

Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000-present and Whitechapel, c1870-c1900: crime, policing and the inner city GCSE (9-1) History

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History (1HI0)

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Introduction

This document provides a sample overview scheme of work for Option 10, incorporating both the Thematic study **Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present** and the historic environment **Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city**. This is intended as an example approach only and is not prescriptive: it should be adapted by schools to fit their timetabling and staffing arrangements.

The scheme assumes 18 teaching weeks for Paper 1, with 12 weeks allocated to the Thematic study and 6 weeks to the historic environment.

The separate **Course planner** document provides a range of examples of delivery options that can be used for planning alongside this document.

The separate **Topic booklet** for Option 10 includes illustrative exemplification of content and of the role of factors in change.

In adapting this scheme of work, teachers might find it useful to consider the following:

- What, and how much, background and contextual material needs to be covered as an introduction and overview before starting the main specification content.
- How the historic environment is incorporated: for example, here it is taught separately after the main Thematic study content, but centres might consider treating it as an extended case study within the Thematic study and then returning to more it thoroughly after the Thematic study teaching. It will need to be clear to students that the assessment of the historic environment is separate from the Thematic study content.
- How, when studying the Thematic study content, students develop their understanding of how key features in the development of crime and punishment are linked with the key features of society in Britain in the periods studied.
- How students can develop an understanding of the influence of factors in inhibiting or encouraging change within periods and across the theme, and how factors worked together to bring particular developments at particular times. The factors are: attitudes in society; individuals and institutions (Church and government); and science and technology.

In the historic environment section, the following concepts of evidence have been included alongside the content: source utility and following up a source. Note that each of these question types could be asked on any of the historic environment content: they are included in particular weeks only as suggestions for how they could be incorporated into the content.

Week	Content strand	Specification content	
1		• Introduction and overview to Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000-present. How and why have the nature and definitions of criminal activity and the nature of law enforcement and punishment changed over time?	
		• Overview of key features in the development of crime and punishment and how these were linked with the key features of society in Britain in the periods studied.	
	c1000-c1500: Crime a	nd punishment in medieval England	
	Brief overview of the period: medieval England.		
	1 Nature and changing definitions of criminal activity	• Crimes against the person, property and authority, including poaching as an example of 'social' crime.	
2		Changing definitions of crime as a result of the Norman Conquest, including William I's Forest Laws.	
	2 The nature of law enforcement and punishment	The role of the authorities and local communities in law enforcement in Anglo-Saxon, Norman and later medieval England, including tithings, the hue and cry, and the parish constable.	
3		The emphasis on deterrence and retribution, the use of fines, corporal and capital punishment. The use and end of the Saxon Wergild.	
	3 Case studies	The influence of the Church on crime and punishment in the early thirteenth century: the significance of Sanctuary and Benefit of Clergy; the use of trial by ordeal and reasons for its ending.	
4	c1500-c1700: Crime and punishment in early modern England		
	Brief overview of the period: Britain 1500–1700.		
	1 Nature and changing definitions of criminal activity	• Continuity and change in the nature of crimes against the person, property and authority, including heresy and treason.	
		New definitions of crime in the sixteenth century: vagabondage and witchcraft.	
5	2 The nature of law enforcement and punishment	 The role of the authorities and local communities in law enforcement, including town watchmen. The continued use of corporal and capital punishment; the introduction of transportation and the start of the Bloody Code. 	

