

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AAS

Total Credits: 60

Catalog Edition: 2025-2026

Program Description

The AAS in criminal justice is designed to prepare students for careers within the criminal justice system. The program offers a combination of liberal arts and specialized career courses to help students upon entry into the criminal justice field. The curriculum is offered for those already employed in the criminal justice profession as well as for high school students interested in pursuing careers with local, state, or private agencies within the field. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from criminal justice faculty in making course selections to suit their career goals and interests. Those students interested in transferring to obtain a bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university should consult advisors regarding our AA degree in general studies. **This program can be completed either on campus or online.**

Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring

Prof. Bridget Lowrie, 240-567-5143,

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For more information, please visit: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/criminaljustice>

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the criminal law and of the criminal justice process (police, courts, and corrections).
- Explain the function and role of various criminal justice practitioners in the operation of an ethical and professional system of justice that exists within a diverse society.
- Analyze the history, functions, policies, and procedures used in each subsystem of justice and creatively offer alternatives to current practices.
- Explain the impact of political and economic considerations as it relates to criminal justice theory, research, practice, and policy.
- Demonstrate the ability to proficiently write about criminal justice issues while utilizing academic sources in an organized and coherent manner.

Program Advisors

Germantown

- Prof. J. Sean Fay,
240-567-7479, Sean.Fay@montgomerycollege.edu

2025-2026

Program Advising Guide

An Academic Reference Tool for Students

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AAS

Suggested Course Sequence

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

First Semester

ENGL 101 - Introduction to College Writing *3 semester hours* *

Mathematics Foundation *3 semester hours (MATF)*

CCJS 110 - Administration of Justice *3 semester hours (BSSD)*

COMM 108 - Foundations of Human Communication *3 semester hours (GEEL)*

OR

COMM 112 - Business and Professional Speech Communication *3 semester hours (GEEL)*

SOCY 100 - Introduction to Sociology *3 semester hours (GEEL)*

Third Semester

CCJS 215 - Organization and Administration *3 semester hours*

POLI 101 - American Government *3 semester hours*

Natural Sciences Distribution with Lab *4 semester hours (NSLD)*

CCJS Elective *3 semester hours ‡*

Elective *2 semester hours*

Second Semester

English Foundation *3 semester hours (ENGF)*

CCJS 201 - Introduction to Law Enforcement *3 semester hours*

OR

CCJS 230 - Introduction to Corrections *3 semester hours*

CCJS 221 - Criminal Law *3 semester hours*

PSYC 100 - General Psychology *3 semester hours*

Arts or Humanities Distribution *3 semester (ARTD or HUMD)*

Fourth Semester

CCJS 242 - Theory and Practice *3 semester hours*

CCJS 244 - Contemporary Issues *3 semester hours*

CCJS Elective *3 semester hours ‡*

OR

Behavioral and Social Sciences Elective *3 semester hours*

CCJS Elective *3 semester hours ‡*

Elective *3 semester hours*

Total Credit Hours: 60

* ENGL 101/ENGL 101A, if needed for ENGL 102/ENGL 103, or elective.

‡ CCJS electives include CCJS 211, CCJS 216, CCJS 222, CCJS 232, CCJS 246, CCJS 250, and CCJS 255. Students can also use CCJS 201 or CCJS 230 as a CCJS elective if not already used to satisfy a program requirement.

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Transfer Opportunities

Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer> or <http://artsys.usmd.edu>.

Get Involved at MC!

Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/>

Related Careers

Some require a Bachelor's degree.

Police officer, sheriff deputy, state trooper, federal law enforcement agent, fish & wildlife officer, correctional officer, probation & parole agent, juvenile services caseworker/ probation agent, private security industry.

Students are strongly encouraged to explore the multiple professional opportunities in criminal justice and investigate the specific academic, professional, physical and background requirements established by each of the agencies. Many criminal justice agencies have significant background requirements that must be met prior to employment. Students are encouraged to meet with a criminal justice faculty advisor to discuss their specific career and academic goals.

Career Services

Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career>

Career Coach

A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit <https://montgomerycollege.emsicc.com>

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