

Course Information Sheet

Psychology of Criminal Profiling

Introduction

Sometimes a serious crime leaves no witnesses and no obvious suspects. Faced with such crimes, investigators can turn to the profiler. Criminal profiling looks at evidence left behind at a crime scene and asks: what sort of person commits a crime like this?

In this course we will look at the history of criminal profiling, its successes and its failures. We will also look at the different types of profiling that are used today and evaluate how effective they are.

Over the four weeks we will look at some of the most infamous criminals and consider psychological explanations for their deviant behaviour.

What are the course entry requirements?

To get the best from this course you should be able to:

- follow verbal and written instructions
- produce written material
- use a library or computer to search for information
- be able to handle serious material maturely
- join in group discussions with an open mind!

If you wish to discuss any of the above please contact Information, Advice and Guidance on 0845 600 1331

How long is the course?

3 - 5 Weeks – see current brochure for details

What will the course involve?

Over the four weeks we will look at some of the most infamous criminals and consider psychological explanations for their deviant behaviour.

How will I be learning?

The course will combine direct teaching from the tutor, group discussions, printed handouts and worksheets.

Learners will have an opportunity to perform their own independent research.

There is no formal assessment; learners will produce evidence in a portfolio which will be collected in at the end of the course.

What equipment will I need?

Pen and paper for note taking. A folder to organise notes and handouts in will be needed as well but this isn't needed on the first week.

How will I know if I am making progress?

During the course your progress will be checked using a variety of techniques which will include: some written work, group discussion, question and answer sessions and the tutor will provide feedback.

What course work will I be expected to complete?

There is no formal assessment; learners will produce evidence in a portfolio which will be collected in at the end of the course.

What can I expect to learn from this course?

Describe and discuss *top-down* and *bottom-up* profiling.

Apply one method of criminal profiling to an unsolved crime and produce a profile.

Look at the account of a convicted offender and put into writing a possible explanation for their behaviour.

Learner will learn to use tools such as Hares typology and/or psychological theories of offending behaviour.

Will I need to cover anything in addition to the course fee?

No

What other training programmes and progression opportunities are there?

Lancashire Adult Learning offers a Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) course in Criminology as well as many other courses that relate to Criminology – such as Psychology, Sociology and Drug Use/Misuse.

If you require in-depth advice on progression opportunities or guidance on career choices please contact our Information Advice and Guidance Officers on 0845 600 1331. For general information about other courses, contact us on the same number or check out the website www.lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning