

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Criminal Justice Associate of Applied Science

*Pending approval from Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)

PROGRAM MISSION

The Criminal Justice Program assists students in acquiring the skills necessary to be successful in the field of criminal justice.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Criminal Justice Program is offered completely online. Students will begin to explore the field of Criminal Justice, which includes areas such as human services, social work, juvenile justice, law enforcement, corrections, parole and probation, criminal law, and the courts. Criminal Justice is a multi-faceted field and the Criminal Justice Program provides students the opportunities to acquire and practice desired career skills such as empathy, active listening, and cultural competency to engage in ethical practices that promote human and professional growth, dignity, respect and self-determination. Candidates entering the program should have excellent organizational skills, the ability to work in a team (collaborative) setting, and a genuine desire to help others.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete an Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice will:

1. Identify the major steps of the criminal justice process and how a case proceeds through the criminal justice system, including landmark Supreme Court decisions.
2. Communicate effectively in the criminal justice system including written, verbal and nonverbal form.
3. Describe how criminal justice professionals work effectively within a diverse society.
4. Demonstrate appropriate work ethic to effectively interact with diverse persons within society with respect to culture, heritage, gender, and age.
5. Describe the importance of positive criminal justice interactions, with an emphasis on continuing dialogue between all aspects of the criminal justice system and all segments of the community.

CAREER CONSIDERATIONS

The Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice is designed to prepare graduates to enter occupations within the criminal justice field.

PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Year One

CJ 101	Introduction to Criminology	3
CJ 105	Concepts of Criminal Law	3
CJ 110	Introduction to Law Enforcement	3
CJ 114	Cultural Diversity Issues in LE	3
CJ 120	Introduction to Judicial Process	3
CJ 130	Introduction to Corrections	3

CJ 140	Introduction to Criminalistics	3
MTH 060	Introduction to Algebra	4
PSY 101 or SP 218	Psychology of Human Relations Interpersonal Communication	3
SOC 204	Introduction to Sociology	3
SP 111	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	4
WR 121*	Academic Composition	4
Approved Electives		6

Year Two

CJ 203	Crisis Intervention	1
CJ 210	Criminal Investigations	3
CJ 211	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 226	Introduction to Constitutional Law	3
CJ 230	Introduction to Juvenile Justice System	3
CJ 240 ⁴	Criminalistics II	3
CJ 243	Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs	3
CJ 261	Introduction to Parole and Probation	3
PSY 201	General Psychology	4
PSY 202	General Psychology	4
SOC 207	Juvenile Delinquency	3
SOC 225	Social Aspects of Addiction	3
Approved Electives		9

Total Credits 90

Approved Electives

CIS 120	Introduction to Digital Literacy	4
CJ 280 ²	Cooperative Work Experience: Criminal Justice/Corrections	1-4
HS 102	Addiction Pharmacology	3
HS 227	Understanding Dysfunctional Families	3
HS 267	Cultural Competence in Human Services	3
LA 102	Legal Terminology	3
PS 201	US Government	3
PS 202	US Government	3
PS 203	US Government	3
WR 227	Technical Writing	4

* A grade of C or better must be attained in these courses

⁺ Any unlisted CJ classes may be applied as approved electives

² Four (4) credits of CJ 280 can be applied to AAS degree

⁴ Prerequisite: CJ 140 or instructor approval