

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Program Information

Do you desire to make the world a better and safer place? Do you believe in justice and protection? If so, studying criminal justice at San Jacinto College is an excellent place to begin.

Our program prepares you for a variety of exciting and meaningful careers—law enforcement, emergency management, homeland security, corrections, probation, parole, and even social work. We offer a degree plan that prepares you for a career in criminal justice—one of the most popular, fascinating, and fastest growing fields. Choose this path, and you will be serving society with a chance to make the world a better place.

The San Jacinto College Criminal Justice program:

- Offers students a career that gives back to their community. When you study criminal justice at San Jacinto College, you are supporting safety as you train to serve as a professional in the criminal justice field;
- Prepares students to specialize in studies for their long-term goals that can lead to rewarding careers in social work, the FBI, pre-law, homeland security, and emergency management; and
- Is best for those individuals who want to pursue a challenging career in a criminal justice profession. Criminal justice is today's *new* liberal arts degree.

Additional Information

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree offers the educational foundation needed in policing, social work, corrections, probation, and parole. In addition, the program has certificates that focus on educational direction and are centered around professional fields.

Working police officers who have completed a basic police academy and passed the state's licensing exam may be eligible to earn credit for prior learning through San Jacinto College once they complete at least one credit hour at San Jacinto College. Students may contact the Department Chair for more information.

Career Opportunities

- Police Officers
- Parole Officers
- Probation Officers

- Adult Protective Service Officers
- Child Protective Service Officers
- Social Workers
- Pre-law
- Emergency Management
- Homeland Security
- FBI

Earning Potential

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office dispatcher starting salary: \$20.69 per hour¹

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office detention deputy starting salary: \$23.25 per hour¹

Harris County detention officer starting salary: \$41,080 per year²

Pasadena Police Department patrol officer starting salary: \$69,945 per year³

Rosenberg Police Department police officer starting salary: \$63,470 per year⁴

Webster Police Department police officer starting salary: \$65,631 per year⁵

¹ Source: www.brazoria-county.com, 2023

² Source: <https://www.harriscountysoc.org/Default.aspx>, 2023

³ Source: <https://www.pasadenatx.gov/633/Employment-Opportunities>, 2023

⁴ Source: www.rosenbergpolice.com, 2023

⁵ Source: www.cityofwebster.com, 2023

For more information, students may contact Central campus, 281-476-1873; or North campus, 281-998-6350, x7435.

Campuses

Central Campus

North Campus

San Jac Online

Information

Criminal Justice is an interdisciplinary program with enough flexibility to permit students to pursue diverse interests within the system. For example, an Associate of Arts (AA) in Criminal Justice allows students interested in social work, probation, parole, law, or law enforcement to have a foundational understanding before transfer to the university for a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree. Students directed toward probation, parole, or corrections work are advised to select courses from the transfer core. Students seeking an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Criminal Justice have the opportunity to earn three certificates on the pathway to that degree. The AAS transfers to a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science (BAAS) degree at many universities.

Students enrolling in San Jacinto College programs with external learning experiences (e.g., internship, externship, cooperative, etc.) will be required to comply with the immunization requirements and policies of the external learning sites to engage in all external learning experiences. Vaccination requirements at external learning sites are implemented

pursuant to the independent authority of such facilities and are not mandated by San Jacinto College. Failure to meet the immunization requirements mandated by external learning sites may limit a student's ability to complete the program and/or may delay the student's graduation date. San Jacinto College does not process exemptions, and students should address potential vaccination exemptions directly with the external learning site.

Admission

No admission requirements.

Job entry requirements:

Some occupations in the criminal justice field require applicants to pass a background investigation, psychological exam, drug test, and physical examination. Those entering law enforcement must pass all of the above as well as have no Class A or above convictions or no Class B convictions in the past 10 years.

In accordance with Texas House Bill 1508, the College informs all students in this program who may have a criminal background that a criminal history could keep graduates from being licensed by the state of Texas. Students with any questions about their background and licensure may speak with the Department Chair.

Plan of Study

3CRIJ

First Term		Credits
CRIJ 1301/ CJSA 1322	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRIJ 1306/ CJSA 1313	Court Systems and Practices	3
CRIJ 1310/ CJSA 1327	Fundamentals of Criminal Law	3
CRIJ 2328/ CJSA 1359	Police Systems and Practices	3
CRIJ 2313/ CJCR 1307	Correctional Systems and Practices	3
Credits		15
Second Term		
CRIJ 1307/ CJSA 1312	Crime in America	3
CJLE 1327	Interviewing and Report Writing for Criminal Justice Professions	3
CRIJ 2323/ CJSA 2300	Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement	3
CRIJ 2314/ CJSA 1342	Criminal Investigation	3
CJSA 1348	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Credits		15
Third Term		
CRIJ 2301	Community Resources in Corrections	3
CJSA 2323	Criminalistics II	3
CRIJ 1313/ CJSA 1317	Juvenile Justice System	3
CJSA 1351	Use of Force	3

CJLE 1333	Traffic Law and Investigation	3
Credits		15
Fourth Term		
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology	3
HUMA 1301	Introduction to the Humanities I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
Select one of the following:		3
SPCH 1311	Introduction to Speech Communication	
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking	
SPCH 1318	Interpersonal Communication	
SPCH 1321	Business and Professional Speech	
Mathematics		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		60

Capstone: CRIJ 2323 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement or CJSA 2300 Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement