

CRIMINAL JUSTICE - ASSOCIATE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

NMSU Alamogordo 2026-2027 Catalog

A Suggested Plan of Study - Criminal Justice

Additional classes may be needed based on placement test results and course prerequisites. Visit with an advisor for help with creating a customized plan.

A grade of C- or better is required in all Criminal Justice courses and second language courses.

First Year		
Fall		Credits
CJUS 1110G	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
COMM 1130G or COMM 1115G	Public Speaking or Introduction to Communication	3
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
Elective ^{3,4,5}		1-3
MATH 1220G or MATH 1350G	College Algebra ¹ or Introduction to Statistics	3
Credits		14
Spring		
CJUS 2220	The American Law Enforcement System	3
ENGL 2210G or ENGL 2221G	Professional and Technical Communication or Writing in the Humanities and Social Science	3
Choose one from the following:		3
PHIL 1120G	Logic, Reasoning, & Critical Thinking	
PHIL 1145G	Philosophy, Law, and Ethics	
PHIL 2230G	Philosophical Thought	
Area III: Laboratory Science Course ²		4
General Education Elective ²		3-4
Credits		16
Second Year		
Fall		
CJUS 1120	Criminal Law	3
Elective ^{3,4,5}		3
Second Language (1st of 2 consecutive levels) ⁶		4
Area III: Laboratory Science or Area IV: Social/Behavioral Science Course ²		3-4
Credits		14
Spring		
CJUS 2120	Criminal Courts and Procedure	3
CJUS 2150	Corrections System	3
Second Language (2nd of 2 consecutive levels) ⁶		4
Area VI: Creative/Fine Arts Course ²		3
Elective ^{3,4,5}		3
Credits		16
Total Credits		60

¹ MATH 1220G College Algebra or MATH 1350G Introduction to Statistics is required for the degree but students may need to take any prerequisites needed to enter MATH 1220G or MATH 1350G first.

² See the General Education Section (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/alamogordo/general-information/general-education-new-mexico-common-core/>) of the catalog for a full list of courses.

³ Recommended electives are:

- CJUS 2140 Criminal Investigations
- CJUS 2160 Field Experience in Criminal Justice
- PSYC 2221 Applied Psychology
- POLS 1120G American National Government
- ENGL 2210G Professional & Technical Communication
- ENGL 2221G Writing in the Humanities and Social Science (Choose English class not previously taken).

⁴ A maximum of 3-5 credit hours of applied coursework may be counted toward C J degree. PL S (Paralegal Studies) courses can never replace or substitute for a Criminal Justice (C J) course but may be used as electives within the 3-5 credits applied course limit. Please contact an advisor to determine which courses are considered applied coursework.

⁵ Elective credit may vary based on General Education course selection, second language requirements, prerequisites, dual credit, A credit, double majors and/or minor coursework. The amount indicated in the requirements list is the amount needed to bring the total to 60 credits and may appear in variable form based on the degree. However students may end up needing to complete more or less on a case-by-case basis and students should discuss elective requirements with their advisor.

⁶ Completion of a second language through the 1110-1120 level. See an advisor for specifics. More information is available in the Las Cruces catalog in the Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree section.