

# CORRECTIONAL OFFICER CERTIFICATE - 24 CREDITS

## About this program

Students interested in a criminal justice career other than law enforcement may enroll in the Correctional Officer certificate program. The certificate program is designed to provide pre-employment education for the student who desires a position as a correctional officer. The program also provides continuing education for employed correctional officers. Students who complete the certificate program articulate into the two-year Criminal Justice AS degree for peace officer licensing.

## Program outcomes

1. Students will gain basic knowledge and career skills and develop values and attitudes consistent with professional career employment opportunities within the state correctional system.
2. Students will participate in quality learning experiences that will help to prepare each student for the challenges of their selected career choice.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of maintaining effective collaborative relationships with all federal, state and local criminal justice organizations and human service agencies.
4. Students will develop a code of behavior consistent with the professional attitudes and ethical standards expected of correctional officers and criminal justice professionals.

## Employment

Minnesota State Community and Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Higher Learning Commission 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411 <http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org> Phone: 312.263.0456 / 800.621.7440

## Curriculum overview

| <b>Crds</b> | <b>Requirement type</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 24          | Required courses        |
| 24          | <b>Total</b>            |

**Developmental courses note:** A student may be required to enroll in developmental courses in reading, writing and math. A student's scores on the Accuplacer assessment will determine enrollment in developmental courses. The purpose of developmental courses is to prepare students for the demands of a college-level curriculum. *Credits may vary.*

# Curriculum requirement details

## Required courses

## Other requirements or restricted electives

| Course  | Crds |
|---|------|
| COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication .....              | 3    |
| CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice .....         | 3    |
| CRJU1108 - Physical Control Tactics for Corrections ..... | 3    |
| CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science .....       | 3    |
| CRJU2201 - Criminal Law .....                             | 3    |
| CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing .....                    | 3    |
| ENGL1101 - College Writing .....                          | 3    |
| SOC2215 - Criminology .....                               | 3    |



## Course summaries

**COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This course will focus on improving students' abilities to communicate effectively in one-to-one dyadic encounters by providing experience-based instruction. Extensive in-class and out-of-class analyses allow the student to examine his/her own and others' informal social interactions. The long-term goal is for the student to apply interpersonal communication theories to daily interactions and draw his/her own conclusions about the effectiveness of interpersonal communication.

**Prerequisites:**

- Assessment into ENGL 1101

**CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice** ..... (3 credits)

This course serves as an introduction to the American criminal justice system including police, courts and correctional systems. Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training Board objectives are also covered in this course.

**CRJU1108 - Physical Control Tactics for Corrections** ..... (3 credits)

This course will deal with use of force issues relating to correctional officers, defensive tactics and control techniques, proper restraint techniques and less-than-lethal weapons training. Lecture and practical applications are included in the course. Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives relating to physical control and less-than-lethal weapons are also covered.

**CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science** ..... (3 credits)

This course is devoted primarily to Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training objectives, including but not limited to the following areas: cultural awareness, stress management, domestic abuse, crisis intervention, communication, bias-motivated crimes, victims, ethics and human behavior.

**CRJU2201 - Criminal Law** ..... (3 credits)

This is a course in substantive law, including the elements of major crimes and possible legal defenses. This course also familiarizes students with the Minnesota criminal statutes focusing on Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board objectives.

**CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing** ..... (3 credits)

This course provides the technical understanding and practical application in basic police report writing, field note taking and standardized report forms commonly used by law enforcement. Emphasis is placed on developing a clear, concise style in expressing factual, relevant information in an acceptable format relevant to criminal case procedures. Minnesota Police Officer Standards and Training Board learning objectives for police report writing are also covered.

**Prerequisites:**

- ENGL1101

OR

- GSCO1102

**ENGL1101 - College Writing** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Area 1. This is an introductory writing course designed to prepare students for later college and career writing. The course focuses on developing fluency through a process approach, with particular emphasis on revision. Students will consider purpose and audience, read and discuss writing and further develop their own writing processes through successive revisions to produce polished drafts. Course work will include an introduction to argumentative writing, writing from academic sources and a short research project.

**Prerequisites:**

- Completion of ELL1080, ENGL0096, or ENGL0097 with a grade of C or higher OR placement into college-level English.

**SOC2215 - Criminology** ..... (3 credits)

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 2 and 5. This course will provide a thorough overview of the field of criminology: the study of the theories which attempt to define and explain crime, criminal behavior and society's reactions to crime, including a focus on juvenile delinquency, the judicatory process and penology.

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Program Plan — "Primary"  
Locations: Moorhead

## 1st Fall Term (12 credits)

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### Courses

| Course  | Crds |
|---|------|
| CRJU1101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice ..... | 3    |
| CRJU2201 - Criminal Law .....                     | 3    |
| ENGL1101 - College Writing .....                  | 3    |
| SOC2215 - Criminology .....                       | 3    |

## 1st Spring Term (12 credits)

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### Courses

| Course  | Crds |
|---|------|
| COMM1140 - Interpersonal Communication .....              | 3    |
| CRJU1108 - Physical Control Tactics for Corrections ..... | 3    |
| CRJU1109 - Law Enforcement Behavioral Science .....       | 3    |
| CRJU2206 - Police Report Writing .....                    | 3    |