

Academic Programs

Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement - Associate in Applied Science (081)

This program prepares students for careers in law enforcement agencies such as municipal police departments, county sheriffs' departments, state police and private security concerns. The program includes general education courses and provides an emphasis on criminal justice courses and supportive social science courses.

Nature of Work and Employment

Law enforcement majors pursue careers as municipal police officers, sheriffs' deputies, state troopers and private security guards. The job market in law enforcement is closely tied to legislation to fund it. If funding of tax supported law enforcement does not meet society's demand for law enforcement, growth will occur in the market for trained personnel in private security.

Special Considerations

Law enforcement students should cultivate their communications skills. Much of effective law enforcement is based on the communication skills of arresting officers. Students should also be aware of the strength and agility standards required of applicants by law enforcement agencies in Illinois. The College offers a wide range of physical education courses and a super circuit fitness center for those who are concerned about meeting these requirements. Younger students should seriously consider studying for a bachelor's degree as the job market for law enforcement majors is competitive. Previous criminal record and felony convictions can negatively impact the opportunity to gain employment in the field.

Program Contacts at Sauk Valley Community College

- Academic Advising, 815-835-6354
- Dr. Stephen F. Miko, Professor, Criminal Justice, 815-835-6256

Total Hours Required - 61 Hours

Major Field Requirements - 27 Hours

- CJS ELECTIVE-CJS 250 RECOMMENDED 3 SEMESTER HOUR(S)
- CJS130 - Criminal Investigation (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS200 - Ethics in Criminal Justice (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS231 - Criminal Evidence & Procedure (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS232 - Police and Patrol Operations (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS233 - Community Policing (3 Semester Hours)
- CIS109 - Introduction to Computers (3 Semester Hours)
- PSC163 - Am Government & Politics (3 Semester Hours)
- PSY103 - Introduction to Psychology (3 Semester Hours)

Criminal Justice Core Courses - 15 Hours

- CJS101 - Intro to Criminal Justice (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS120 - Introduction to Corrections (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS135 - Criminal Law (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS208 - Juvenile Delinquency (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS238 - Criminology (3 Semester Hours)

General Education Requirements - 18 Hours

- Communications ENG 101 (required and one of the following: COM 131, ENG 103 or 111 6 Semester hour(s)
- Humanities/Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)

- Social/Behavioral Science (SOC 111 required) 3 Semester hour(s)
- Physical/Life Science 3 Semester hour(s)
- Mathematics (MAT 106 or higher required) 3 Semester hour(s)

SVCC Requirement - 1 Hours

- FYE101 - First Year Experience (1 Semester Hours)

Suggested Program

First Semester - 16 Hours

- Mathematics (MAT 106 or higher) 3 Semester hour(s)
- CJS101 - Intro to Criminal Justice (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS120 - Introduction to Corrections (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS130 - Criminal Investigation (3 Semester Hours)
- ENG101 - Composition I (3 Semester Hours)
- FYE101 - First Year Experience (1 Semester Hours)

Second Semester - 15 Hours

- CIS109 - Introduction to Computers (3 Semester Hours)
 - CJS232 - Police and Patrol Operations (3 Semester Hours)
 - COM131 - Intro to Oral Communication (3 Semester Hours)
- OR**
- ENG111 - Bus/Technical Communication (3 Semester Hours)
- OR**
- ENG103 - Composition II (3 Semester Hours)
- PSC163 - Am Government & Politics (3 Semester Hours)
 - SOC111 - Introduction to Sociology (3 Semester Hours)

Third Semester - 15 Hours

- Humanities/Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)
- CJS200 - Ethics in Criminal Justice (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS208 - Juvenile Delinquency (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS233 - Community Policing (3 Semester Hours)
- PSY103 - Introduction to Psychology (3 Semester Hours)

Fourth Semester - 15 Hours

- Physical/Life Science 3 Semester hour(s)
- CJS135 - Criminal Law (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS231 - Criminal Evidence & Procedure (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS238 - Criminology (3 Semester Hours)
- CJS Elective - CJS 250 Criminal Justice Practicum recommended- 3 Semester Hour(s)