

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Associate of Applied Science Degrees

- Corrections
- Law Enforcement

Associate of Criminal Justice Degree

The Corrections and Law Enforcement programs provide classroom instruction leading to an associate of applied science degree in the fields of corrections or law enforcement. These programs provide courses to prepare for entry-level careers in agencies at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as private agencies. Some of the career areas available to graduates are law enforcement, private security and related services, adult and juvenile corrections, probation and parole, law, and others.

Those currently working as career officers in corrections and law enforcement can also benefit from the program, which can provide them with a better understanding of their roles in the criminal justice system while helping them prepare for higher level positions within their organizations.

Required Skills and Abilities

Physical Abilities

This program requires that the student be able to—

- lift, carry and balance up to 125 pounds (250 pounds with assistance)
- assume a variety of postural positions and be capable of physical maneuvers ranging from crawling, kneeling, squatting, twisting, turning, and bending, to climbing stairs and ladders)
- withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture.

Technology Competencies

In an effort to assist students with adequate preparation for their coursework at DACC, technology competencies have been identified and established. These competencies are in effect for all courses taken in the Corrections, Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice programs. Students must possess the following minimum competencies. Additional competencies may be required for particular courses/programs:

- Access course and program material on the Web using Mozilla Firefox and/or MS Internet Explorer
- Correspond with DACC students and faculty using e-mail and the Web
- Read/print e-mail and attachments/files from students and faculty
- Complete, send, and receive assignments using e-mail and attachments/files
- Use the DACC Library e-books, e-journals, databases, or credible World Wide Web resources for research and completion of course assignments
- Prepare and conduct presentations in the classroom using presentation equipment as required.
- Use the appropriate software for a given course (DACC uses as standards Microsoft products, including MS Word, MS Project, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint)
- Use CD-ROMs when required as part of course assignments

- Use an appropriate anti-virus application to insure the files transmitted and received are virus free
- Use recommended plagiarism review software to insure work is not plagiarized

Private Security Background Checks for Corrections and Law Enforcement Majors

Every student focusing on the related career fields of fire, law enforcement, Homeland Security, private security, corrections, parole or probation will at some point be subject to a background and criminal history check.

A background check requires that a student complete a multi-part background questionnaire identifying most of the following:

- All names and aliases used; marriages and divorces
- Previous home and work addresses, names of employers, teachers, and schools, including dates of work and attendance and or transcripts
- Medical history including any mental health or drug use
- Credit history
- Criminal history to include arrests, traffic and infraction tickets (Juvenile arrest histories may not be shielded from background checks even if the juvenile record has been sealed.)
- Military service record
- Driving record, suspensions, tickets and possession of a current driver's license
- Citizenship and/or immigration status to include birth certificate and valid social security number
- And any other background informational requirements unique to each agency
- Current and past Internet social networking information, profiles, postings, e-mail addresses, and cyber-vetting

NOTE: The following categories will eliminate a person from access to internships, training academies, off-site law enforcement related work-study opportunities, and most criminal justice related jobs:

- Arrest for domestic violence, DUI/DWI, drug use and possession, felony crimes, and misdemeanor crimes (agency dependent)
- Mental impairment based on mental illness and/or drug-alcohol abuse
- False statements on an application or background check
- Social networking or Internet postings deemed inappropriate or damaging to a candidate's reputation or reputation of potential hiring entities; also, any postings, images, etc., demonstrating a lack of moral turpitude
- Violations of laws involving moral turpitude
- Bad credit
- Objectionable visible body art, body modifications or piercings (tattoos on the neck may also disqualify if visible while participating/working)
- Failure to pass any job-related testing process, including, but not limited to, the following: written examination, oral interview board, physical fitness exam, background check, polygraph examination, psychological examination, medical examination

Degrees

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Corrections

The associate of applied science degree in corrections emphasizes the correctional aspect of the criminal justice systems and offers a broad understanding of correctional institutions and alternatives. General studies are offered to students seeking employment in confinement facilities, institutional security, and other similar programs. The student also is prepared to work in adult and juvenile correctional agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.

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.

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Law Enforcement

The associate of applied science degree in law enforcement emphasizes the law enforcement aspect of the criminal justice system. This degree offers the law enforcement student a general understanding of the police officer's multifaceted role in the United States. It also prepares the student with the basic foundations of police work for possible employment opportunities with local, state and federal governments, and private industry.

