

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE (AS) - 60 CREDITS

### About this program

The Associate of Science degree in Criminal Justice prepares students for careers in law enforcement. M State's Criminal Justice program has been designated a Professional Peace Officer Education Program by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training. Students seeking a career in law enforcement will be prepared for and offered the opportunity to complete all educational and practical requirements necessary to apply for peace officer licensing. The internship program provides students with comprehensive training to develop additional skills in critical thinking, communications and practical application. Criminal Justice faculty have extensive academic and practical experience within the field. Students seeking an AS in Criminal Justice are required to declare that intention prior to the second semester of coursework. Acceptance into the program is contingent on the student's completion of at least 12 credits of required general education courses. Achievement of a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher. Successful completion of a personality assessment provided and evaluated through M State. [^Approximate cost = \$140] Completion of a criminal background check through the State of Minnesota or applicable state. [^Approximate cost = \$15] Achievement of at least a C in all Criminal Justice classes. Completion of a required initial advising session with the program coordinator. Note that expenses listed in brackets above and marked by ^ are not eligible for financial aid. If there are more applicants who meet the above criteria than the program can accommodate, applicants will be selected based on program application date. Registration to some Criminal Justice courses is restricted to AS degree students unless approved by the program coordinator.

### Program outcomes

1. Students will gain basic knowledge and career skills, and develop values and attitudes consistent with professional career employment opportunities within the criminal justice system.
2. Students will participate in quality learning experiences that will help to prepare each student for the challenges of their selected career choice.
3. Students will be afforded the opportunity to gain the necessary knowledge, skills, and values needed for the smooth transition to an advanced degree program within criminal justice fields of study.
4. Students, interested in law enforcement, will acquire the necessary academic requirements for peace officer licensing set forth by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officers Standards and Training.
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of maintaining effective collaborative relationships with all federal, state, and local criminal justice organizations, human service agencies, area communities, and community-based organizations.
6. Students will develop a code of behavior consistent with the professional attitudes and ethical standards expected of police officers and criminal justice professionals.
7. Students will demonstrate an understanding of community involvement and service through internships, volunteer opportunities, and community service projects.

### Employment

The career opportunities for students in the field of Criminal Justice are constantly growing. The high standards set by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training make graduates of MSCTC's Criminal Justice A.S. Degree program in demand in Minnesota and across the United States. Just a few of the possible career choices available to Criminal Justice students are: local, state, and federal law enforcement, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Department of Corrections, private security,

homeland security, and local corrections officer.

## Curriculum overview

Crds	Requirement type
33	Required courses
6	Restricted electives in subjects
21	Restricted electives in course types
60	<b>Total</b>

**Developmental courses note:** A student may be required to enroll in developmental courses in reading, writing and math. A student's scores on the Accuplacer assessment will determine enrollment in developmental courses. The purpose of developmental courses is to prepare students for the demands of a college-level curriculum. *Credits may vary.*

**Accreditation:** The program is accredited by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training. Minnesota State Community and Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. More information can be found at [www.minnesota.edu/accreditation](http://www.minnesota.edu/accreditation).

# Curriculum requirement details

## Required courses

Course	Crds
COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication .....	3
CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice .....	3
CRJU1102 - Policing and Practices .....	3
CRJU1104 - Juvenile Justice and Delinquency .....	3
CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science .....	3
CRJU2201 - Criminal Law .....	3
CRJU2202 - Criminal Procedures .....	3
CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing .....	3
CRJU2209 - Criminal Investigations .....	3
ENGL1101 - College Writing .....	3
ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing .....	3

## Other requirements or restricted electives

### 6 credits from one or more of these Subjects:

- CRJU

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### 21 credits from these Course Types:

- General Education w/MnTC Goals
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## Course summaries

### **COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course will focus on improving students' abilities to communicate effectively in one-to-one dyadic encounters by providing experience-based instruction. Extensive in-class and out-of-class analyses allow the student to examine his/her own and others' informal social interactions. The long-term goal is for the student to apply interpersonal communication theories to daily interactions and draw his/her own conclusions about the effectiveness of interpersonal communication.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Assessment into ENGL 1101

### **CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice** ..... (3 credits)

This course serves as an introduction to the American criminal justice system including police, courts and correctional systems. Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training Board objectives are also covered in this course.

