

Criminal Justice Certificate

Certificate of Proficiency (COP)

The Criminal Justice Certificate Program prepares students for entry-level employment in a variety of positions within the criminal justice field. The program generally can be completed within one academic year if students enter the program ready for college-level math and English. Students can then continue studies to complete the Criminal Justice AAS degree or the AA-DTA, Criminal Justice or other focus degree. Students may enter the program in the fall, winter, spring or summer quarter.

Certificate Requirements

Total credits required to earn this certificate: 45 with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0

LCC students must meet distribution requirements for bachelor degrees, associate degrees, and specific certificates. See [Diversity and Distribution Lists \(lowercolumbia.edu/publications/catalog/distribution-lists/\)](https://lowercolumbia.edu/publications/catalog/distribution-lists/) for more information.

General Education Requirements

- **Communications:**

5 credits - ENGL& 101 English Composition I

- **Quantitative Skills:**

5 credits – MATH& 107 Math in Society **OR** higher with the exception of MATH& 131

- **Human Relations/ Social Science:**

5 credits – PSYC& 100 General Psychology

Program Requirements

Course Code	Course Title	Number of Credits
CJ& 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	5
CJ 104	Introduction to Policing	5
CJ& 106	Juvenile Justice	5
CJ& 110	Criminal Law	5
CJ 180	Report Writing for Law Enforcement	5
CMST& 210	Interpersonal Communication	5

Program Outcomes

Students completing this program should acquire the following skills and abilities:

- Apply knowledge of criminal law in Washington State to hypothetical fact patterns (GS - Critical Thinking)
- Demonstrate knowledge of constitutional law as it pertains to criminal justice (GS - Critical Thinking)
- Use effective verbal and written communication skills (GS - Communications)
- Demonstrate basic knowledge and application of methods of police patrol, operations, and management (GS - Critical Thinking)
- Analyze numerical data as applied to criminal justice (GS - Quantitative Literacy)
- Generate satisfactory reports based on knowledge of investigative techniques, evidence gathering, searching, sketching, and on-scene interviewing (GS - Communications)
- Demonstrate knowledge of the juvenile justice system
- Evaluate ethics and ethical applications in criminal justice

Notes

Revised September 2024 (effective Summer 2025)