

POLICE STUDIES (APB)

Justice and Security

Overview

The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Plymouth State University aims to serve students interested in a variety of careers spanning law enforcement, investigations, court administration, corrections, juvenile services, loss prevention, as well as graduate or law school. Consistent with the general mission of Plymouth State University, the department seeks to produce well-rounded graduates who are equipped to both continue their education and enter the work force. In addition, the department serves the surrounding community, not only by producing high quality graduates well prepared to enter their field, but also by partnering with local and regional agencies to provide academic and research support.

The Applied Bachelor's Degree in Police Studies is aimed specifically at students who come into college knowing that they want to pursue a career in law enforcement. This degree will benefit prospective students by saving them a year of tuition while providing them with a well-rounded general education experience coupled with a targeted major experience. The Police Studies curriculum includes a heavy emphasis on understanding the law, understanding the role of police in a democratic society, and developing a variety of skills necessary for a law enforcement career. The skills emphasized include problem solving techniques, critical thinking and analytic skills, verbal and written communication skills, data analysis skills, and physical fitness, along with an appreciation for ethical and professional behavior in the field. Upon completion of the program, students will be well prepared for a career in law enforcement. Students will develop an independent sense of self and leadership skills, with a tolerance toward others and the ability to work with diverse groups of people.

Degree Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
CJ 1020	Criminal Justice in Action	4
CJ 2025	Police and society	4
CJ 2045	Criminal Procedure	4
CJ 2080	Crime and Criminals	4
CJ 2090	Criminal Law	4
CJ 3005	Criminal Investigation	4
CJ/PY 3157	Society, Ethics, and the Law (DICO)	4
CJ 3370	Wellness for Criminal Justice (WECO)	4
CJ 3450	Technology in criminal justice (TECO,WRCO)	4
CJ 3475	Communication for Law Enforcement	4
CJ 3800	Career Prep for Criminal Justice	2
CJ 3810	Physical Fitness for Law Enforcement	2
CJ 4580	Internship in Criminal Justice	1-15
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (QRCO,TECO)	4
General Education (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/)		
EN 1400	Composition	4
IS 1115	Tackling a Wicked Problem	4

MA (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#MATH)	Mathematics Foundations	3-4
CTDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI)	Creative Thought Direction	3-4
PPDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI)	Past and Present Direction	3-4
SIDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SIDI)	Scientific Inquiry Direction	3-4
SSDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI)	Self and Society Direction	3-4
INCP (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#INCP)	Integrated Capstone	3-4
Electives		10-16
Total Credits		96

Recommended Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
EN 1400	Composition	4
IS 1115	Tackling a Wicked Problem	4
MA (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#MATH)	Mathematics Foundations	3-4
CJ 1020	Criminal Justice in Action	4
CJ 2080	Crime and Criminals	4
CTDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI)	Creative Thought Direction	3-4
PPDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI)	Past and Present Direction	3-4
SSDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI)	Self and Society Direction	3-4
Electives		0-4
Credits		28-36

Year Two

SIDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SIDI)	Scientific Inquiry Direction	3-4
CJ 2025	Police and society	4
CJ 2090	Criminal Law	4
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (QRCO,TECO)	4
INCP (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#INCP)	Integrated Capstone	3-4
CJ 2045	Criminal Procedure	4
CJ 3450	Technology in criminal justice (TECO,WRCO)	4
CJ 3157	Society, Ethics, and the Law (DICO)	4
Electives		0-4

Credits	30-36
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Year Three

CJ 3005	Criminal Investigation	4
CJ 3475	Communication for Law Enforcement	4
CJ 3800	Career Prep for Criminal Justice	2
CJ 3810	Physical Fitness for Law Enforcement	2
CJ 3370	Wellness for Criminal Justice (WECO)	4
Electives		10-16
Credits	26-32	

Total Credits	96
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Learning Outcomes

- Explain the role and function of the police within the criminal justice system, within the context of a diverse democratic society;
- Evaluate police policies and practices, including policies and practices regarding the use of technology, based on evidence;
- Analyze and evaluate the role of both criminal law and procedural law within the criminal justice system;
- Communicate in writing and in speech in a clear, professional manner;
- Understand and articulate the moral and ethical obligations of a police officer in a diverse democratic society.

Career Pathways

- Crime Scene Investigator
- Criminal Investigator
- Police Officer
- Private Investigator
- Security Guard
- State Trooper