

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## What is Criminal Justice?

This program is designed for students who would like to earn an associate degree with a concentration in criminal justice and have the ability to transfer to a baccalaureate criminal justice program. Students complete general education, criminal justice, and elective courses in the plan of study to help prepare for careers in law enforcement, corrections, probation, or private security.

## What you will learn

- Identify effective written and oral communication skills and express oneself in a clear and professional manner.
- Summarize the basic knowledge of policing, courts, and corrections of crime and criminal justice.
- Discuss the diverse and multicultural nature of society and identify standards of ethical behavior.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically think and problem solve, and the ability to conceptualize ideas in the professional criminal justice environment.

## Type of college degree

- Associate of Science (two years) designed to transition into the Criminal Justice Bachelor's degree at MSU Billings or MSU Northern

## Career information

According to a 2013 employment projection by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, individuals with an associate degree earn a median salary of \$785 a week compared to those holding only a high school diploma, who earn a median salary of \$652 a week. Unemployment rates were also lower for those holding an associate's degree compared to high school graduates: 6.2 percent for associate's degree-holders and 8.3 percent for high school diploma-holders. As you can see education pays. And to top it off, an associate degree in criminal justice or a related field can be completed in two years, and sometimes even less.

Graduates of criminal justice associate degree programs commonly enter professions like the ones listed below

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Airport Security    | Bailiff          |
| Corrections Officer | Law Enforcement  |
| Police Officer      | Private Security |
| Body Guard          |                  |

## When will classes be offered?

Classes will be offered in on-campus and some on-line formats at both campuses of MSU Billings.

## Job Outlook and Pay Info

Job Title	US median wage	MT median wage
Police Patrol Officer	\$61,050	\$54,070
Correction Officer	\$43,540	\$38,830
Security Guard	\$26,900	\$24,810
Private Detective/Investigator	\$50,700	\$40,650

\*Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Employment Projections; MT Dept. of Labor and Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau (projections through 2024)

# Criminal Justice

## (Associate of Science Program of Study)

Required Courses (includes General Education)	Credits
ARTZ 101 Art Fundamentals .....	3
BIOB 101 Discover Biology .....	3
^#CJUS 226 Introduction to Probation.....	3
^#CJUS 227 Introduction to Policing .....	3
*COMX 111 Introduction to Public Speaking .....	3
*COMX 115 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication.....	3
ECP 291 Special Topics .....	3
HSTA 101 American History I.....	3
M 121 College Algebra .....	3
*PHL 110 Introduction to Ethics: Problems of Good and Evil .....	3
PHSX 103 Our Physical World .....	3
PHSX 104 Our Physical World Laboratory .....	1
REHA 201 Introduction to Diversity in Counseling .....	3
+*SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology .....	3
+SOC 201 Social Problems.....	3
+SOC 221 Criminal Justice System .....	3
*WRIT 101 College Writing I.....	3
WRIT 121 Introduction to Technical Writing .....	3
Electives.....	8
<b>Total minimum credits .....</b>	<b>60</b>

\* Required general education course

+ Also required for BS in Criminal Justice

# Can also be used as a restricted elective for BS in Criminal Justice

^ Prerequisites are SOC 101 and CRIM 221

## Suggested Plan of Study

### Criminal Justice AS Degree

First Semester	Credits
BIOB 101.....	3
WRIT 101 .....	3
HSTA 101.....	3
ARTZ 101.....	3
M 121 .....	3
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>15</b>

Second Semester	Credits
PHSX 103.....	3
PHSX 104.....	1
WRIT 121 .....	3
SOC 101 .....	3
SOC 201 .....	3
SOC 221 .....	3
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>16</b>

Third Semester	Credits
PHL 101 .....	3
COMX 111 .....	3
COMX 115 .....	3
CJUS 226.....	3
CJUS 227.....	3
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>15</b>

Fourth Semester	Credits
REHA 201 .....	3
ECP 291.....	3
Electives .....	8
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>14</b>