

CRIMINOLOGY

I have decided to pursue a degree in Criminology as the question as to why people commit crime fills me with curiosity. The work of the Public Services, and in particular, the security, has inspired me since the Twin Towers incident in New York of September 2001. I believe as well as the issue of terrorism, there is one more local and obvious problem in my community of youth crime. Modules such as "understanding youth crime" can help tremendously with making both communities and the country a much safer place, if we are to get behind the reason then support and guidance can be provided.

I have recently attended an overnight stay in Aberystwyth University where I was able to undertake a law and criminology workshop where I was able to gain an insight into the law and ethics behind it. During an open day in the magistrate's court in Haverfordwest I was able to gain information of the work of a probation officer which really captured my inspiration to help people get their lives back on track once they are released back into society.

I am currently studying Psychology, Business Studies and History, which provided me with a wide variety of knowledge and skills both past and present. History may provide me with an advantage in university as I know and understand how to analyse contemporary and secondary sources and how to gather all relevant information into a cogent argument. There is a section in the Psychology syllabus which has taught me how eye witness testimony can be unreliable for example due to adrenaline and weapon focus. This can also be influenced by stereotypes, also in this case, I have been interested in how the concept of "report everything" can trigger the mind and be useful as the person will not realise what they are saying and will therefore not be exaggerated.

I have an interest in sports such as netball. I have played for the school teams since Primary school and was offered the chance of playing for West Wales Talent Centre in 2007. This experience helped me to raise my team skills as every member of the team is driven towards a common goal. I also became part of a swimming team who take part in competitions. As I was regularly taking part in competitions I have learnt there is always room for improvement whilst driving towards your ambition in life.

I have a part time job where I work as a waitress in The Mermaid Restaurant in Saundersfoot. I undertake several roles which include decision making, taking responsibility for others and engaging in conversations with customers. I have gained many skills whilst working there for almost 4 years. I have also taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh bronze scheme, this was an amazing experience, we were able to work as part of a team to reach our destination, and without one person we would not have been able to achieve this.

I consider myself to be a conscientious, hard working member of sixth form. I have become part of the CHiPs campaign which is part of childline's anti bullying scheme, this has given me the chance to share an experience with children who have had a problematic upbringing and those who have or are being bullied. I have been able to provide advice and support for the children. As I am studying Psychology I understand how to deal with sensitive students. With everything considered, I believe that I am a perfect candidate for studying criminology and pursuing my dream in university!