

Springfield Technical Community College  
Academic Affairs

Course Number: COL-111 Class/Lect. Hours: 1 Lab Hours: 0 Credits: 1 Dept.: College Success

Course Number Title: Criminal Justice Exploration Semester: All Year: Beginning Fall 2021

**Course Description, Prerequisite, Corequisite:** No Prerequisites or Corequisites

This course will allow students to explore the field of criminal justice. Students will gain a basic understanding of the nature and function of the three component criminal justice system: police, courts and corrections; as well as the issues that are at the forefront of the criminal justice debate. Students will be offered insight into the vast array of possible careers that a degree in criminal justice would open to them, and the requirements that must be met to become a law enforcement professional. Additionally, those in this course will receive information on transfer options and advance degrees to help facilitate their pursuit of higher level degrees and career advancement.

**OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES**

Course Objectives	Competencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce students to the basic structure of the 3 component criminal justice system: police, courts and corrections.</li> <li>• Introduce students to some of the major topics in criminal justice. Including issues of ethics, race and ethnicity, police-community relations, and protection of rights versus controlling crime.</li> <li>• Provide basic information about career opportunities in criminal justice at the local, state, and federal level.</li> <li>• Provide basic employment requirements, particularly focused on educational requirements, for various positions in the field of criminal justice.</li> <li>• Provide students with basic information on career and degree advancement through transfer to 4-year institutions and beyond</li> <li>• Promote interest and enthusiasm for the study of the field of criminal justice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show a basic understanding of the 3 components of the criminal justice system.</li> <li>• Show a basic understanding of the function of each component of the criminal justice system, as they relate to other components and interaction with the public.</li> <li>• Show a basic understanding of some of the major issues facing those in the field of criminal justice today.</li> <li>• Show a general knowledge of the types of careers available to those who earn a degree in criminal justice at the local, state and federal level</li> <li>• Show a general knowledge of the types of degrees needed for employment and advancement in a variety of careers related to the field of criminal justice.</li> </ul>