

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Associate of Science

Why Study Criminal Justice?

Criminal Justice is one of the fastest growing fields today. The associate's degree in Criminal Justice provides instruction in the areas of law enforcement and the social sciences; allowing the student to gain a basic understanding of the workings of the criminal justice system and its role in our society. Students who wish to further their education may transfer to a four-year institution to complete a baccalaureate degree in criminal justice or other related areas.

Occupational Objectives

The criminal justice system includes police, courts, and corrections, and these agencies offer a wide range of employment opportunities at the local, state, and federal levels of government. This associate's degree in Criminal Justice prepares graduates for entry-level careers as police officers, corrections officers, and court supportive services. There are positions as counselors, youth specialists or juvenile detention officers. A criminal justice background may also be recommended and utilized in private or non-profit settings, with career opportunities working in corporate security and retail security operations.

Program Goals

The goal of the program is to provide students with an accessible, responsive learning environment that facilitates the achievement of educational, professional, and personal goals by offering quality higher education in an atmosphere that embraces academic excellence, diversity and innovation.

Opportunities at Rockland Community College

CRJ faculty are all active or retired professionals, with extensive work experience. Recent instructors include Suffern Chief of Police Clarke Osborn (an RCC alumnus), and NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill. We offer stimulating guest speakers each semester; recent presentations include *Wrongful Conviction* (Jeffrey Deskovic), *Undercover Work* (legendary NYPD Detective Chucky Byam), *First Degree* (Sean Pica and the Hudson Link), presentations about Gang Awareness, and fascinating insights from those who worked on local cases like *The Brink's Robbery* and undercover ATF agent Dominick Polifrone, who captured the notorious mob killer, Richard "The Iceman" Kuklinski. RCC's close relationships with local agencies provide opportunities for real world experiences and every semester we present a *Career Mosaic* panel of CRJ professionals offering career pathways, information, and insights.



5 Top Reasons to Study Criminal Justice at RCC

1. **FACULTY:** Advanced academic degrees and extensive experience in all aspects of the criminal justice field.
2. **VALUE:** Affordable tuition for a quality education. Scholarships, financial aid.
3. **CONVENIENT:** You can complete your degree totally online if you so choose.
4. **TRANSFER:** Articulation agreements with four-year colleges offer seamless transitions. This curriculum meets the core requirements for baccalaureate degrees in criminal justice or the social sciences.
5. **SUPPORT:** Small class sizes, individual attention, free tutoring.



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Admissions 845-574-4224

www.sunyrockland.edu

145 College Road, Suffern, NY 10901

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will:

- Identify the various facets of the United States Criminal Justice system in today's global society.
- Develop a variety of skills related to core concepts in Criminal Justice including critical thinking, reasoning, and problem solving skills.
- Develop effective oral and written communications skills.
- Evaluate the impact of diversity in the Criminal Justice system.
- Examine the importance of ethics and ethical behavior in the achievement of justice.

"RCC gave me a good base for my further education, particularly the criminal justice courses. The instructors went out of their way to help."

*- Clarke Osborn, graduate
Chief of Police, Village of Suffern, and RCC
adjunct faculty, Criminal Justice*

To learn more about
this program call

845-574-4320 today!

Contact: Dr. Kevin Barrett
kbarret4@sunyrockland.edu

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Associate of Science



Criminal Justice AS Degree Sample Courses:

CRJ 101

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Foundational knowledge of the three main components of the Criminal Justice system: Police, Courts and Corrections.

CRJ 102

Introduction to Policing

Comprehensive understanding of the role, responsibility, and interdependent relationship of the police within American society. A variety of operational, managerial, and administrative perspectives are examined.

CRJ 104

Introduction to Corrections

Historical examination of the development of corrections. The evolution of punishment through confinement and various supervision protocols are examined in relation to guiding offenders toward pro-social behaviors. Professional roles, challenges and influences that shape correctional policy and practices.

CRJ 106

Introduction to the Court System

An overview of the structure and function of the court system in the United States. Emphasis is placed on the dichotomy between state and federal courts within the context of judicial decision-making. The course will seek to improve understanding of the history of the court system and the roles and relationships of the courtroom workgroup.

CRJ 206

Justice, Crime and Ethics

Prominent ethical issues facing criminal justice professionals. Students are encouraged to explore their own ethical and moral systems. Topics include punishment, use of force, capital punishment, terrorism, corruption, and discretion.

CRJ 226

Multicultural Law Enforcement

Increasingly diverse communities and work forces and placing these complex dynamics in their social and historical context. Skills and strategies to better understand and communicate with those who are different because of gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion or culture. This course fulfills the Multicultural degree requirement.

Criminal Justice Electives Include:

Analysis of Serial Killers, Criminal Investigation, Terrorism and Homeland Security, International Criminal Justice Systems, Forensic Death Investigation, Victimology, Principles of Probation and Parole, Introduction to Gangs, Community Policing, and more.