

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Program Description

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Criminal Justice is designed for students who have completed or wish to complete the police academy program at Western Colorado Community College and incorporates instruction gained from the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) program. Students in the AAS program must complete the essential learning requirements and choose additional courses in law enforcement related studies either before or after completing the academy. Completion of the AAS in Criminal Justice may provide graduates with additional promotional opportunities in law enforcement areas (such as police and sheriff departments, state enforcement, parole officer, liquor enforcement and wildlife enforcement). Law enforcement agencies in some areas require an AAS degree for entry-level positions.

The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice is designed to provide students interested in careers in the justice system with the knowledge, communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success in their field. The degree will also assist students in their upward mobility in their area of employment. Graduates secure positions in law enforcement, probation, parole and corrections. Many also use this degree as the starting point in their pursuit of a law degree or Graduate School.

The Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminal Justice combines the POST requirements of the AAS degree with the academic rigor of the baccalaureate degree.

The criminal justice minor is designed to provide students interested in the justice system with the knowledge, communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success in their field.

Special Requirements

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree is based on completing the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) program at WCCC. (See the POST entry elsewhere in this section). Students who have completed the POST program must complete the essential learning requirements and five additional specified courses to earn an AAS.

Contact Information

Associate Degree:

Office of Student Services
WCCC, Bishop B102
2508 Blichmann Avenue
970.255.2670

Baccalaureate Degree:

Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Lowell Heiny Hall 413
970.248.1696

Associates

- Criminal Justice (AAS) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-aas>)

Bachelors/Minors

- Criminal Justice (BA) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-ba>)

- Criminal Justice (Minor) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-minor>)
- Forensic Investigation - Criminal Justice (Minor) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/criminal-justice/forensic-investigation-criminal-justice-minor>)
- Post Academy, Criminal Justice (BAS) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/criminal-justice/post-academy-criminal-justice-bas>)