

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (517)

## About Our Program

This program is designed for both those intending to transfer to a four-year baccalaureate program as well as for those seeking immediate employment following completion of the two-year program. The guiding theme for this program is twofold. First, for participants to think critically about the broader context (i.e., social, cultural, and political) within which the activity of criminal justice occurs. Second, for participants to gain competencies enabling them to learn the skill set associated with the practical implementation of criminal justice.

## Nature of Work and Employment

A broad range of employment options exist in both the private and public sectors depending upon qualifications. Examples of areas of employment would include; but not be limited to the following: law enforcement, corrections, court reporting, parks and wildlife, and social work.

## Special Considerations

The listed coursework is a recommendation only. Students should check with a student advisor for HCC graduation requirements and specific university requirements in this major. Students must meet with an advisor to ensure that the special requirements of the department and institution to which they plan to transfer are met. Colleges and universities have specific requirements for transfer students.

## Requirements

### Associate of Arts Requirements

Students must meet all requirements for the Associate of Arts degree (<https://catalog.highland.edu/programs-available/aa-requirements/>) in order to graduate from Highland Community College. For more information, please see your advisor.

## Recommended Courses

The following are recommended courses for this major only.

Code	Title	Hours
CJS 101	Intro to Criminal Justice	3
CJS 102	Intro to Corrections	3
CJS 201	Criminology	3
CJS 202	Juvenile Delinquency	3
CJS 204	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3

### Recommended Electives (Law Enforcement)

Code	Title	Hours
CJS 205	Criminal Investigation	3
CJS 206	Policing in America	3
CJS 208	Intro to Terrorism	3
CJS 212	Communication/Criminal Justice	3

### Recommended Electives (Corrections)

Code	Title	Hours
CJS 220	Probation and Parole	3
CJS 212	Communication/Criminal Justice	3

### Recommended Electives (Law)

Code	Title	Hours
CJS 203	Criminal Law	3
CJS 210	Criminal Procedure	3

### Recommended Electives (Cyber Security)

Code	Title	Hours
CJS 103	Intro to Cyber Security	3
CJS 214	Cybercrime/Computer Forensics	3

### Other Recommended Electives

Code	Title	Hours
INFT 180	Intro to Information Systems	3
SOCI 276	Racism & Diversity/Contemp Soc	3
SOCI 271	Social Problems	3
PHYD 121	Physical Fitness I	1

## Program Outcomes

- Students will be able to describe various historical and modern day challenges confronted in dealing with deviant behavior in society and associate these with proactive evidence-based reforms and solutions.
- Students will be able to examine historical origins and current social issues from a variety of philosophical and theoretical perspectives on how human behavior has shaped culture and society.
- Students will be able to outline the various elements of the criminal law, Amendment provisions and protections, and how these connect to the duties of working in each realm the criminal justice system.
- Students will be able to describe the history and application of punishment, sentencing, rehabilitation, community corrections, and programming for deviant behavior in the criminal justice system.
- Students will be able to compare the various strengths and weaknesses of a variety of treatment programs available for offenders and special populations within the correctional realm.
- Students will be able to distinguish effective law enforcement strategies and responses relating to homeland security and security threats.
- Students will be able to justify the vital ethical practices for those working in the criminal justice field.
- Students will demonstrate effective oral and written communication pertaining to the social sciences involving quantitative research, theory, and practice.
- Students will develop critical thinking skills encompassing the daily operations of each component of the criminal justice systems' function within society.

## Program Contacts

Call Highland at 815-235-6121 for the following program contacts:

- Jennifer Roser, Criminal Justice Faculty
- Wes Bertram, Student Advisor

- Rae Schubach-Roe, Dean, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts

Last updated: 2025-09-9 14:38:06