



Getting Ahead – Pre-course Work

#ThinkBrock

Criminology Level 3 Diploma (equivalent to one A Level)

Welcome to **Criminology**. In preparation for the start of the course, please complete these tasks and have them with you to hand in during your first week of college in September.

These tasks should take you approximately one hour to complete and are designed to give you an introduction to the subject, and the expectations we have for you to complete independent study.

Task 1: Genetic Theories Poster Task

This task is to introduce you to the Genetic Theories of criminality. You need to research the theories below and then create a poster summarising your research.

You need to research:

1. Christiansen (1977) – a twin study from Denmark
2. Crowe (1972) – an adoption study
3. Brunner (1993) – genes and serotonin

For each of the three theories you should include the:

- Aim – what did the research do?
- Sample – who was studied?
- Findings – what did they research find?
- Conclusion – how does this research support the theory that genetics can be a cause of criminality?

Task 2: The Social Construction of Criminality

What is regarded as a crime can change depending on where you are in the world. There is no universal definition of crime. In addition, if you visited England 200 years ago our criminal justice system would look very different to how it looks in 2026. Something that was a crime 200 years ago may not be a crime today and vice versa! Furthermore, something that is considered illegal in the UK may not be the same in other countries. **Crime changes over culture, time and circumstance.**

- Task: Research different crimes around the world which change due to **different cultures** and write down your findings. E.g. 'drugs laws around the world' 'laws on prostitution around the world' 'laws in Saudi Arabia/China/North Korea'

Getting Equipped

You will need the following:

- Lever arch folder



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- 3 black pens
- Highlighters
- Small ruler