

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A degree in criminal justice can be the first step to an exciting and rewarding career in public safety. The program gives students knowledge to apply their education directly on the job or to continue study toward a four-year degree. The criminal justice concentration offers two options: corrections and law enforcement. These options take an interdisciplinary approach that provides a knowledge base and encourages initiative and integrity. After completing an associate of arts degree, students may choose to transfer to a four-year college. Career fields include law enforcement, probation and parole, counseling, education, social services, security, and counseling.

Individuals considering employment in the criminal justice profession must be aware of strict admission qualifications. Factors that usually disqualify candidates from employment in the profession include a criminal record (i.e. theft, assault, murder), history of drug/alcohol abuse, significant psychological/personal disorders, physiological disorders, neuromuscular dysfunction, dishonesty, etc. Law enforcement agencies hire only the best qualified individuals available in order to obtain and maintain public trust and confidence at all times.

Suggested Program of Study for  
Associate of Arts Degree (2 years)  
Corrections Option

FRESHMAN YEAR

First Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice .....	3
CRIM 1020 Introduction to Corrections.....	3
ENGL 1010 English Composition I .....	3
Fine/Performing Arts* .....	3
History* .....	3
	15

Second Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 2250 Community Based Corrections .....	3
CRIM 2100 Juvenile Justice.....	3
HPER 1500 Lifetime Wellness .....	3
SOCI 1010 Introduction to Sociology.....	3
Oral Communication* .....	3
English/Literature*.....	3
	18

SOPHOMORE YEAR

First Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 2200 Criminology.....	3
CRIM 2300 Sociology of Deviant Behavior.....	3
Mathematics* .....	3-5
Electives** .....	6
	15-17

Second Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 2000 Criminal Law.....	3
CRIM 2280 Issues in Corrections*** .....	3
Natural Science* .....	4-5
Social Science* .....	3
Elective** .....	3
	16-17

**Total Credit Hours 64-67**

To earn an associate of arts degree, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours that include the general education requirements listed on page 37 of this catalog.

\* See general education requirements on page 37.

\*\* Recommended electives: CRIM 2400 Jail Management Certification Training; SOCI 2320 Social Problems; SOCI 2150 Issues of Unity and Diversity; SPAN 1200 Elementary Spanish I, PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology and PSYC 2800 Abnormal Psychology (Prerequisite: PSYC 1810).

\*\*\*Student must have earned a minimum of 18 credit hours of criminal justice coursework.

Suggested Program of Study for  
Associate of Arts Degree (2 years)  
Law Enforcement Option

FRESHMAN YEAR

First Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice .....	3
ENGL 1010 English Composition I .....	3
CRIM 2260 Criminal Investigation.....	3
Mathematics* .....	3-5
Social Science* .....	3
	15-17

Second Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 1270 Introduction to Criminalistics.....	3
CRIM 2350 Security & Loss Prevention.....	3
HPER 1500 Lifetime Wellness .....	3
Oral Communication* .....	3
Natural Science* .....	4-5
	16-17

SOPHOMORE YEAR

First Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 2030 Police and Society.....	3
CRIM 2310 Rules of Evidence .....	3
Behavioral Science* .....	3
English/Literature*.....	3
Elective** .....	3
	15

Second Semester

Course	Credits
CRIM 2000 Criminal Law.....	3
CRIM 2180 Criminal Justice Organization and Management*** .....	3
Elective** .....	3
Fine/Performing Arts*.....	3
History* .....	3
	15

**Total Credit Hours 61-64**

To earn an associate of arts degree, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours that include the general education requirements listed on page 37 of this catalog.

\* See general education requirements on page 37.

\*\* Recommended electives: CRIM 2400 Jail Management Certification Training; SOCI 2320 Social Problems; SOCI 2150 Issues of Unity and Diversity; SPAN 1200 Elementary Spanish I, PSYC 1810 Introduction to Psychology, and PSYC 2800 Abnormal Psychology (Prerequisite: PSYC 1810).

\*\*\* Student must have earned a minimum of 18 credit hours of criminal justice coursework.

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The cooperative associate of applied science degree in Nebraska law enforcement provides a special track for students at the six community colleges who want to pursue a career in law enforcement. This track includes criminal justice courses with common learning objectives identified by the colleges and the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) in Grand Island. As a result of the common learning objectives, the students will complete an abbreviated certification program at the Center designated as a practicum. Upon graduation, the students will have an associate's degree and certification training for Nebraska law enforcement.

## Required Program of Study for Associate of Applied Science Degree (2 years) Law Enforcement

### FRESHMAN YEAR

First Semester	
Course	Credits
CRIM 1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice .....	3
CRIM 2200 Criminology .....	3
CRIM 2260 Criminal Investigation.....	3
ENGL 1010 English Composition I .....	3
MATH1045 or higher.....	3-5
HPER Basic Sports Series .....	1
	16-18

Second Semester	
Course	Credits
CRIM 2100 Juvenile Justice.....	3
CRIM 1030 Courts & the Judicial Process* .....	3
SOCI 1010 Introduction to Sociology .....	3
SPCH 1010 Fundamentals of Communication or SPCH 1110 Public Speaking .....	3
HPER Basic Sports Series .....	1
	13

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

First Semester	
Course	Credits
CRIM 2030 Police & Society.....	3
CRIM 2310 Rules of Evidence .....	3
PSYC 1810 Intro to Psychology.....	3
HPER Basic Sports Series .....	1
Social Science*** .....	2-3
Approved Elective** .....	0-3
	12-16

Second Semester	
Course	Credits
CRIM 1140 Report Writing* .....	3
CRIM 2000 Criminal Law.....	3
CRIM 2150 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice*.....	3
HPER Basic Sports Series .....	1
Science or Technology course*** .....	2-5
	12-15

Summer	
Course	Credits
CRIM 2940 Practicum (NLETC)**** .....	9

**Total Credit Hours** **62-71**

\*Class provided to NECC students from other Nebraska community colleges.

\*\*Approved electives: Human Relations, Word Processing, CPR, Spanish, Ethics, Cultural Diversity, Technical Communications, Social Problems, or others approved by the advisor.

\*\*\*See associate of applied science degree requirements on page 40.

\*\*\*\*Admission to the NLETC will include:

- Twelve weeks (540 contact hours)
- Screening to ensure each student meets the standard to be a law enforcement officer in the state of Nebraska
- A review of the student's transcripts to ensure a passing grade overall, and a grade of "C" in all CRIM classes.
- NLETC fees, estimated at approx. \$6,000, price does not include meals while at the training center. (Assistance may be available to the student in order to defray some or all of the NLETC fees)