

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

An associate of arts degree in criminal justice can be the first step to an exciting and rewarding career in public safety. Students may choose the corrections or law enforcement concentration. These concentrations take an interdisciplinary approach that provides a knowledge base and encourages initiative and integrity. After completing an associate of arts degree, students may choose to transfer to a four-year college. Career fields include law enforcement, probation and parole, education, social services, security, and counseling.

Individuals considering employment in the criminal justice profession must be aware of strict admission qualifications. Factors that usually disqualify candidates from employment in the profession include a criminal record (i.e., theft, assault, murder), history of drug/alcohol abuse, significant psychological/ personal disorders, physiological disorders, neuromuscular dysfunction, dishonesty, etc. Law enforcement agencies hire only the best qualified individuals available in order to obtain and maintain public trust and confidence at all times.

Suggested Program of Study for Associate of Arts Degree (2 years)

Criminal Justice - Corrections		
FIRST YEAR		
First Semester		
Course		Credits
ENGL 1010 English Composition I*	.....	3
Behavioral Science*	.....	3
Fine Arts and Language*	.....	3-4
Social Science*	.....	3
CRIM 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice	.....	3
		15-16
Second Semester		
Course		Credits
COMM 1110 Public Speaking*	.....	3
MATH 1100 OR Higher*	.....	3-5
History*	.....	3
English/Literature*	.....	3
CRIM 1020 Introduction to Corrections	.....	3
		15-17
SECOND YEAR		
First Semester		
Course		Credits
CRIM 2250 Community Based Corrections	.....	3
CRIM 2100 Juvenile Justice	.....	3
CRIM 2200 Criminology	.....	3
CRIM 2000 Criminal Law	.....	3
Elective(s)**	.....	3
		15
Second Semester		
Course		Credits
CRIM 2300 Sociology of Deviant Behavior	.....	3
CRIM 2580 Communication Skills in Criminal Justice ...	3	
CRIM 2330 Management of Behavioral Issues in Criminal Justice	.....	3
Natural Science*	.....	4-5
Elective(s)**	.....	3
		16-17
Total Credit Hours		61-65

Criminal Justice - Law Enforcement		
FIRST YEAR		
First Semester		
Course		Credits
ENGL 1010 English Composition I*	.....	3
Behavioral Science*	.....	3
Fine Arts and Language*	.....	3-4
Social Science*	.....	3
CRIM 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice	.....	3
		15-16
Second Semester		
Course		Credits
COMM 1110 Public Speaking*	.....	3
MATH 1150 OR Higher*	.....	3-5
History*	.....	3
English/Literature*	.....	3
CRIM 1270 Intro to Forensic Crime Scene Investigation ...	3	
		15-17
SECOND YEAR		
First Semester		
Course		Credits
CRIM 2030 Police and Society	.....	3
CRIM 2000 Criminal Law	.....	3
CRIM 2260 Criminal Investigation	.....	3
Elective(s)**	.....	6
		15
Second Semester		
Course		Credits
CRIM 2080 Criminal Procedures	.....	3
CRIM 2330 Management of Behavioral Issues in Criminal Justice	.....	3
CRIM 2580 Communication Skills in Criminal Justice ...	3	
Natural Science*	.....	4-5
Elective(s)**	.....	3
		16-17
Total Credit Hours		61-65

To earn an associate of arts degree, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours that include the general education requirements listed.

*See general education requirements.

**Recommended electives: CRIM 1030 Courts and Judicial Process, CRIM 1800 Criminal Justice Practicum, CRIM 2100 Juvenile Justice, CRIM 2400 Jail Management Certification Training, CRIM 2700 Issues in Criminal Justice (to enroll in CRIM 2700, student must have earned a minimum of 18 credit hours of criminal justice coursework), SOCI 2320 Social Problems, SOCI 2150 Exploring Unity and Diversity, SPAN 1200 Elementary Spanish I, PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology, PSYC 2800 Abnormal Psychology (Pre-requisite: PSYC 1810).

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