

Degree Description

The objective of these criminal justice courses is to prepare students for careers in criminal justice with an understanding of the criminal justice system in state, county and municipal law enforcement; corrections; courts; security; and other criminal justice-related agencies. Curricula in law enforcement and corrections are available to meet the different needs of the student by teaching workplace competencies.

NOTE: This certificate is available completely online.

Ask your advisor or visit www.mclennan.edu/online for more details.

A grade of C or higher is required in all Criminal Justice classes for graduation.

Marketable Skills 1.Demonstrate Critical Thinking skills to assess and evaluate information in stressful situations. 2.Self-management to plan and organize task in a demanding corrections environment without close supervision.

3.Effectively communicate verbally and in writing. 4.Function in a team setting to accomplish goals and tasks. 5.Make appropriate ethical decisions using stated policy and procedures

6.Skill to overcome negative situations and adversity to accomplish goals while maintaining a professional demeanor.

Semester I	Hours
CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice ¹	3 hours
CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices	3 hours
CRIJ 1307 Crime In America	3 hours
CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals Criminal Law ¹	3 hours
CRIJ 1313 Juvenile Justice System	3 hours
CJSA 1308 Criminalistics I	3 hours
CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation	3 hours
	21 hours
Semester II	Hours
CRIJ 2323 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement	3 hours
CRIJ 2328 Police Systems & Practices	3 hours
DAAC 1317 Basic Counseling Skills	3 hours
Criminal Justice elective	3 hours
	12 hours

Total hours: 33 hours

¹ May be eligible for articulation with a high school that has a current articulation agreement with McLennan. See the high school counselor for information.

Course Descriptions

CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice

History, philosophy, and ethical considerations of criminal justice; the nature and impact of crime; and an overview of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement and court procedures. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices

Study of the judiciary in the American criminal justice system and the adjudication processes and procedures. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 1307 Crime In America

American crime problems in historic perspective, social and public policy factors affecting crime, impact and crime trends, social characteristics of specific crimes, and prevention of crime. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals Criminal Law

Study of criminal law, its philosophical and historic development; major definitions and concepts, classification and elements of crime, penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations and criminal responsibility. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 1313 Juvenile Justice System

A study of the juvenile justice process to include specialized juvenile law, role of the juvenile law, role of the juvenile courts, role of police agencies, role of correctional agencies, and theories concerning delinquency. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CJSA 1308 Criminalistics I

Introduction to the field of criminalistics. Topics include the application of scientific and technical methods in the investigation of crime including location, identification, and handling of evidence for scientific analysis. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation

Investigative theory, collection and preservation of evidence, sources of information, interview and interrogation, uses of forensic sciences, and case and trial preparation. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 2323 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement

Police authority; responsibilities; constitutional constraints; laws of arrest, search, and seizure; and police liability. This course will serve as a Capstone for the AAS degree and Certificate in Law Enforcement. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

CRIJ 2328 Police Systems & Practices

The police profession, organization of law enforcement systems, the police role, police discretion, ethics, police-community interaction, and current and future issues. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

DAAC 1317 Basic Counseling Skills

An overview of basic counseling skills. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)
