

# Criminal Justice (517)

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

### About Our Program

This program is designed for both those intending to transfer to a four-year baccalaureate program as well as for those seeking immediate employment following completion of the two-year program. The guiding theme for this program is twofold. First, for participants to think critically about the broader context (i.e., social, cultural, and political) within which the activity of criminal justice occurs. Second, for participants to gain competencies enabling them to learn the skill set associated with the practical implementation of criminal justice.

### Program Outcomes

- Students will be able to describe various historical and modern day challenges confronted in dealing with deviant behavior in society and associate these with proactive evidence-based reforms and solutions.
- Students will be able to examine historical origins and current social issues from a variety of philosophical and theoretical perspectives on how human behavior has shaped culture and society.
- Students will be able to outline the various elements of the criminal law, Amendment provisions and protections, and how these connect to the duties of working in each realm the criminal justice system.
- Students will be able to describe the history and application of punishment, sentencing, rehabilitation, community corrections, and programming for deviant behavior in the criminal justice system.
- Students will be able to compare the various strengths and weaknesses of a variety of treatment programs available for offenders and special populations within the correctional realm.
- Students will be able to distinguish effective law enforcement strategies and responses relating to homeland security and security threats.
- Students will be able to justify the vital ethical practices for those working in the criminal justice field.
- Students will demonstrate effective oral and written communication pertaining to the social sciences involving quantitative research, theory, and practice.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills encompassing the daily operations of each component of the criminal justice systems' function within society.

### Nature of Work and Employment

A broad range of employment options exist in both the private and public sectors depending upon qualifications. Examples of areas of employment would include; but not be limited to the following: law enforcement, corrections, court reporting, parks and wildlife, and social work.

### Special Considerations

The listed coursework is a recommendation only. Students should check with a student advisor for HCC graduation requirements and specific university requirements in this major. Students must meet with an advisor to ensure that the special requirements of the department and institution to which they plan to transfer are met. Colleges and universities have specific requirements for transfer students.

### Program Contacts

Call Highland at 815-235-6121 for the following program contacts:

- Jennifer Roser, Criminal Justice Faculty
- Amanda VenHuizen, Student Advisor
- Jim Phillips, Dean, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts

### Recommended Courses

The following are recommended courses for this major only. Students must meet all requirements for the Associate of Arts degree (see page 56) in order to graduate from Highland Community College. For more information, please see your student advisor.

CJS	101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CJS	102	Introduction to Corrections	3
CJS	201	Criminology	3
CJS	202	Juvenile Delinquency	3
CJS	204	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3

#### Recommended Electives (Law Enforcement)

CJS	205	Criminal Investigation	3
CJS	206	Policing in America	3
CJS	208	Intro to Terrorism	3
CJS	212	Communication in Criminal Justice	3

#### Recommended Electives (Corrections)

CJS	220	Probation and Parole	3
CJS	212	Communication in Criminal Justice	3

#### Recommended Electives (Law)

CJS	203	Criminal Law	3
CJS	210	Criminal Procedure	3

#### Recommended Electives (Cyber Security)

CJS	103	Introduction to Cyber Security	3
CJS	214	Cybercrime and Digital Forensics	3

#### Other Recommended Electives

PHYD	212	First Aid	2
INFT	180	Introduction to Information Systems	3
SOCI	276	Racism and Diversity in Contemporary Society	3
SOCI	271	Social Problems	3
PHYD	121	Physical Fitness I	1