

## 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](http://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
<a href="#">CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice</a> <sup>1</sup>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1307 Crime In America</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals Criminal Law</a> <sup>1</sup>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1313 Juvenile Justice System</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1308 Criminalistics I</a>	3 hours
	<b>18 hours</b>

Semester II	Hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2323 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2328 Police Systems &amp; Practices</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">DAAC 1317 Basic Counseling Skills</a> <i>or</i> <a href="#">SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">Criminal Justice elective</a>	3 hours
	<b>15 hours</b>

**Total hours: 33 hours**

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

## Electives/General Education Courses

### Criminal Justice

<a href="#">CJCR 2325 Legal Aspects of Corrections</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1308 Criminalistics I</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1372 Forensic Art</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1373 Forensic Anthropology</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1392 Special Topics - Crime Analysis</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1393 Special Topics: Criminal Justice Studies</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 1400 Death Investigation I</a>	4 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 2389 Internship - Criminal Justice</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 2471 Forensic Science I</a>	4 hours
<a href="#">CJSA 2472 Forensic Science II</a>	4 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1307 Crime In America</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 1313 Juvenile Justice System</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2301 Community Resources in Corrections</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation</a>	3 hours
<a href="#">CRIJ 2323 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement</a>	3 hours

## Course Descriptions

### **CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice**

This course provides a historical and philosophical overview of the American criminal justice system, including the nature, extent, and impact of crime; criminal law; and justice agencies and processes, and an overview of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement and court procedures. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices**

This course is a study of the court system as it applies to the structures, procedures, practices and sources of law in American courts, using federal and Texas statutes and case law. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CRIJ 1307 Crime In America**

American crime problems in historical 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)

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### **CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals Criminal Law**

This course is the study of criminal law including application of definitions, statutory elements, defenses and penalties using Texas statutes, the Model Penal Code, and case law. The course also analyzes the philosophical and historical development of criminal law and criminal culpability. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **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)

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### **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)

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### **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)

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### **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)

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### **CRIJ 2328 Police Systems & Practices**

This course examines the establishment, role and function of police in a democratic society. It will focus on types of police agencies and their organizational structure, police-community interaction, police discretion; police ethics, and use of authority and current and future issues. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **DAAC 1317 Basic Counseling Skills**

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

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### **SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication**

Application of communication theory to interpersonal relationship development, maintenance, and termination in relationship contexts, including friendships, romantic partners, families, and relationships with co-workers and supervisors. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CJCR 2325 Legal Aspects of Corrections**

A study of the operation, management, and legal issues affecting corrections. Analysis of constitutional issues involving rights of the convicted, as well as civil liability of correctional agencies and staff. This course will serve as the Capstone for the AAS and Certificate in Corrections. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **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)

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### **CJSA 1372 Forensic Art**

Course addresses forensic art reconstruction techniques that are used for the postmortem identification of persons and the identification/location of missing or wanted individuals, including age progressions, reconstructive and composite drawings, clay construction of a skull and muscles and clay reconstruction of appearance on a plastic skull model. Semester Hours 3 (2 lec/2 lab)

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### **CJSA 1373 Forensic Anthropology**

This online course surveys the recovery and analysis of skeletal remains. Estimation of biological factors such as age at death, sex, ancestry, stature, pathology and time since death will be explored. The role of physical anthropology in criminal investigation will be discussed. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CJSA 1392 Special Topics - Crime Analysis**

This course introduces students to the role of professional crime and intelligence analysis in criminal investigations, crime prevention and homeland security. The concepts of the intelligence cycle, behavior analysis, data mining and use of information technology to further goals in criminal investigations, crime prevention and homeland security within legal and constitutional boundaries will also be introduced. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CJSA 1393 Special Topics: Criminal Justice Studies**

Forensic Art is face-to-face in the classroom and Forensic Anthropology is an online class. (Forensic Art) In this science-based anthropology course, as it relates to criminal justice, students will practice the forensic art reconstruction techniques that are used for the postmortem identification of persons and the identification/location of missing or wanted individuals. This includes age progressions, reconstructive and composite drawings, clay construction of a skull and muscles, and clay reconstruction of appearance on a plastic skull model. Students will use pencil and paper to create imagery in two dimensions and modeling clay to reconstruct craniofacial appearance in three dimensions. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec) (Forensic Anthropology) This course will survey the recovery and analysis of skeletal remains. Estimation of biological factors such as age at death, sex, ancestry, stature, pathology and time since death will be explored. The role of physical anthropology in criminal investigation will be discussed. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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### **CJSA 1400 Death Investigation I**

Students will develop concepts, investigation processes, scene management, required documentation and case management for incidences of natural, accidental and suicidal deaths. Students will follow the Department of Justice National Guidelines for Death Investigation and meet the criteria for academic credit recognition from the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators. Semester Hours 4 (3 lec/2 lab)

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## **CJSA 2389 Internship - Criminal Justice**

This course serves as the Capstone for the Level II Certificate within the Criminal Justice program. Semester Hours 3

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## **CJSA 2471 Forensic Science I**

An introduction to crime scene investigation, evidence gathering, and preservation. Utilizing lecture and lab, this course presents the methods, procedures, and techniques for the analysis and preservation of crime scene evidence appropriate for first responders to a crime scene. Includes the use of scientific instrumentation to perform trace analysis of hair and fiber, stains, epithelial cells, latent fingerprints, DNA, and other basic evidence gathering techniques. Additional skills and knowledge will be obtained from guest speakers and local documented cases. In the process, students will gain hands-on experience as well as practical understanding of the basic operation of a busy forensic lab. Semester Hours 4

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## **CJSA 2472 Forensic Science II**

A forensic science lecture/lab course focused on research in adolescent and adult neuropsychology. A study of the latest research from neuroimaging related to biological templates for violence within Paul MacLean's Triune Brain paradigm. Explores the developmental sequencing and powerful illumination of the brain's centers of addiction and the impact of neurocriminalistics, such as brain mapping and brain fingerprinting. The psychopathology and known offender characteristics will be analyzed and discussed. Also demonstrated are how forensic specialists analyze mens rea (the criminal mind), MO (modus operandi), signature, and criminal aftermath activity as part of crime scene analysis. Prerequisite: CJSA 2471. Semester Hours 4 (3 lec/2 lab)

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## **CRIJ 1307 Crime In America**

American crime problems in historical 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)

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## **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)

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## **CRIJ 2301 Community Resources in Corrections**

An introductory study of the role of the community in corrections, community programs for adults and juveniles, administration of community programs, legal issues, and future trends in community treatment. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

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## **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)

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## **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)

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