

CORRECTIONS - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Doña Ana Community College 2025-2026 Catalog

Corrections

The Corrections degree emphasizes the correctional aspect of the criminal justice systems and offers a broad understanding of correctional institutions and alternatives.

Workers in the corrections field are responsible for overseeing individuals who have been arrested and are awaiting trial or who have been convicted of a crime and sentenced to serve time in a jail, reformatory, or penitentiary. The majority of officers are employed by local, county, state, and federal institutions.

While the primary mission of corrections is protection of the public, many officers are involved in the treatment, education, and reintegration of offenders. These officers may find employment as wardens, jail administrators, program coordinators and counselors, public information officers, correctional trainers, case managers, probation/parole officers, corrections officers, detention officers or other related careers.

NOTE: An articulation agreement exists with the New Mexico Corrections Department that makes it possible to receive college credit for experience and/or training.

NOTE: All courses in this program may be applied toward a Bachelor of Applied Studies of Individualized Studies degree at NMSU.

(60 credits)

NOTE: Students must earn a final grade of C- or better in all Criminal Justice (CJUS) and Law Enforcement (LAWE) courses and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. A grade of C- or better is required in ENGL 1110G Composition I and designated Mathematics courses.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 60 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

| Prefix | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| General Education | | |
| Select one course from four of the following six content areas for a total of 12-14 credits ^{1,2} | | 12-14 |
| This degree requires courses from Areas I, II, IV, and V; students do not need to take additional courses to complete the General Education requirements. | | |
| Area I: Communications | | |
| ENGL 1110G | Composition I ³ | |
| Area II: Mathematics | | |
| Select one mathematics/algebra course from Area II of the New Mexico General Education Requirements ² | | |
| Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences | | |
| POLS 1120G | American National Government ³ | |
| Area V: Humanities | | |

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| PHIL 1115G | Introduction to Philosophy ³ | |
| <i>General Education Elective</i> | | |
| COMM 1130G | Public Speaking ³ | 3 |
| or COMM 1115G | Introduction to Communication | |
| Core Requirements (6 Credits) | | |
| PSYC 1110G | Introduction to Psychology ³ | 3 |
| SOCI 1110G | Introduction to Sociology ³ | 3 |
| Major Requirements | | |
| <i>Technical Requirements (28 Credits)</i> | | |
| CJUS 1110G | Introduction to Criminal Justice ³ | 3 |
| CJUS 1120 | Criminal Law ³ | 3 |
| CJUS 2120 | Criminal Courts and Procedure ³ | 3 |
| CJUS 2150 | Corrections System ³ | 3 |
| CJUS 2160 | Field Experience in Criminal Justice ³ | 3 |
| or LAWE 204 | Introduction to Homeland Security | |
| LAWE 201 | Introduction to Juvenile Delinquency | 3 |
| LAWE 207 | Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement | 3 |
| LAWE 233 | Practical Approach to Terrorism | 3 |
| Electives, to bring the total credits to 60 | | |
| Electives chosen in consultation with advisor | | 14 |
| Total Credits | | 60 |

¹ Each course selected must be from a different area and students cannot take multiple courses in the same area.

² See the General Education (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/general-education-and-transfer-options/transfer-new-mexico-institutions/>) section of the catalog for a full list of courses.

³ Courses are identical to those offered at New Mexico State University Las Cruces (main) Campus.

NOTE: All courses in this program may be applied toward a Bachelor of Applied Studies of Individualized Studies degree at NMSU.

(60 credits)

A Suggested Plan of Study

The contents of this roadmap may vary depending on initial student placement in mathematics and English. This is only a suggested plan of study for students, and is not intended as a contract. Individual student academic plans may vary. Please contact your academic advisor to create a plan that works for you. Course availability may vary from fall to spring semester and may be subject to modification or change.

NOTE: Students must earn a final grade of C- or better in all Criminal Justice (CJUS) and Law Enforcement (LAWE) courses and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. A grade of C- or better is required in ENGL 1110G Composition I and designated Mathematics courses.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 60 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

| Semester 1 | Credits |
|--|---------|
| Area I: communications - English Composition Level 1 | 4 |
| ENGL 1110G Composition I | |
| Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences | 3 |
| POLS 1120G American National Government | |

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|--|---|-----------|
| LAWE 201 | Introduction to Juvenile Delinquency | 3 |
| CJUS 1110G | Introduction to Criminal Justice | 3 |
| Elective Course - chosen in consultation with academic advisor | | 3 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| Semester 2 | | |
| Area II: Mathematics - Choose one course from NM General Education | | 3 |
| Area III | | |
| SOCI 1110G | Introduction to Sociology | 3 |
| CJUS 1120 | Criminal Law | 3 |
| CJUS 2120 | Criminal Courts and Procedure | 3 |
| Elective Course - Chosen in consultation with academic advisor | | 3 |
| Credits | | 15 |
| Semester 3 | | |
| General Education Elective | | 3 |
| COMM 1115G or COMM 1130G | Introduction to Communication or Public Speaking | |
| CJUS 2150 | Corrections System | 3 |
| LAWE 207 | Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement | 3 |
| LAWE 233 | Practical Approach to Terrorism | 3 |
| Area V: Humanities | | 3 |
| PHIL 1115G | Introduction to Philosophy | |
| Credits | | 15 |
| Semester 4 | | |
| PSYC 1110G | Introduction to Psychology | 3 |
| CJUS 2160 | Field Experience in Criminal Justice | 3 |
| Elective Course - Chosen in consultation with academic advisor | | 8 |
| Credits | | 14 |
| Total Credits | | 60 |