

Criminal Justice–Law Enforcement

Associate in Applied Science Degree (AAS)

Overview

Are you considering a challenging career in law enforcement? This program will provide you with the fundamentals needed to enter the field of law enforcement. It will prepare you to meet the multitude of challenges you will face in the performance of law enforcement duties. Emphasis is placed on professionalism, integrity and quality work performance, with a significant focus on high ethical and moral standards.

You may be eligible to enter the law enforcement "Certification Track." Successful completion of the Certification Track provides the education and hands-on training required by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board to become certifiable as a law enforcement officer.

Professional responsibilities of a Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement graduate may include methodical patrol duties, traffic control and accident investigation, criminal investigations and crisis intervention.

Some graduates choose to become involved in civilian law enforcement duties such as record and document maintenance and dispatch or communications center operations.

The Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program is offered at the Wisconsin Rapids campus.

Mission

The purpose of the Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program is to provide education, training and retraining in the field of law enforcement. The program is designed to enhance opportunities for securing employment, ensure that labor force skills remain abreast of rapidly changing advancements and encourage the pursuit of further education.

Career Options

Civilian Law Enforcement Employee
Conservation Enforcement
Correctional Officer
Deputy Sheriff
Homeland Security
Law Enforcement Officer
Park Ranger
Private Security
Public Defender Investigator
State Trooper
Telecommunicator

Potential for Advancement

Administration
Drug Officer
Investigator
Safety Officer
Specialty Officer-Crime Prevention
Supervisor
Training Officer

Potential advancement generally requires further education.

Admissions Procedures

To apply to the Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program, please submit the following to MSTC Student Affairs Admissions Office:

1. WTCS application form and \$30 non-refundable application fee
2. Completed Accuplacer test. (Other test scores may be acceptable alternatives.) Entrance exam requirements for the Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program are:
 - Reading–Accuplacer score of 79 or equivalent
 - Language–Accuplacer score of 85 or equivalent
 - Math–Accuplacer score of 64 or equivalent

If a student does not meet the required scores in these academic areas, they may remediate and retest or complete an identified structured remediation course(s) in the Academic Support Center.

3. A person with a felony conviction or a domestic abuse conviction cannot become a law enforcement officer without a governor's pardon. A lengthy criminal history, mental illness, lack of physical fitness that prevents the applicant from performing essential job functions or numerous moving traffic violations may hinder opportunities for employment.
4. High school transcript or GED/HSED scores

Mid-State Technical College
Admissions
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
mstc.edu
888.575.MSTC

Program Course Descriptions

10504104

Intro to the Criminal Justice System 3 credits

This course is an introduction into the criminal justice system and it examines its components: law enforcement, court processes and corrections. Students will explore the qualifications and the selection process for the profession and will identify the duties and responsibilities of those who work within the criminal justice system. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041

10504108

Intro to Investigation Support Services

3 credits

This course focuses on supportive aspects of law enforcement investigations. The course includes instruction in police photography, fingerprinting, latent fingerprint searching, developing and lifting. Computer based composite sketching and crime scene sketching are introduced. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041



Program Outcomes

Employers will expect you, as a Criminal Justice–Law Enforcement graduate, to be able to:

- Investigate, evaluate and process traffic law violations and crash scenes
- Analyze principles of arrest, search and seizure to formulate and execute appropriate legal action
- Apply community policing principles to foster problem-solving processes and improve community relations
- Investigate, evaluate and process violations of criminal and civil law
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, in all aspects of the law enforcement function
- Demonstrate appropriate patrol response(s) to situations that require law enforcement intervention
- Demonstrate the proper use of the disturbance resolution model to ensure the safety and security of officers, suspects and the community

10504110**Criminal Justice Service Readiness 2 credits**

This course is intended to assist students in their efforts to secure employment upon graduation. Students will complete a basic resume, cover letter, interview thank-you letter and a standard law enforcement or corrections application. Students will also prepare for a criminal justice career interview and will participate in a mock interview with current practitioners from law enforcement or corrections agencies. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 or Criminal Justice-Corrections Program 105042

10504113**Criminal Law 3 credits**

This is a basic study of the structure, definitions and most frequently used sections of the Wisconsin Criminal Code. Students learn how to apply the law and its related legal rules to practical situations and scenarios that are likely to be encountered by law enforcement officers. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 or Criminal Justice-Corrections Program 105042

10504117**Constitutional Law 3 credits**

This course covers the structure of the criminal justice system, including criminal procedure. Students will learn the legal basis for law enforcement action such as arrest, use of force, and search and seizure, as well as limits on law enforcement activity. Students will also learn about the requirements under Wisconsin law guiding law enforcement agency policy and procedures. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041

10504121**Traffic Theory 3 credits**

Basic Wisconsin Motor Vehicle laws are discussed and applied to traffic enforcement procedures and traffic accident investigations. A close examination of the role of the police officer performing traffic enforcement will include the detection, apprehension and prosecution of offenders. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041

