

Recommendations



Things to watch and Read

In preparing for Criminology a good place to start is looking at what is involved. Start with:

To watch

Crime documentaries

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06886ny> including some cases we will look at next year such as The Murder of Jill Dando. Louis Theroux's documentaries are also excellent as is the new BBC series Murder 24/7 which is really useful for Unit 3.



There is a massive range of programmes – Cops Like Us, Catching Britain's Killers, Jack the Ripper, Hometown, Life and Death Row, Murder Trial

<https://www.channel4.com/> for Catching a Killer and 24hrs in Police Custody

Also look at the true crime documentaries on Netflix like Making a Murderer and the Staircase. Plus Inside the World's Toughest Prison.



In fact, any TV programmes which involve real crime investigation. Midsommer Murder, Sherlock and Vera are fun to watch, but they are very inaccurate when it comes to investigating crime

All of these programmes will introduce you to roles in the criminal justice system, investigative techniques and give you an insight into why people commit crime. They will also make you think about how crime is portrayed on TV and the impact this has on us

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To interact with:

Future Learn courses (Free online learning courses from universities)

Excellent preparation for unit 3:

From Crime to Punishment: What is crime? How does criminal justice work in England and Wales?

Find out more by following a case through the system. <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/crime-to-punishment>

Forensic Psychology: Discover how forensic psychology helps obtain evidence from eyewitnesses in police investigations and prevents cases of injustice.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/forensic-psychology>

Crime, justice and society: Explore the role of the state in regulating criminal behaviour and the parts played by those in the criminal justice system. <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/crime-justice-society>

Excellent preparation for unit 4:

Incarceration: Are prisons a suitable punishment? Explore life inside UK prisons. Learn whether this type of punishment reduces crime and if rehabilitation can prevent reoffending.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/incarceration-prisons-suitable-punishment>

Other culture you may find interesting...

TV crime drama:

Line of Duty – Netflix/ BBC iPlayer

Narcos – Netflix

Mindhunter (FBI profilers) – Netflix

The People vs. OJ Simpson (drama based on true story)



To listen to:

Top 6 True Crime Podcasts – download through any free podcast app such as Podkicker. Some may be available through Spotify.

1. Serial - Series 1 is the podcast that popularised true crime podcasts, and breaks down the case against a man convicted of murder

2. Accused - Twenty-three-year-old Elizabeth Andes is found dead in her Oxford, Ohio, apartment, just days after December 1978 graduation.

3. In The Dark - The investigation into the abduction of Jacob Wetterling yielded no answers for 27 years...



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4. Missing and Murdered - CBC news investigative reporter Connie Walker joins the search to find out what really happened to Alberta Williams

5. Someone Knows Something - Canadian award-winning filmmaker and writer David Ridgen investigates cold cases.

6. The Teacher's Pet - This is no fairytale, but a sordid story of strangely close twin brothers, teenage student lovers, and probable murder.

To read:

Keep up to date with any news stories involving crime and punishment

BBC news <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

The Guardian <https://www.theguardian.com/uk>

The Independent <https://www.independent.co.uk/>

1984 – George Orwell

Folk Devils and Moral Panics – Stanley Cohen

A Glasgow Gang Observed – Patrick James

Gang Leader For A Day – Sudhir Venkatesh

Fake Law – The Secret Barrister

Traces: Memoir of a Forensic Scientist and Criminal Investigator – Patricia Wiltshire

My Life With Murderers – David Wilson