MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGE SOUTHEAST

Criminal Justice

100% Online

The 100% online Criminal Justice program offers educational options to help you meet your goals.

Are you motivated to serve your community? Do you have a strong sense of justice? Are you curious about what goes on behind the scenes in law enforcement, the courts, and correctional facilities? Minnesota State College Southeast's Criminal Justice program is an excellent place to start your education in the fields of law enforcement and human services.

The four Criminal Justice options at Southeast provide students with varying levels of education. While some positions require an associate degree or higher, the knowledge and skills attained through a certificate or diploma is preferred for many entry level jobs. These tiered awards allow students to earn credentials at their own pace as their schedules permit.

For maximum flexibility, all Criminal Justice coursework is available 100% online, so you can plan your education around the work and family commitments in your life.

Certificate - 16 Credits
If you're considering an entry level position within a criminal justice or human services field, the 16-credit Criminal Justice certificate is a good place to start. This program includes two liberal arts classes and three classes directly related to criminal justice, plus a 1-credit class in Career and Education planning.

Diploma - 32 Credits
The Criminal Justice Diploma includes a balance of 16 liberal arts credits and 16 criminal justice credits. This coursework is foundational to any career path in the field. If you have already earned the certificate, you can add classes to complete the diploma.

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) - 60 Credits
The AAS includes more in-depth studies in topics such as computer crimes, evidence procedures, and criminal law. If you have already earned the diploma, you can add classes to complete the Associate of Applied Science degree.

Criminal Justice Transfer Pathway (AS) - 60 Credits
The AS is a pathway degree designed for students who are planning to continue to earn a bachelors degree at a Minnesota state university. You'll transfer seamlessly with a flexible, affordable combination of criminal justice classes and the 40-credit Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) package.

Every faculty member in Southeast's Criminal Justice program has experience in the criminal justice profession, totaling over 150 years of experience. Additionally, all faculty have graduate degrees. This combination of expertise in the profession coupled with commitment to higher education is a testimony to the depth and knowledge of Southeast's Criminal Justice Program.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Explore the historical development of Law Enforcement, Courts, and Corrections

Overview of the evolution, history, theories and societal responses associated with the juvenile justice system

Make-up of the criminal justice system and their interrelationships in our diverse society

How society influences policing

Examine issues of crime, violence, and punishment from the perspectives of criminal justice professionals, criminals, and prisoners

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Corrections Officers
Probation Officers
Local Police Departments
State and Federal Agencies
Human Services
Correctional Treatment Specialist
Security Officers
Gaming Surveillance Officers
Wildlife and Conservation Officers

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1. Understand how the criminal justice system works and how public opinion influences policies for responding to crime
2. Understand the numerous components of criminal justice system
3. Understand the causation of friction between community and police such as political influence, corruption, policy/law discretion, and discriminatory acts
4. Understand the sociological, psychological, and biological perspectives on the causation of crime and criminal behavior
5. Understand hiring practices, training evolutions, subcultures, attitudes, and orientation of criminal justice professionals

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Full-time Sample Program Plans

Please note that these are sample program schedules. Your schedule may vary depending upon your needs, goals, and course availability. Please meet with your advisor to plan your schedule each semester.

Criminal Justice - Certificate

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
SOCS1110	Introduction to Sociology **OR**	
PSYC1110	Introduction to Psychology	3
INSP1525	Career and Educational Planning	1
CJSP1102	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
Semester total		**7**
Second Semester (Spring)		
HUMA1125	Moral Problems	3
CJSP1230	Introduction to Corrections	3
CJSP1220	Police and Community	3
Semester total		**9**
	Total Required Credits - 16	

Criminal Justice - AAS

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
ENGL1215	College Writing I	3
SOCS1110	Introduction to Sociology	3
HUMA1125	Moral Problems	3
INSP1525	Career and Educational Planning	1
MATH	Any 1000 level math course	2
CJSP1102	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
Semester total		**15**
Second Semester (Spring)		
SPAN1230	Introduction to Hispanic Cultures	3
PSYC1110	Introduction to Psychology	3
POLS1101	Introduction to Political Science	3
CJSP1220	Police and Community	3
CJSP1230	Introduction to Corrections	3
Semester total		**15**
Third Semester (Fall)		
SOCS2545	Diversity and Social Change	3
CJSP2104	Introduction to Criminology/ Criminal Behavior	3
CJSP2110	Juvenile Justice/Delinquency	3
CJSP2140	Crime Victims/Computer Crimes	3
CJSP2250	Leadership/Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Semester total		**15**
Fourth Semester (Spring)		
HUMA1430	Exploring World Cultures	3
CHEM1225	Introduction to Forensic Science **OR** other Restricted Gen Ed Elective	3
COMM1228	Interpersonal Communication	3
CJSP2205	Criminal Law and Procedures **OR**	
CJSP2202	Constitutional Law	3
CJSP2225	Courtroom and Evidence Procedures	3
Semester total		**15**
	Total Required Credits - 60	

Criminal Justice - Diploma

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
ENGL	Any 1000 level English course	2
SOCS1110	Introduction to Sociology	3
INSP1525	Career and Educational Planning	1
CJSP1102	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CJSP2110	Juvenile Justice/Delinquency	3
CJSP2250	Leadership/Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Semester total		**15**
Second Semester (Spring)		
MATH	Any 1000 level Math course	2
HUMA1125	Moral Problems	3
PSYC1110	Introduction to Psychology	3
SPAN1230	Introduction to Hispanic Cultures	3
CJSP1220	Police and Community	3
CJSP1230	Introduction to Corrections	3
Semester total		**17**
	Total Required Credits - 32	

Criminal Justice Transfer Pathway - AS

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
First Semester		
CJSP 1102	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
ENGL 1215	College Writing I	3
HUMA 1125	Moral Problems	3
MATH 1230	Introduction to Statistics	3
PSYC 1110	Introduction to Psychology	3
Semester total		**15**
Second Semester		
CJSP 1220	Police and Community	3
CJSP 1230	Introduction to Corrections	3
CHEM 1225	Introduction to Forensic Science	3
COMM 1228	Interpersonal Communication	3
INSP 1525	Career and Educational Planning	1
SOCS 1110	Introduction to Sociology	3
Semester total		**16**
Third Semester		
BIOL 1201	Introduction to Biology	4
CJSP 2104	Introduction to Criminology/ Criminal Behavior	3
CJSP 2110	Juvenile Justice/Delinquency	3
HUMA 1435	Multicultural America	3
SOCS 2545	Diversity and Social Change	3
Semester total		**16**
Fourth Semester		
CJSP 2205	Criminal Law and Procedures **OR**	
CJSP 2202	Constitutional Law	3
ENGL 2525	College Writing II	3
HLTH 1105	Personal Health and Fitness I	1
SPAN 1230	Introduction to Hispanic Cultures	3
SOCS 1205	Sociology of the Family	3
Semester total		**13**
	Total Required Credits - 60	

Please note:

The Criminal Justice program does not lead directly to a professional license. Additional education and training is required to meet the standards established by the Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board for employment as a peace/law enforcement officer.