CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Associate in Criminal Justice introduces the graduate to three facets of the Criminal Justice System (e.g., Police, Courts, and Corrections). This degree plan is broadly interdisciplinary in nature embracing the study of the humanities, law, and natural, behavioral, and social sciences. The curriculum seeks to balance theoretical inquiry with applied knowledge.

This degree plan is designed to prepare students to transfer to NMSU Las Cruces to complete a Bachelor of Criminal Justice Degree. NMSU Las Cruces, through the College of Distance Education, also offers an online Criminal Justice Bachelor’s degree with required upper division courses offered online. Note that 100 and 200 level Bachelor degree requirements are not part of that online offering therefore students who are planning on taking the Criminal Justice Online degree program are advised to take a second English 200 level course as the recommended elective in the Associate degree and to complete a second or heritage language sequence at the 200 level (that is, 211-212; 213-214).

Graduation Requirements

ENGL 111G Rhetoric and Composition with a C or higher; placement into college-level math and reading courses or completion of developmental courses with a C or higher; cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher; the last 15 credits taken at NMSU.

Criminal Justice - Associate in Criminal Justice (http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/carlsbad/associate-degree-certificate-programs/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-associate-criminal-justice)

C J 101G. Introduction to Criminal Justice
3 Credits
Examination of crime and justice within the broader social and cultural context of U.S. society from interdisciplinary social science perspectives. Includes critical analysis of criminal justice processes and the ethical, legal, and political factors affecting the exercise of discretion by criminal justice professionals.

C J 199. Special Topics in Criminal Justice I
1-3 Credits
Specific subjects to be announced in the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated under different topics for a maximum of 6 credits.

C J 205. Criminal Law
3 Credits
Rules, principles, and doctrines of criminal liability in the United States. The historical development, limits, and functions of the substantive criminal law. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

C J 210. The American Law Enforcement System
3 Credits
Historical and philosophical foundations of law and order. An in-depth examination of the various local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

C J 221. Fundamentals of Criminal Investigation
3 Credits
Investigation procedures from crime scene searches, collection of evidence, and case preparation. Community Colleges only. (Note: students completing C J 221 may not take C J 321.)

C J 230. Introduction to Corrections
3 Credits
Development of correctional philosophy, theory, and practice. Instructional and non-institutional alternatives available in the corrections process.

C J 250. Courts and the Criminal Justice System
3 Credits
Structures and functions of American courts. Roles of attorneys, judges, and other court personnel; operation of petit and grand juries, trial and appellate courts.

C J 293. Field Experience in Criminal Justice
3-6 Credits
Field experience in a public criminal justice agency or equivalent private sector organization. Supervised internship experience, conferences, and observations. Restricted to majors. Community Colleges only. Prerequisites: C J 101G, prior arrangement and consent of instructor and a GPA of 2.0 or better in major.