

LAW ENFORCEMENT FORENSICS

Students must have a minimum of an associate degree (or Junior/Senior standing), pass a criminal background check, and department chair approval prior to being accepted into ATC certificate program.

Course of Study for Associate in Science Degree Law Enforcement Forensics

First Year

Semester I – 16 Hours

CRIJ	1301	Introduction to Criminal Justice
SOCI	2336	Criminology
ENGL	1301	Composition and Rhetoric
HIST	1301	History I
BIOL	1406	General Biology I

Semester I – 17 Hours

CRIJ	1310	Fundamentals of Criminal Law
CRIJ	2314	Criminal Investigation
ENGL	1302	Composition and Literature
HIST	1302	History II
CHEM	1311/1111	General Inorganic Chemistry w/Lab
PHED	X1XX	Approved Physical Activity Course

Second Year

Semester I – 16 Hours

GOVT	2305	Federal Government
BCIS	1305	Business Computer Applications
PSYC	2301	Introduction to Psychology
MATH	1314	College Algebra
FORS	2440	Introduction to Forensic Science

Semester I – 17 Hours

GOVT	2306	Texas Government
SPCH	1315	Public Speaking
Humanities	X3XX	From Odessa College's Core
ARTS	X3xx	From Odessa College's Core
FORS	2450	Introduction to Forensic Psychology
PHED	X1XX	Approved Physical Activity Course

Program Total = 66 Semester Credit Hours

CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice (43.0104.5124) (3-0) 3 hours

History and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical considerations; crime defined; its nature and impact; overview of criminal justice system; law enforcement; court system; prosecution and defense; trial process; corrections. The student will describe and explain the history, philosophy and ethical considerations of criminal justice; define the nature and impact of crime on society and how it is integrated into the criminal justice system; distinguish between the civil and criminal court systems; and interpret the relationship between the components of the criminal justice system. (SCANS 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 11) Prerequisite: None.

CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals of Criminal Law (22.0101.5324) (3-0) 3 hours

A study of the nature of criminal law; philosophical and historical development; major definitions and concepts; classification of crime; elements of crimes and penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations; criminal responsibilities. The student will explain the historical and philosophical development of the nature of criminal law; describe definitions and concepts of criminal law and the classifications of crimes and penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations; list the elements of crimes using the Texas statutes as an illustration; and discuss criminal responsibilities as they apply to the criminal statutes. (SCANS 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11) Prerequisites: None.

CRIJ 2314 Criminal Investigation (43.0104.5524) (3-0) 3 hours

Investigative theory; collection and preservation of evidence; sources of information; interview and interrogation; uses of forensic sciences; case and trial preparation. The student will define the goals and objectives of criminal investigation; demonstrate ability to conduct proper crime scene investigations; illustrate the use of forensic science for various statutory offenses; and organize the criminal case including field notes, reports, crime scene activities and mandatory documentation of statutory warning. (SCANS 2, 3, 6, 9, 10, 11) Prerequisite: None.

FORS 2440 Introduction to Forensic Science (43.0106.51 24) (3-3) 4 hours

Survey of the procedures of crime scene investigation in gathering evidence and applicable scientific technologies that follow established protocols by first responders; a preview of how criminalists in forensic laboratories will process the gathered evidence presented. Approval maximum contact hours

FORS 2450 Introduction to Forensic Psychology (43.0106.52 24) (3-3) 4 hours

Survey of current perspectives and technologies in the analysis of criminal mind suggested by crime scene evidence; introduction applications of forensic psychology including the history and current practice of criminal profiling in the apprehension of serial killers as sexual predators. (Psychology 2301 is required as a pre-requisite for this course.)

BCIS 1305 Business Computer Applications (3-0) 3 hours

Computer terminology, hardware, software, operating systems, and information systems relating to the business environment. The main focus of this course is on business applications of software, including word processing, spreadsheets, databases, presentation graphics, and business-oriented utilization of the Internet. Keyboarding proficiency is highly recommended. Lab fee required. (SCANS 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9) Prerequisites: None.

BIOL 1406 General Biology I (3-3) 4 hours

This course is a study of the organizational aspects of cells from molecular to organismic levels. Students learn to understand and interpret terms and discover principles covering cell anatomy, cell biochemistry, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, cell reproduction and genetics. A taxonomic survey of the five kingdoms is also covered. In laboratory activities students learn to perform basic mathematical calculations of converting between the metric and English systems of measurement and acquire experimental data and reason to the interpretation of principles underlying the observations including cause and effect relationships. Lab fee required. (SCANS 1, 3, 6, 9) Prerequisite: Pass reading on THEA or COMPASS and be eligible for College Algebra by passing math on THEA or COMPASS or by passing the developmental math sequence.

