

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (A.S.)



The Criminal Justice program will prepare you for careers in law enforcement, investigation, corrections, courts, private security, juvenile justice, or related opportunities in the legal field. It also will help those of you who presently work in criminal justice and want to broaden or improve your job skills and knowledge, and those who want to learn more about our American legal and justice system and how laws work. In addition to law and the legal underpinnings of the criminal justice system, you will explore psychology, criminal behavior, political science, social systems and problems, communication skills, and ethics.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- CRJ-1010 - Introduction to Criminal Justice
- CRJ-2020 - American Judicial Process
- CRJ-2050 - Criminology
- POS-1050 - The Constitution
- ENG-1020 - Introduction to Research Methods*
- PHI-1040 - Introduction to Ethics*
- SOC-1020 - Ethnicity & Diversity in the U.S. *or*
SOC-2040 - Race, Ethnicity, Class & Gender*
- POS-2070 - National Security & Terrorism* *or*
any 3-credit criminal justice course
- EDU-2860 - Community & Work Experience

Electives – 12 credits

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



* You may use a course to meet both a program requirement and a general education requirement; however, you may not use a single course to meet two general education requirements.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Core Competencies

- First Semester Seminar

- Technological Literacy

- Communication
Meets graduation standard in oral communication

- English Composition
- Mathematics

- Research & Writing Intensive
ENG-1020 - Introduction to Research Methods

Areas of Inquiry

- Scientific Method

- Human Expression
PHI-1040 - Introduction to Ethics
- Human Behavior
SOC-2040 - Race, Ethnicity, Class, & Gender *or*
SOC-1020 - Ethnicity & Diversity in the U.S.

Integrative Approaches

- Global Perspectives & Sustainability
POS-2070 - National Security & Terrorism
- Seminar in Educational Inquiry
Meets graduation standard in writing & information literacy
- Quantitative Reasoning Assessment
Meets graduation standard in quantitative reasoning

MINIMUM TOTAL CREDITS IN DEGREE: 60

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Criminal Justice Program Outcomes

Successful graduates will be able to:

- articulate the philosophy, concepts and practices of the major components of the American criminal justice system: law enforcement, the courts, rehabilitation, detention facilities, and corrections;
- compare and contrast the various psychological and sociological theories that account for criminal behavior;
- evaluate the principal research methodology for measuring criminal behavior;
- explain the protections afforded criminal defendants by the U.S. and Vermont Constitutions, and identify the major Supreme Court decisions applicable to the American criminal justice system;
- distinguish between restorative and retributive justice models and explain the various societal responses to criminal behavior;
- demonstrate an understanding of how data on crime, recidivism, and crime prevention are collected, reported, and analyzed;
- describe a variety of psychological, social, cultural, and environmental factors that affect human behavior;
- demonstrate some of the ways social scientists research and interpret evidence;
- demonstrate academic skills required of all CCV graduates including competency in critical thinking, writing, information literacy, oral communication and quantitative reasoning; and
- identify their career and transfer options and assume a professional role in the workplace.

How & Why Our Degree Works

CCV's Criminal Justice program boasts an excellent track record in providing a solid foundation for entering such career areas as investigation and legal research, advocacy, community and protective services, police work and national and world security. Over the past five years, 92% of our graduates report that they are either working in the field, serving in the military, or continuing their education at a four-year college. Our faculty are experts in the field and experienced teachers who offer focused, relevant approaches to current criminal justice issues. In addition, this program is flexible and convenient, since most courses are available online in a one-year cycle and are also offered regularly at several CCV locations.

Career Opportunities

The demand for qualified workers in law enforcement and criminal justice has never been greater, as the industry is experiencing a period of steady growth at all governmental levels. Local, state, and federal jobs in the field are expected to increase nationwide by over 800,000 by the end of this decade (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2004). CCV's criminal justice degree will prepare you for positions in law enforcement, advocacy, corrections, parole and probation, private security, or legal investigation, as well as the growing field of homeland security. It is also an excellent credential for advancement to higher levels of responsibilities for those already working in the field.

Transfer Options

CCV's Criminal Justice degree will transfer easily to these bachelor's programs:

- Castleton State College – B.A. degree in criminal justice
- College of St. Joseph – B.A. degree in criminal justice and B.A. degree in criminal justice (focus on corrections)

CCV and the Vermont Criminal Justice Council (Vermont Police Academy) now offer 15 credits in criminal justice courses for graduates of the full-time certification program.

"I find that being involved with students and other faculty members in the Criminal Justice program at CCV keeps me motivated and well informed. CCV offers students learning opportunities that empower them to challenge themselves and ultimately be more prepared to enter the Criminal Justice field."

*– Trevor Whipple
Chief of Police, South
Burlington Police Department
Appointed to the Public
Safety Officer Medal of Valor
Review Board by the US
Department of Justice (2008)*

**For more information
visit www.ccv.edu,
call 800-CCV-6686 or
your local CCV office.**

CCV is committed to non-discrimination in its learning and working environments for all persons. All educational and employment opportunities at CCV are offered without regard to race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, or disability.