaviour through peer and family observation. Much like a child learns from watching those around them.

Look at the images below and see if you recognise any of them. Can you find out who they all are and what they did?



Name _____

Task 6

Watch the TED talk given by **Zimbardo** and The Stanford Prison Experiment. If you are interested further there is a Hollywood movie by the same name 'The Stanford Prison Experiment' directed by Kyle Alvarez. It's available on Netflix, Amazon and to rent on YouTube and googleplay amongst others.

TED talk link:
https://www.ted.com/talks/philip_zimbardo_the_psychology_of_evil?language=en

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Task 7

There are hundreds of books written about true crime. These are available in your local library, online, as an audio or kindle book or in shops. Perhaps even on one of the bookshelves in your own home. Find one that catches your interest and read it during the summer holidays. Sit in the sun and lose yourself within the pages of the book. Drive your thirst for knowledge and feed your desire for understanding why people commit crime.

What book did you read and what fascinated you about it?

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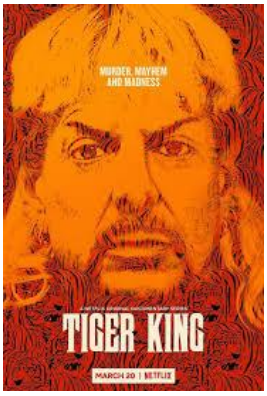
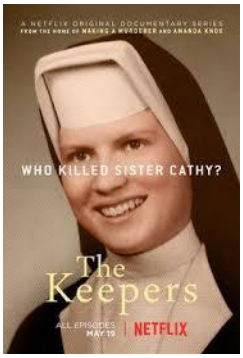
Task 8

Familiarise yourself with the world of true crime investigation. There is a channel dedicated to this on Sky if you have it called Sky Crime. Netflix has lots of true crime documentaries, Amazon has books and films as well as documentaries available to view online. You can use YouTube, search for videos online and use iPlayer to catch previously aired programmes. Try to immerse yourself in the study of crime and listen, read and watch as much as possible. Watch one of the following and be prepared to feed back to class when you start the course…

- The acclaimed Netflix programme- 'Making a Murderer'
- 'Tiger King' -documentary series on Netflix
- The documentary on Amanda Knox on Netflix or link for you tube https://youtu.be/LQFNbu4BMWI or Netflix/Amazon



- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7czgQRUUuT0&list=PLKLYdlwQ1baNeEWZelkhJEgEVnvLpnPEv&index=4 Inside Death Row with Trevor McDonald (if the links don't work use an alternative copy to watch)



- The Keepers series on Netflix (this is about sexual abuse and a murder)
- Rodney King- on Netflix (the case related to the riots in the US)
- American Murder: the family nextdoor (Netflix documentary about Chris Watts and the murder of his wife and daughters)
- Trial by Media (Netflix- looks at 6 crimes and their coverage by the media)

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- An hour to catch a killer (youtube documentary about the stalker victim Alice Ruggles) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ex4Jr8Vx7SI
- Goodfellas (film based on the Italian mafia)
- Mindhunter (Netflix) - series based on the true story of how psychological profiling began in the FBI
- Deepwater Horizon (movie based on the oil rig disaster with Mark Wahlberg)

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Task 9

Familiarise yourself with the WJEC exam board that your criminology course is with www.wjec.co.uk
Look at the course specification, past exam papers and mark schemes and the examiner's reports. These papers will give you a guideline to the types of thing you will study on your course and how the exams are set out. The specification gives the topics we look at and explains more about expectations of the course, including the all-important controlled assessments in units 1 and 2.

Write down any questions below that you have after looking at these resources so that we can help to answer them when you start the course…