CHEM 1311 General Inorganic Chemistry I (3-0) 3 hours

A lecture course designed as a first college-transfer course for students with some background in physical science. Covers such topics as chemical stoichiometry, atomic structure, bonding, formulas, equations, gas laws, solutions, etc. The student will be involved in reading information or problems and using critical thinking skills and mathematics to organize the information or to arrive at an answer; also requires student writing skills in order to communicate the information acquired in a written format. (SCANS 1, 3, 6, 9) Prerequisites: Pass all sections of the TASP/THEA exam and be eligible to take College Algebra. (Credit probably not transferable until CHEM 1111 is successfully completed.)

CHEM 1111 Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory I (0-3) 1 hour

A laboratory course that illustrates and reinforces principles and concepts of CHEM 1311 by use of quantitative experiments. Emphasizes interpreting and reporting of data. Stresses facility in handling scientific equipment. Lab fee required. (SCANS 1, 3, 6, 8, 9) Corequisite or prerequisite: CHEM 1311

ENGL 1301 Composition and Rhetoric (3-0) 3 hours

Consists of essentials of correctness and effectiveness in writing skills. Emphasizes reading and writing expository prose. Requires expository essays and collateral readings. Lab fee required for ENGL 1301

(Word Processing). (SCANS 1, 2, 9) Prerequisite: ENGL 0370 passed with a "C" or better or a satisfactory placement score.

ENGL 1302 Composition and Literature (3-0) 3 hours

Consists of reading and analyzing selected works from the principle genres of literature and introduces research techniques. Requires analytical papers on literature, research exercises, supplemental readings and examinations. (SCANS 1, 2, 9) Prerequisite: ENGL 1301.

GOVT 2305 Federal Government (3-0) 3 hours

Disseminates information and interprets the development of American political thought, the origins and development of the U.S. Constitution, federalism, public opinion, and the political process of American Democracy. Includes and interprets information on the institutions of government including the presidency, Congress, the courts, the bureaucracy of the U.S. government. Includes study of domestic and foreign policy issues such as civil rights, national defense, managing the economy, and welfare. This course does not satisfy the government requirement for teacher certification by the Texas Educational Agency. (SCANS 6) Prerequisite: Pass reading on THEA, COMPASS, or other state-approved alternate test.

GOVT 2306 Texas Government (3-0) 3 hours

Introduction to the history and practice of government at the state and local levels with a special emphasis to Texas. Topics include a study of general political theory, the Texas Constitution, structure of Texas government, citizen participation, elections and the general functions of county and municipal governments. This course satisfies the government requirement for teacher certification by the Texas Education Agency. (SCANS 6) Prerequisite: Pass reading on THEA, COMPASS, or other state-approved alternate test.

HIST 1301 United States History to 1877 (3-0) 3 hours

Organizes, interprets, and evaluates the European background, establishment of colonial foundations, rise of American nationality, growth and sectional crisis, and the Civil War and Reconstruction. (SCANS 6, 9) Prerequisite: Pass reading on THEA, COMPASS, or other state-approved alternate test.

HIST 1302 United States History From 1877 (3-0) 3 hours

Deals with the growth of big businesses and accompanying problems. Includes the interpretation and evaluation of American imperialism, causes and results of World War I, causes of World War II, postwar adjustments and prospective solutions. (SCANS 6, 9) Prerequisite: Pass reading on THEA, COMPASS, or other state-approved alternate test.

PSYC 2301 Introduction to Psychology (3-0) 3 hours

Presents a basic understanding of psychological terms, theories, and methodologies in the scientific discipline that studies behavior and mental processes. Cognitive abilities such as problem solving, decision making, and communication, affective states like building self-esteem and sociability, and behavioral events, where one participates as a group member, are explored. Information acquisition, interpretation, and communication of a psychological nature are the basis on which this course is predicated. In this way, psychological principles are understandable in the context of biology, the brain, neurotransmitters and hormones, personality theory, learning principles, life-span development, relationships, abnormal psychology, and therapies. A wide application of a variety of topics is the focus of this introductory course. (SCANS 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11) Prerequisite: None

SOCI 2336 Criminology (3-0) 3 hours

An in-depth study of current theories and empirical research pertaining to crime and criminal behavior and its causes, methods of prevention, systems of punishment, and rehabilitation. (SCANS 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) Prerequisite: None.

SPCH 1315 Public Speaking (3-0) 3 hours

In this course the student learns to apply oral communication skills toward a specified audience. Organization of ideas, the persuasion process, and audience analysis are components of the course objectives. The student will demonstrate these objectives through prepared messages using appropriate verbal and nonverbal techniques. (SCANS 5, 6, 9, 10, 11) Prerequisite: None.