Most law enforcement officers are employed by the security industry and local, county, and state governments. They have duties that range from providing security to controlling traffic to preventing and investigating crimes. They maintain order, enforce laws and ordinances, issue traffic summonses, investigate accidents, present evidence in court, serve legal documents for the court system, and apprehend, arrest and process prisoners. Career opportunities include positions as private investigators, security officers, loss-prevention officers, police officers, sheriff and deputy officers, criminal investigators, game wardens, private detectives, and bailiffs.

Many law enforcement agencies encourage the applicants to take post-secondary school training in law enforcement-related subjects. Many entry-level applicants for police jobs have completed some formal post-secondary education and a significant number are college graduates. Knowledge of a foreign language is an asset in many federal agencies and urban departments.

Additional information on professional requirements and qualifications may be obtained from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, at www.bls.gov (<https://www.bls.gov>).

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

The Associate Degree in Criminal Justice

The associate of criminal justice introduces students to three facets of the criminal justice system: police, courts, and corrections. Broadly interdisciplinary—embracing the study of law, the humanities, and the natural, behavioral, and social sciences—the curriculum prepares students to transfer into the NMSU bachelor's degree program in criminal justice, or the bachelor of applied studies, at the junior level.

Corrections - Associate of Applied Science (<http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/law-criminal-justice/corrections-as/#requirementstext>)

Criminal Justice - Associate of Criminal Justice (<http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/law-criminal-justice/criminal-justice-as/>)

Law Enforcement - Associate of Applied Science (<http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/law-criminal-justice/law-enforcement-as/#requirementstext>)

Public Safety First Line Supervisor - Certificate of Achievement (<http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/law-criminal-justice/first-line-supervisor-certificate-achievement/>)

CJUS 1110G. Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 Credits (3)

This course provides an overall exploration of the historical development and structure of the United States criminal justice system, with emphasis on how the varied components of the justice system intertwine to protect and preserve individual rights. The course covers critical analysis of criminal justice processes and the ethical, legal, and political factors affecting the exercise of discretion by criminal justice professionals.

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the history, structure and function of the criminal justice system in the United States.
2. Discuss the role of law enforcement, court systems, corrections, and security in maintaining social order.
3. Identify and describe crime causation theories, various measures of crime and their reliability and victimization theories.
4. Relate fundamental principles, concepts and terminology used in criminal justice to current events.
5. Apply basic analytical and critical thinking skills in evaluating criminal justice issues, policies, trends and disparities.

CJUS 1120. Criminal Law**3 Credits (3)**

This course covers basic principles of substantive criminal law including elements of crimes against persons, property, public order, public morality, defenses to crimes, and parties to crime. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the concepts of substantive criminal liability in the United States, including actus reus, mens rea, causation, concurrence, and parties to crime.
2. Define the differences between criminal law and civil law in the United States.
3. Demonstrate basic knowledge of legal terminology as it relates to criminal law.
4. Identify the elements of crimes against persons, property, public order and the administration of justice, public morality, and the inchoate crimes.
5. Describe the various defenses to crimes.

CJUS 1996. Special Topics in Criminal Justice**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.

Learning Outcomes

1. Varies

CJUS 2120. Criminal Courts and Procedure**3 Credits (3)**

This course covers the structures and functions of American trial and appellate courts, including the roles of attorneys, judges, and other court personnel, the formal and informal process of applying constitutional law, rules of evidence, case law and an understanding of the logic used by the courts.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the application of the Constitutional Amendments that apply to criminal justice.
2. Explain and describe the dual court system in the U.S. and how courts enforce the rule of law.
3. Identify and list the duties and requirements of the courtroom workgroup.
4. Describe courtroom procedures, rules of the court, and due process of law.
5. Articulate basic knowledge of the U.S. criminal court system.
6. Define legal terms.
7. Explain the use of discretion in criminal procedure.
8. Differentiate the role of courts of limited jurisdiction, courts of general jurisdiction, and the appellate courts in the processing of criminal cases.

CJUS 2140. Criminal Investigations**3 Credits (3)**

This course introduces criminal investigations with in the various local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Emphasis is given to the theory, techniques, aids, technology, collection, and preservation procedures which insure the evidentiary integrity. Courtroom evidentiary procedures and techniques will be introduced. Community Colleges only. (Note: students completing CJUS 2140 may not take CJUS 321.)