Week	Content strand	Specification content	
6	3 Case studies	 The Gunpowder Plotters, 1605: their crimes and punishment. Key individual: Matthew Hopkins and the witch-hunts of 1645–47. The reasons for their intensity; the punishment of those convicted. 	
		 How much did attitudes to criminal activity change during this period? How much did the nature of law enforcement and punishment change 1500-1700? How much did attitudes to crime and punishment change 1000-1700? Summary of the influence of key factors on change and continuity in the years c1500-1700. 	
7	c1700-c1900: Crime and punishment in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Britain Brief overview of the period: Britain 1700-1900.		
	1 Nature and changing definitions of criminal activity	 Continuity and change in the nature of crimes against the person, property and authority, including highway robbery, poaching and smuggling. Changing definitions of crime exemplified in the ending of witchcraft prosecutions and treatment of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. 	
8	2 The nature of law enforcement and punishment	 The role of the authorities and local communities in law enforcement, including the work of the Fielding brothers. The development of police forces and the beginning of CID. Changing views on the purpose of punishment. The use and ending of transportation, public execution and the Bloody Code. Prison reform, including the influence of John Howard and Elizabeth Fry. 	
9	3 Case studies	 Pentonville prison in the mid nineteenth century: reasons for its construction; the strengths and weaknesses of the separate system in operation. Key individual: Robert Peel – his contribution to penal reform and to the development of the Metropolitan Police Force. How much did attitudes to criminal activity change during this period? How much did the nature of law enforcement and punishment change 1700–1900? How much did attitudes to crime and punishment change 1000–1900? Summary of the influence of key factors on change and continuity in the years c1700–1900. 	

10	c1900-present: Crime and punishment in modern Britain		
	Brief overview of the period: Britain 1900 to present.		
	1 Nature and changing definitions of criminal activity	Continuity and change in the nature of crimes against the person, property and authority, including new forms of theft and smuggling.	
		Changing definitions of crime, including driving offences, race crimes and drug crimes.	
11	2 The nature of law enforcement and punishment	• The role of the authorities and local communities in law enforcement, including the development of Neighbourhood Watch. Changes within the police force: increasing specialisation, use of science and technology and the move towards prevention.	
		• The abolition of the death penalty; changes to prisons, including the development of open prisons and specialised treatment of young offenders; the development of non-custodial alternatives to prison.	
12	3 Case studies	The treatment of Conscientious Objectors in the First and Second World Wars.	
		The Derek Bentley case: its significance for the abolition of the death penalty.	
		How much did attitudes to criminal activity change during this period?	
		How much did the nature of law enforcement and punishment change 1900-present?	
		How much did attitudes to crime and punishment change 1000-present?	
		Summary of the influence of key factors on change and continuity in the years c1900-present.	
13	Whitechapel, c1870- c1900: crime and policing	Introduction to historic environment.	
		• The local context of Whitechapel. The problems of housing and overcrowding. Attempts to improve housing: the Peabody Estate. Provision for the poor in the Whitechapel workhouses. The lack of employment opportunities and level of poverty. Links between the environment and crime: the significance of Whitechapel as an inner city area of poverty, discontent and crime.	
		Types of source relevant to this option.	
14		• The prevalence of lodging houses and pubs creating a fluctuating population without ties to the community. The tensions arising from the settlement of immigrants from Ireland and Eastern Europe. Pressures caused by the increase in Jewish immigration during the 1880s and the tendency towards segregation. The growth of socialism and anarchism in Whitechapel.	
		Source utility.	

15		 The organisation of policing in Whitechapel. The work of H division and the difficulties of policing the slum area of Whitechapel, the rookeries, alleys and courts. Problems caused by alcohol, prostitution, protection rackets, gangs, violent demonstrations and attacks on Jews. The Whitechapel Vigilance Committee. Following up a source. 	
16		Investigative policing in Whitechapel: developments in techniques of detective investigation, including the use of sketches, photographs and interviews; problems caused by the need for cooperation between the Metropolitan Police, the City of London Police and Scotland Yard. Dealing with the crimes of Jack the Ripper and the added problems caused by the media reporting of the 'Ripper' murders. Source utility.	
17		• The national and regional context: the working of the Metropolitan Police, the quality of police recruits, the role of the 'beat constable'. The development of CID, the role of the Home Secretary and of Sir Charles Warren, public attitudes towards the police.	
		Following up a source.	
18	Review and assessment of:		
	Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000-present		
	• Whitechapel, c1870-c1900: crime and policing.		