

# Criminal Justice (238)

## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

### About Our Program

The Criminal Justice Program at Highland Community College prepares students for a rewarding career with local, county, state, or federal law enforcement agencies, correctional institutions, administrative assistants, courtroom employees, and other criminal justice agencies such as probation and parole. A number of related career fields, such as security and private investigations, are open to graduates of our Criminal Justice Program. In addition, our program can prepare current criminal justice professionals for career advancements. Those intending to transfer to a four-year baccalaureate program should speak to an advisor about our transfer program.

### 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.
- Examine historical origins and current social issues from a variety of philosophical and theoretical perspectives on how human behavior has shaped culture and society.
- 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.
- Describe the history and application of punishment, sentencing, rehabilitation, community corrections, and programming for deviant behavior in the criminal justice system.
- Compare the various strengths and weaknesses of a variety of treatment programs available for offenders and special populations within the correctional realm.
- Distinguish effective law enforcement strategies and responses relating to homeland security and security threats.
- Justify the vital ethical practices for those working in the criminal justice field.
- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication pertaining to the social sciences involving quantitative research, theory, and practice.
- 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

There are recommended prerequisites for most of the Criminal Justice classes. Some general education courses may require prerequisites. Other than the internship, classes may be taken during any semester classes are offered. Students are required to have at least the first year completed prior to applying for the Internship class.

### 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

### First Semester

15 Credit Hours

CJS	101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
ENGL	121	Rhetoric and Composition I	3
INFT	180	Introduction to Information Systems	3
PHYD	212	First Aid	2
PHYD	121	Physical Fitness I	1
SPCH	191	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3

### Second Semester

15 Credit Hours

MATH	111	Technical Math	3
SOCI	171	Introduction to Sociology	3
CJS	102	Introduction to Corrections	3
PSY	161	Introduction to Psychology	3
		Criminal Justice Electives	3

### Third Semester

15 Credit Hours

SPAN	155	Elementary Spanish I or GERM 151 Elementary German I	4
CJS	202	Juvenile Delinquency	3
SOCI	276	Racism & Diversity in Contemporary Society	3
CJS		Electives	5

### Fourth Semester

16 Credit Hours

CJS	201	Criminology	3
CJS	204	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
POL	152	American Government and Politics	3
OCED	290	Workplace Experience	4
CJS		Electives	3

**Total Credit Hours =**

**61**

#### 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

SOCI	271	Social Problems	3
------	-----	-----------------	---