

MODERN POLICING, ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

The Associate in Science in Modern Policing prepares students for law enforcement careers at local, county, state, and federal levels. Aligned with California's Assembly Bill 89, the program fulfills the educational requirement for peace officers while offering a pathway to four-year universities. The curriculum focuses on community policing, public trust, ethical decision-making, cultural competence, crime prevention, and criminal justice theory. Rooted in the principles of community engagement and public service, the program equips students with the knowledge, skills, and values needed to serve communities with integrity, empathy, and a commitment to justice, while meeting the core competencies outlined in California Government Code 1031.4.

Students must fulfill the following major requirements: completing a minimum of 60 degree-applicable semester units with a grade point average of at least 2.0. GE Courses are included in required courses and may be eligible for double counting (est. 24 units). Prior completion of an accredited Police Academy may allow for Credit for Prior Learning credit (CPL).

Courses marked with an asterisk have equivalent options available.

Course ID	Title	Units/ Hours
Required Core Courses		
CJ V01	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CJ V02	Concepts of Criminal Law	3
CJ V03	Community Relations and Diversity	3
CJ V04	Legal Aspects of Evidence	3
or CJ V05	Criminal Procedures	
or CJ V08	Criminal Investigation	
or CJ V14	Juvenile Law and Procedures in California	
COMM V12	Intercultural Communication	3
ETHS V01	Introduction to Ethnic Studies	3
SOC/PSY V31	Introduction to Social Psychology	3
CJ V49	Ethics for the Criminal Justice System Professional	3
ENGL C1000	Academic Reading and Writing	4
ENGL C1001	Critical Thinking and Writing	3
COMM C1000	Introduction to Public Speaking	3
PSY V04	Introductory Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences	4
or STAT C1000	Introduction to Statistics	
or MATH V43	Elementary Statistics with Applications for Health Care Professionals	
ART V09A	Art of the Ancient Americas	3
PHIL V02	Introduction to Ethics	3
SOC V13	Sociology of Deviance, Crime, and Society	3
or CD V61	Child, Family, and Community	
Required Core Units		47
Required Additional Courses		
List A: Select 4 units minimum from the following:		
ANTH V01	Biological Anthropology	3

ANTH V01L	Biological Anthropology Laboratory	1
ANAT V01	Human Anatomy	4
GEOG V01	Elements of Physical Geography	3
GEOG V01L	Elements of Physical Geography Laboratory	1
GIS V22	Fundamentals of Mapping and Geographic Information Systems	3
GIS V26	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems Software	2

List B: Select 3 units from the following:

HED V01	Health and Wellness	3
HED V20	Introduction to Public Health	3
HED V24	Drugs, Health, and Society	3

Required Additional Units	7
Total Major Units	54

VCCCD General Education Pattern

Required Major Units	54
VCCCD General Education Units	24
Double-Counted Units	(24)
Elective Units	5-6
Total Units for the A.S. Degree	60

Year 1

Fall Semester	Units/Hours
CJ V01	Introduction to Criminal Justice (VCCCD GE Area 4 (Double Count))
CJ V02	Concepts of Criminal Law
ENGL C1000	Academic Reading and Writing (VCCCD GE Area 1A)
Select course PSY V04, STAT C1000, or MATH V43 (VCCCD GE Area 2 (Double Count))	
Units/Hours	14
Spring Semester	Units/Hours
CJ V03	Community Relations and Diversity
SOC/PSY V31	Introduction to Social Psychology
COMM C1000	Introduction to Public Speaking (VCCCD GE Area 1B (Double Count))
ENGL C1001	Critical Thinking and Writing
Select a course: Degree-applicable elective course	
Units/Hours	15

Year 2

Fall Semester	Units/Hours
CD V61	Child, Family, and Community
or SOC V13	or Sociology of Deviance, Crime, and Society
PHIL V02	Introduction to Ethics
Select 4 units. . . . ANTH V01/ANTH V01L, ANAT V01, GEOG V01/GEOG V01L, GIS V22, GIS V26 (VCCCD GE Area 5 (Double Count))	
Select a course CJ V04, CJ V05, CJ V08, or CJ V14	
ART V09A	Art of the Ancient Americas (VCCCD GE Area 3 (Double Count))
Units/Hours	17
Spring Semester	Units/Hours
ETHS V01	Introduction to Ethnic Studies (VCCCD GE Area 6 (Double Count))
Select a course HED V01, HED V20, HED V24 (VCCCD GE Area 7 Double Count)	
CJ V49	Ethics for the Criminal Justice System Professional
COMM V12	Intercultural Communication

Select a course: Degree-applicable elective course	3
Units/Hours	15
Total Units/Hours	61

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Describe the history, structure, and functions of the American criminal justice system, including law enforcement, courts, and corrections.
- Assess law enforcement interactions with diverse communities using ethical reasoning, cultural competence, and emotional intelligence.
- Analyze contemporary issues, social justice concerns, and the impact of policies on marginalized communities within the criminal justice system.
- Apply professional communication, investigative techniques, and forensic skills in criminal justice settings.