10504123**Criminal Investigation Theory 3 credits**

This course covers the fundamentals of criminal investigation including the gathering of investigative information from victims and witnesses, the search and recording of crime scenes and the principles involved in collecting and preserving physical evidence. There is a strong emphasis on investigative policies, procedures and practices that are necessary and essential to secure the truth within today's legal climate. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041

10504125**Patrol Procedures 2 credits**

Prepares students to demonstrate effective patrol techniques, utilize computer information as well as telecommunication systems available to police agencies. Respond safely and effectively to crime, crime victims, domestic abuse and other mandatory arrest situations. React appropriately to disasters and hazardous materials situations. Students will be exposed to procedures and strategies used while conducting low and high-risk vehicle contacts. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041

10504129**Community Policing Strategies 3 credits**

This course is designed to prepare students to identify key concepts and elements associated with law enforcement response to people in crisis as well as locating available community resources. The course will help students identify appropriate responses and guidelines related to emergency detentions. Students will also learn the philosophy behind community oriented policing as well as problem oriented policing. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 or Criminal Justice-Corrections Program 105042

10504130**Traffic Theory II 3 credits**

This course emphasizes the practical application of OWI investigations, traffic accident investigation and traffic law enforcement. It uses all of the skills from Traffic Theory that are intensely reviewed followed by scenario-based and case study student activities. Prerequisites: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041; Traffic Theory 10504121

10504135**Juvenile Law 3 credits**

The course will examine the juvenile system, study the Wisconsin Children's Code, the juvenile code as well as crimes against children. Students will learn the differences between the juvenile and adult legal system with an emphasis on federal and state mandated requirements specific to law enforcement and corrections. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 or Criminal Justice-Corrections Program 105042

10504140**Report Writing 3 credits**

In this course, students will learn how to write a variety of law enforcement and corrections reports to accurately and fairly convey necessary information, in a format appropriate for the criminal justice field. Students will also participate in criminal justice situational analysis leading to scenario construction, role playing and video capture to formulate a broad base of available scenarios to be used in their report writing exercises. Prerequisites: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 or Criminal Justice-Corrections Program 105042 and Written Communication 10801195

Curriculum**First Semester (17 Credits)**

10801195	Written Communication	3
10809172	Race, Ethnic & Diversity Studies	3
10504104	Intro to the Criminal Justice System	3
10504113	Criminal Law	3
10504151	Tactical Application of Skills and Knowledge-Beginning	2
10504160	Professional Communications	3

Second Semester (17 Credits)

10801198	Speech	3
10504108	Intro to Investigation Support Services	3
10504121	Traffic Theory	3
10504135	Juvenile Law	3
10504140	Report Writing	3
10504152	Tactical Application of Skills and Knowledge-Intermediate	2

Third Semester (18 Credits)

10809144	Macroeconomics or	3
10809143	Microeconomics	3
10809196	Intro to Sociology	3
10504110	Criminal Justice Service Readiness	2
10504123	Criminal Investigation Theory	3
10504125	Patrol Procedures	2
10504129	Community Policing Strategies	3
10504153	Tactical Application of Skills and Knowledge-Advanced	2

Fourth Semester (16 Credits)

10999102	Elective	2
10804106	Intro to College Math	3
10809198	Intro to Psychology	3
10504117	Constitutional Law	3
10504130	Traffic Theory II	3
10504154	Tactical Application of Skills and Knowledge-Capstone	2

Total Credits 68**Please Note:**

- The Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program has an August starting date. However, we advise you to meet with a counselor to successfully plan your academic schedule.
- For General Education Course Descriptions (800 level courses), see section marked Course Descriptions.

Criminal Justice–Law Enforcement (Continued)

10504151

**Tactical Application of Skills
and Knowledge-Beginning 2 credits**

This course will provide the opportunity for students to apply the beginning skills and knowledge learned in foundational criminal justice courses through reality-based training.

10504152

**Tactical Application of Skills
and Knowledge-Intermediate 2 credits**

This course will provide the opportunity for students to apply the intermediate skills and knowledge learned in the first and second semesters' criminal justice courses, through reality-based training. Prerequisites: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041, TASK-Beginning 10504151

10504153

**Tactical Application of Skills
and Knowledge-Advanced 2 credits**

This course will provide the opportunity for students to apply the advanced skills and knowledge learned in the first three semesters of the criminal justice program, through reality-based training. Admission to Criminal Justice -Law Enforcement Program 105041 and TASK-Intermediate 10504152

10504154

**Tactical Application of Skills
and Knowledge-Capstone 2 credits**

This course will provide the opportunity for students to apply all the skills and knowledge learned throughout the four semesters of the criminal justice-law enforcement program, through reality-based training. Prerequisites: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041 and TASK-Advanced 10504153

10504160

Professional Communications 3 credits

This course covers perhaps the most important task of every law enforcement officer: professional communication. Whether calming a frightened victim, dispersing a crowd or conducting a witness interview, today's police officer is expected to be highly skilled in all forms of communication. Students will learn highly effective and professional techniques involved in obtaining information from suspects, complainants and victims, resolving conflict and avoiding physical confrontations. Prerequisite: Admission to Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement Program 105041