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify developments in investigation technology.
2. Identify common types of criminal investigations and their key components.
3. Apply proper crime scene investigative protocols.
4. Explain proper evidentiary gathering and handling procedures, and utilize various interviewing techniques.
5. Identify and compare different law enforcement agencies and the role they play in criminal investigations.
6. Describe proper collection, evidence preservation, documentation, and court presentation.
7. Develop effective search authorization.

CJUS 2150. Corrections System**3 Credits (3)**

This course introduces the corrections system in the United States, including the processing of an offender in the system and the responsibilities and duties of correctional professionals. The course covers the historical development, theory, and practice, as well as the institutional and community-based alternatives available in the corrections process.

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the purposes of the corrections system and the issues facing the corrections system.
2. Explain the components of the corrections system and describe their functions.
3. Compare and contrast the different forms of correction practices.
4. Explain the goals of corrections, the different factors affecting the sentencing process, the legal rights of prisoners, and the issues concerning prison violence.
5. Explain the impact of reentry into society.
6. Identify the issues concerning capital punishment.
7. Describe the effectiveness of various correction programs on offenders.

CJUS 2160. Field Experience in Criminal Justice**3-6 Credits**

This course is designed to provide actual experience working for a criminal justice agency and the opportunity to apply criminal justice concepts and theory to a field situation. Students already working in an agency will complete an approved learning project while on the job.

Prerequisites: CJUS 1110G, prior arrangement and consent of instructor and a GPA of 2.0 or better in major.

Learning Outcomes

1. Obtain practical experience by observing, researching, and working in a criminal justice agency.
2. Apply the knowledge of principles, theories, and methods that were learned in the classroom to situation in which field experience will be devoted
3. Instill an understanding for general and specific problems that criminal justice agencies encounter on a daily basis.
4. Develop a professional work ethic and attitudes, including reliability, professional responsibility, and the ability to work cooperatively with others.

CJUS 2220. The American Law Enforcement System**3 Credits (3)**

This course covers the historical and philosophical foundations of law and order, with an in-depth examination of the various local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and how they interact within the criminal justice system.

Learning Outcomes

1. Discuss, evaluate, and analyze the role of police in the democratic society today, and the historical development of modern day law enforcement
2. Define and explain the different types of community policing and the valid reasons behind their application within a community
3. List and discuss the ways to overcome the barriers to change within a police organization, good recruitment, screening, and retention of employees
4. Analyze and discuss the history of and the different types of police patrol, as well as the use of force and deadly force, and methods used for controlling police behavior
5. Describe and discuss the different types of police behavior, potential oversight, and remedy and their limitations
6. List and discuss the benefits of higher and continued education, along with the minimum educational requirements for police officers
7. Evaluate and discuss the reasons for police stress and the methods of dealing with stressors
8. Interpret current court cases, both state and federal, that affect police procedures

LAW 180. Public Safety First Line Supervisor**3-6 Credits (3-6)**

This course is designed to enhance public safety personnel's human resource management and reduce organizational liability. Consent of Instructor required. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe and explain police administration.
2. Explain and discuss the various leadership and management theories.
3. Define and discuss the various types of leadership skills and management styles.
4. Express and discuss the role of the police administrator and police administration.
5. Explain the leadership required of police administrators for an effective Law Enforcement administration.
6. Describe and interpret the "quality approach to managing community relations"
7. Explain and discuss the necessities of introducing organizational change.
8. Explain and discuss the planning, programming and budgetary process including: variables that affect the decision-making process.
9. Analyze and discuss the role of effective communications in a police organization including negotiations and conflict resolution. 1
10. Explain and analyze the role of human resources in the organization including: their role in the recruitment and selection process; training; performance evaluations; promotions; and assessment centers. K) Discuss the role of police unions and explain their significance in labor relations.

LAW 201. Introduction to Juvenile Delinquency**3 Credits (3)**

An introductory overview of the juvenile justice system of due process, custody, detention and release. Note: course does not meet upper division requirements towards completion of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. Restricted to: Community Colleges Only.

LAW 202. Police Patrol Procedures**3 Credits (3)**

A critical review of police procedures and the influences on police behavior; policy development, including the police role; discretion; police community interaction and arrest, search and seizure. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

LAW 203. Introduction to Police Supervision**3 Credits (3)**

An introductory overview of police supervision and concerns as it applies to law enforcement. (Note: Course does not meet upper division requirements toward completion of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.) Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

LAW 204. Introduction to Homeland Security**3 Credits (3)**

A historical perspective of international and domestic terrorist threats and the need to develop cohesive response policies and practices in the interest of National Security. [Course does not meet requirements towards completion of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.]

Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Prerequisite(s): CJUS 1110G.

LAWE 205. Practical Field Investigations**4 Credits (3+3P)**

Incorporates the current methods and techniques for the management of the crime scene, includes documentation, collection and preservation of evidence and case presentations. [Course does not meet requirements towards completion of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.]

Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

Prerequisite(s): CJUS 1110G and CJUS 2140.

LAWE 206. Traffic Enforcement and Crash Investigations**3 Credits (3)**

History and development of traffic laws and regulations, including basic elements of traffic violations, detection, apprehension, impaired drivers and guidelines and procedures for effective crash investigations and reporting. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

LAWE 207. Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement**3 Credits (3)**

An evaluation of police authority including responsibilities, civil liability, liability implications, legal obligations, legal restraints, laws of arrest, and search and seizure. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

LAWE 221. Law Enforcement Internship**3 Credits (3)**

Application of knowledge, skills and abilities, in an agency as an intern and integrated member of a law enforcement affiliated agency.

Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

LAWE 233. Practical Approach to Terrorism**3 Credits (3)**

Gives responders an overall safety approach in recognizing and responding to incidents involving terrorism. Presents and overview in types of harm, explosive weapons, chemical weapons, biological weapons and radiological weapons. [Course does not meet requirements towards completion of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.]

Restricted to: Dona Ana campus only. Crosslisted with: FIRE 233

LAWE 255. Special Topics**1-3 Credits (1-3)**

Introductory special topics of lower division level work that provides a variety of timely subjects and content material. Specific subjects to be announced in the Schedule of Classes. A passing grade of C- or better is required. May be repeated up to 6 credits. Consent of Instructor required.

Restricted to Community Colleges campuses

Learning Outcomes

1. Obtaining foundational skills in the administration of justice by differentiating the role of police and corrections in contemporary America.
2. Competence in the legal elements of constitutional, criminal, and substantive law, rules of evidence, search and seizure, and the role of the courts in the adjudication of the law in America.
3. Ability to identify, analyze, and synthesize knowledge from discipline-specific courses in criminalistics, legal aspects, homeland security, terrorism, and patrol operations to effectively conduct a practical field investigation and traffic crash investigation.
4. Ability to develop a criminal justice ethical perspective consistent with 21st century America to, effectively and ethically, perform a criminal justice role in law enforcement or corrections.
5. Basic crime scene management, crime scene note-taking techniques, collection of evidence, and case presentations.
6. An application of knowledge, skills, and abilities, as an intern or integrated member of a criminal justice affiliated agency.

LAWE 298. Independent Study**3 Credits (3)**

Individual studies directed by the consenting faculty with prior approval of the department chair. A passing grade of C- or better is required. May be repeated up to 6 credits. Consent of Instructor required. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses

Prerequisite(s): Sophomore standing with a 3.0 or better GPA.

Learning Outcomes

1. Obtaining foundational skills in the administration of justice by differentiating the role of police and corrections in contemporary America.
2. Competence in the legal elements of constitutional, criminal, and substantive law, rules of evidence, search and seizure, and the role of the courts in the adjudication of the law in America.
3. Ability to identify, analyze, and synthesize knowledge from discipline-specific courses in criminalistics, legal aspects, homeland security, terrorism, and patrol operations to effectively conduct a practical field investigation and traffic crash investigation.
4. Ability to develop a criminal justice ethical perspective consistent with 21 st century America to, effectively and ethically, perform a criminal justice role in law enforcement or corrections.
5. Basic crime scene management, crime scene note-taking techniques, collection of evidence, and case presentations.
6. An application of knowledge, skills, and abilities, as an intern or integrated member of a criminal justice affiliated agency.
7. Effective communication, orally and in writing, using appropriate references and technologies.
8. Analytical and critical thinking skills when solving complex issues in criminology and the criminal justice system.
9. Competence using and applying appropriate criminological theories on crime causation. 1
10. Competence in understanding and describing how gender, race, ethnicity, age, social class, and sexuality contribute to differing experiences in the criminal justice system. 1
11. Competence in understanding how the inter-dependence of the major components of the criminal justice system (i.e., police, courts, correctional agencies) affect victims, offenders, justice professionals, and society. 1
12. Competence in understanding and applying the fundamental elements of both criminal and constitutional law. 1
13. Competence in the legal foundation of criminal justice and the importance of due process.

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