

# Sterling College

## Criminal Justice Program

### Description of Major

The objective of the Criminal Justice major is to prepare students to directly enter the criminal justice system upon graduation, or to continue their education at the graduate level. Students may choose a concentration in Law Enforcement or Pre-Law. The curriculum provides students the occasion to be exposed to a wide array of criminal justice topics in the class room, as well as gaining experience in the field of criminal justice through internship opportunities.

### Course Descriptions

**CJ 110 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3 credits**  
This course provides an initial overview of the criminal justice system and is designed to familiarize students with the basic facets and components of criminal justice at the local, state and federal levels. (Fall)

**CJ 210 Criminology 3 credits**  
Overview of the primary criminological theories, as well as an examination of the social context within each was developed. This course also examines how the theories aid in explaining causation of crime. (Spring)  
Prerequisite: CJ 110

**CJ 220 Criminal Law 3 credits**  
This course explores substantive criminal law by way of a case study approach and examination of statutory law. The study includes analysis of criminal acts, required elements of crimes, punishments and possible defenses to criminal conduct. Crimes against persons, as well as property crimes are examined. (Fall/Even Years)  
Prerequisite: CJ 110

**CJ 230 Criminal Procedure 3 credits**  
A concentration on the rules of criminal procedure as they related to the criminal justice process, including rights of those accused of crimes, arrests, search and seizure, interrogation, confessions, right to counsel and the exclusionary rule. (Spring/Odd Years)  
Prerequisite: CJ 220

**CJ 240 Corrections, Probation and Parole 3 credits**  
An overview of the theory behind corrections, as well as historical and current practices of corrections within the criminal justice system. This course examines various types of correctional institutions, alternatives to incarceration, legal rights of inmates, reintegration into the community following release, parole/probation and major issues confronting correctional institutions. (Fall/Odd Years)  
Prerequisite: CJ 110



