

Criminal Justice Program

Division of Social Sciences — Curriculum Code: 0898
Will Earn Upon Program Completion: Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree

Why major in Criminal Justice?

The program is designed to prepare each student to transfer upon graduation to a four-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or a related field, or to enter the job market directly. The program offers students preparation to enter or progress in the fields of professional law enforcement, pre-law, corrections, probation, parole, corporate security, juvenile youth services, and sky marshal.

If I major in Criminal Justice, can I transfer to an upper-division college or university?

Yes. You may choose to transfer to one of the following area four-year institutions. Essex County College, through the NJ Transfer Program, has entered into transfer/articulation agreements with all the following four-year colleges and the universities in the State: Rutgers, New Jersey City University, Kean University, William Patterson, and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. These institutions admit students who complete their A.S. degree as juniors. This means you can complete your freshman and sophomore year at affordable Essex County College. There is also an articulation agreement with Thomas Edison State College, which offers an alternate route to a Bachelor's Degree. This program features blended courses, online classes, and continued study at ECC for satisfaction of the four-year degree requirement. Consult with your advisor or transfer coordinator to review specific requirements for gaining junior status upon transfer.

Are there any requirements I must satisfy before I start taking courses in my major?

New students are required to take the basic skills competency test. Based on the results of the test, you may be required to take developmental courses in reading, English, and/or mathematics.

How long will it take for me to complete this degree?

If you do not need developmental course work and you register for an average of 17 credits each semester, you can complete the degree in two years. You may shorten the amount of time by taking courses in the summer.

Where should I direct specific questions about this program?

Contact the Division at (973) 877-3250.

Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- ◆ Describe the basic theories that form the foundation of the criminal justice discipline;
- ◆ Demonstrate basic knowledge of criminal law and the rights of individual citizens;
- ◆ Describe the role of the criminal justice officer in the community, and the organization and administration of the various entities in the criminal justice system;
- ◆ Explain the correctional process;
- ◆ Analyze the nature of crime and criminal behavior based on major theories and current issues and the relationship of the theories to research, policies, and practices in the field of criminal justice.
- ◆ Describe the procedures involved in criminal investigation;
- ◆ Recognize the application of physical and biological sciences to physical evidence;
- ◆ Recognize social and political trends within society that influence areas of criminal justice; and
- ◆ Demonstrate critical thinking skills within the context of evaluating the complexity of criminal justice issues.
- ◆ Explain the ethical responsibilities of criminal justice professionals;
- ◆ Analyze the impact of societal diversity on the criminal justice system.
- ◆ Explain victimization, including who victims are, the effects of victimization on victims and society and processes for including victims in the criminal justice system.
- ◆ Demonstrate effective communication skills.
- ◆ Explain the theory, structure, and function of the juvenile justice system.
- ◆ Explain the theory, structure and function of courts.

Criminal Justice — A.S. Degree Program

<p>GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: (33 credits)</p> <p>Communications (6 credits) ENG 101 College Composition I 3 ENG 102 College Composition II 3</p> <p>Social Science (6 credits) POL 104 American Government 3 ANT 101, PSY 101, or SOC 101 3</p> <p>Lab Science/Math (12 credits) MTH 100 or higher 4 BIO 101-102 or 103-104 or 121-122; or CHM 101-102 or 103-104; or PHY 101-102 8</p> <p>Humanities (9 credits) Select one course from the following: HST 101 & 102; HST 111 & 112; HST 121 & 122; HST 131 & 132; HST 134 & 135; HST 136 & 137; HST 161 & 162 3 One of the following 200-level English lit. courses approved as Gen. Ed. requirement: ENG 205, 208, 215, 221, 222, 232, 237, 238, 242, 250, 263, or 264 3 ART 100, 101, or 102 or MUS 100, 108, or 109 3</p> <p>MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS: (21 credits)</p> <p>CJI 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 CJI 121 Introduction to Corrections 3 CJI 136 Criminology 3 CJI 202 Crime and Delinquency 3 CJI 205 Criminal Law 3 Two courses selected from: CJI 102, 103, 111, 112, 120, 123, 203, 204, 210, or 250 6</p> <p>ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS: (12 credits)</p> <p>Select English literature requirement 3 Elementary Spanish I and II or Elementary French I and II 6** Complete the History sequence 3</p> <p>Total Credits Required for Degree 66</p>	<p>RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES:*</p> <p>First Semester</p> <p>Math/Lab Science requirement 4 CJI 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 ENG 101 College Composition I 3 History course within a sequence 3 Spanish/French requirement 3</p> <p>Second Semester</p> <p>Math/Lab Science requirement 4 Any CJI required course or CJI elective. Suggested: CJI 102 Police Role in the Community or CJI 103 Probation and Parole or CJI 136 Criminology 3 ENG 102 College Composition II 3 Complete the History sequence 3 Spanish/French requirement 3</p> <p>Summer</p> <p>Social Science requirement 3 ART/MUS requirement 3</p> <p>Third Semester</p> <p>English literature requirement 3 Math/Lab Science requirement 4 CJI 136 Criminology or CJI elective 3 CJI 121 Introduction to Corrections 3</p> <p>Fourth Semester</p> <p>English literature requirement 3 CJI 202 Crime and Delinquency 3 CJI 205 Criminal Law 3 Criminal Justice requirement 3 POL 104 American Government 3</p>
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***NOTE:** This plan assumes the completion of all required developmental courses in reading, writing, and mathematics as well as other pre- and co-requisites for some of the courses, as listed in the Course Descriptions section.

** See advisor for other language options, such as Arabic.