### **CRJU1102 - Policing and Practices** ..... (3 credits)

This course includes an introduction into the development of American policing and an understanding of the modern roles and functions of police in a democratic society. These roles and functions include responsibilities in peacekeeping, law enforcement, community policing and customer service. Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives are also covered.

### **CRJU1104 - Juvenile Justice and Delinquency** ..... (3 credits)

This course covers the study of juvenile delinquency, the theories of causation and the methods of corrections. It also examines the juvenile court and correctional systems. Minnesota juvenile law will be explored as it relates to the Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training objectives.

### **CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science** ..... (3 credits)

This course is devoted primarily to Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training objectives, including but not limited to the following areas: cultural awareness, stress management, domestic abuse, crisis intervention, communication, bias-motivated crimes, victims, ethics and human behavior.

### **CRJU2201 - Criminal Law** ..... (3 credits)

This is a course in substantive law, including the elements of major crimes and possible legal defenses. This course also familiarizes students with the Minnesota criminal statutes focusing on Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board objectives.

### **CRJU2202 - Criminal Procedures** ..... (3 credits)

This course covers the study of constitutional law and criminal procedures utilizing the opinions of the United States Supreme Court and Minnesota Rules of Criminal Procedure. Emphasis is placed on the constitutional guidelines for law enforcement, rules of arrest, search and seizure, and the Minnesota Rules of Criminal Procedure. Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives relating to criminal procedure are also covered.

### **CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing** ..... (3 credits)

This course provides the technical understanding and practical application in basic police report writing, field note taking and standardized report forms commonly used by law enforcement. Emphasis is placed on developing a clear, concise style in expressing factual, relevant information in an acceptable format relevant to criminal case procedures. Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives for police report writing are also covered.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- ENGL1101

OR

- GSCO1102

### **CRJU2209 - Criminal Investigations** ..... (3 credits)

This course covers the methodology of criminal investigations from preliminary investigation to court proceedings. It also covers evidence recognition, collection and preservation. Police reporting relevant to investigations is also covered, along with all Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives relating to investigation of crime.

### **ENGL1101 - College Writing** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This is an introductory writing course designed to prepare students for later college and career writing. The course focuses on developing fluency through a process approach, with particular emphasis on revision. Students will consider purpose and audience, read and discuss writing and further develop their own writing processes through successive revisions to produce polished drafts. Coursework will include an introduction to argumentative writing, writing from academic sources and a short research project.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Completion of ELL1085, ENGL0096, or ENGL0097 with a grade of C or higher OR placement into college-level English.

**ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing ..... (3 credits)**

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course provides instruction in writing and designing professional and technical documents, including print and non-print correspondence, descriptions, instructions, reports and proposals, along with promotional material. Analysis, critical thinking and synthesis of sources will be covered, along with the development of presentation skills. Coursework also includes a formally documented, multi-source professional project.

**Prerequisites:**

- ENGL 1101 College Writing



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### Program Plan — "Primary"

Locations: Moorhead

#### 1st Fall Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

Course	Crds
CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice .....	3
ENGL1101 - College Writing .....	3

##### 9 credits in one or more of the following:

General Education w/MnTC Goals

#### 1st Spring Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

Course	Crds
CRJU1104 - Juvenile Justice and Delinquency .....	3
CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science .....	3
ENGL1215 - Professional and Technical Writing .....	3

##### 6 credits in one or more of the following:

General Education w/MnTC Goals

#### 2nd Fall Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

Course	Crds
COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication .....	3
CRJU1102 - Policing and Practices .....	3
CRJU2201 - Criminal Law .....	3
CRJU2209 - Criminal Investigations .....	3

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

General Education w/MnTC Goals

#### 2nd Spring Term (15 credits)

##### Courses

Course	Crds
CRJU2202 - Criminal Procedures .....	3
CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing .....	3

##### 6 credits in one or more of the following:

Course Subject: CRJU

##### 3 credits in one or more of the following:

General Education w/MnTC Goals