

Criminal Justice-Police Science
 Campus: Vermilion

Associate of Science | 60 credits
First Year

| FALL SEMESTER 2024 – 15 credits | Prerequisites | Credits | Hr Lc/Lb |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| COMM 1220 – Interpersonal Communication (MnTC Goal 1) | | 3 | |
| ENGL 1231 – College Composition 1 (MnTC Goal 1) | (CLW) | 4 | |
| PDEV 1130 – Employment Strategies | | 1 | |
| SOC 1310 – Introduction to Criminal Justice (MnTC Goals 5 & 9) | (CLR) | 3 | |
| MnTC Goal Area 6 – Humanities Elective* (MnTC Goal 6) | (see catalog for courses and prerequisites) | 4 | |

| SPRING SEMESTER 2025 – 15 credits | Prerequisites | Credits | Hr Lc/Lb |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| CRJS 1412 – Criminal Investigations | (SOC 1310) | 3 | |
| ENGL 1240 – Technical Report Writing (MnTC Goal 1) | (ENGL 1231) | 3 | |
| MATH 1220 – College Algebra (MnTC Goal 4) | (MATH 0300) | 3 | |
| SOC 1200 – Introduction to Sociology (MnTC Goals 5 & 7) | (CLR) | 3 | |
| MnTC Goal 5 – ECON/HIST/POLS Elective* (MnTC Goal 5) | (see catalog for courses and prerequisites) | 3 | |

Second Year

| FALL SEMESTER 2025 – 15 credits | Prerequisites | Credits | Hr Lc/Lb |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| CRJS 2212 – Criminal Evidence and Procedure | (SOC 1310) | 3 | |
| EMSV 1400 – Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) | | 3 | (2/2) |
| NSCI 1220 – Environmental Science (MnTC Goals 3 & 10) | (CLR) | 3 | |
| PSYC 1215 – General Psychology (MnTC Goals 5 & 7) | (CLR) | 3 | |
| SOC 2335 – Crime and Delinquency (MnTC Goals 5 & 9) | (CLR) | 3 | |

| SPRING SEMESTER 2026 – 15 credits | Prerequisites | Credits | Hr Lc/Lb |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| CRJS 2213 (LAW 1520) – Criminal Law / Minnesota Statutes / Traffic Law | (SOC 1310) | 4 | |
| CRJS 2214 (LAW 1528) – Community Policing | (SOC 1310) | 3 | |
| HLTH 1515 – Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Education | (CLR) | 2 | (1/2) |
| SOC 1210 – Social Problems (MnTC Goals 5 & 8) | (CLR) | 3 | |
| MnTC Goal Area 6 – Humanities Elective* (MnTC Goal 6) | (see catalog for courses and prerequisites) | 3 | |

*MnTC elective courses may be taken in any semester.

Additional Recommended Courses

It is recommended that students intending to also earn the Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy (PRLEA) certificate enroll in the optional course, PHED 1650 – Physical Fitness, Wellness, and Nutrition, in the fall of their first year in preparation for the PEB test which is part of the PRLEA certificate. Other additionally recommended courses for the criminal Justice-Police Science student include EMSV 1490 – EMT Bridge, PHED 1150 – Weight Training, and PREC 1255 – Search Management Systems.

Additional Recommended Certificates

In order to be MN POST eligible, students must also complete the 19-credit Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy certificate, offered fall semester. Refer to separate check sheets to learn more about these certificates which provide the Wildland/Wildlife Law Enforcement AAS student with additional skills, and may increase employment opportunities: Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy, Wildlife Ecology, Backcountry Guide, Emergency Medical Services, and/or Wilderness Emergency Medical Services.

Program Description

The Criminal Justice-Police Science AS degree program prepares students for a career in criminal justice and law enforcement, and it meets the academic requirements of the Professional Peace Officer Education Program (PPOE) established by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). Students who wish to become peace officers must complete a state-certified law enforcement program that includes both the academic curriculum and law enforcement skills/clinical training (fulfilled by the additional Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy certificate).

Additional Information

Students considering careers in law enforcement need to be aware that in order to enter the police profession, specific standards and requirements must be met. Admission into the required PPOE skills training not only requires completion of an associate's degree, but it also requires meeting physical fitness standards, passing a psychological evaluation, and passing drug, medical, and background/criminal history screening. Additionally, a graduate must pass the POST examination for licensing in Minnesota in order to be eligible for employment as a peace officer in the state.

Occupational Titles

The Criminal Justice-Police Science AS curriculum is designed to prepare students for eventual careers as police officers or deputy sheriffs, in municipalities or the Minnesota State Patrol, or for careers in other areas of criminal justice, police science, and/or law enforcement. Students with this degree program can transfer into a related baccalaureate degree. They also meet the education requirement to enroll into Vermilion's Park Ranger Law Enforcement Academy certificate, to then continue on to a career as a law enforcement officer.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

1. Apply knowledge of the United States Constitution to law enforcement actions and procedures.
2. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of criminal evidence, court procedures, and corrections, as they pertain to juveniles and adults.
3. Apply knowledge of Minnesota traffic law and selected statutes as they pertain to MN Peace Officer duties.
4. Demonstrate proper crime scene fundamentals and investigative methods, from initial observations through courtroom testimony.
5. Conduct investigative interviews with evaluation of verbal and nonverbal behavior patterns while demonstrating proper criminal procedures.
6. Implement techniques of community oriented policing, including proactive policing and building positive relationships in diverse populations.
7. Identify resources offering assistance in developing community policing strategies.
8. Demonstrate competence in oral, written, and electronic communications.
9. Identify chemical substances, their classification, and their effects on the body and mind.
10. Determine treatment, medical, and/or placement options when dealing with individuals with chemical problems.
11. Demonstrate the competencies and clinical behaviors/judgments required by the National EMS Education Standards and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for an Emergency Medical Responder.

Transfer and Articulation Agreements

The strong composition of MnTC courses facilitates transfer to many 4-year institutions. Students wishing to complete the MnTC, or simultaneously complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences AA, should talk with their advisor.

Strong transfer relationships exist with Bemidji State University, Concordia University, St. Paul, St. Mary's University of Minnesota, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and Articulation Agreements are in progress.

Program Faculty Contact

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