Course Syllabus
2025-2026

Course Title
Law Enforcement

Instructor
Mr. Brad Murkins
763-684-2273
brad.murkins@wrighttech.org

Course Description
The Law Enforcement course will introduce students to the criminal justice system. This will include the three major components: Policing, Courts, and Corrections. The students will learn how the three components are connected and related. The course includes issues of history, our changing society, and advances in technology. Additionally, the course has been designed for the student to be introduced to modern law enforcement patrol procedures, tactics, and the performance of law enforcement duties in a competent and professional manner. Emphasis is on the day-to-day duties, routine assignments and overall objectives of a law enforcement officer in a patrol environment. This portion of the course will meet Introductory Law Enforcement requirements for college credit.

Textbook & Classroom Resources
Hess, Karen and Orthmann, Cho. *Introduction to Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice* Twelfth
     Edition, Clifton Park, New York: Delmar-Cengage Learning, 2017

Course Topics
Law Enforcement
- A Brief History: The Evolution of Law and Our Criminal Justice System
- The American Quest for Freedom and Justice: Our Laws
- Crime in the United States: Offenses, Offenders and Victims
- Today's Police and Police Agency: An Overview
- Policing in a Post 9/11 Society
- Patrol: The Backbone of Policing
- Specialized Roles of Police
- Policing within the Law
- Issues Concerning Police Conduct
- Gangs and Drugs: Threats to Our National Security
- Terrorism: The Newest Threat to Our National Security
- Becoming a Law Enforcement Professional
- U.S. Courts
- Corrections

Course Topics (continued)

In addition to the Introduction to Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, students will also receive instruction from a variety of Law Enforcement Agencies (guest speakers/field trips).

Students will also be exposed to and participate in the following:

- Laser Shot – firearms training simulator
- Firearms Instruction
- Defensive Tactics
- Handcuffing
- Pressure Points
- Baton Training
- Criminal Statutes
- Patrol Procedures and Tactics
- Traffic Stops
- Current Law Enforcement Trends
- Crime Scene Investigations
- Fingerprinting
- Radio Communications
- Corrections and Jails
- Report Writing
- Computerized Criminal Cases
- Criminal Justice Research Project
- Criminal Justice Presentations
- Current Events Discussion and Presentation
- Investigations
- Resumes
- Job Interviewing
- Specialized Units

Skills Needed

To be successful in this program, you should have the following skills:

- Strong writing & reading skills
- Critical thinking & problem-solving skills
- Excellent communication & social skills
- Listening & public speaking skills
- Be detail oriented
- Time management skills
- Physical stamina – ability to perform repeated strenuous activities
- Situational awareness - being alert and aware of what's going on around you
- Ability to handle on-the-job experiences in public settings
- Conduct oneself in a professional manner

Evaluation of Learning

Student performance will be evaluated using multiple assessments involving assigned program activities. Student's course grades will be based on the following:

Evaluation Criteria	Method of Evaluation	Total Points
Assignments	- Chapter Assignments - Skills Performance - Classroom discussion & demonstrations	Total Points
Professional Behavior - Daily Points	- Attendance - Preparedness - Conduct - Attitude - Attire	
Knowledge of Course Content	- Written and oral presentations - Quizzes and tests	

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A+	100% − 98%
A	97% − 93%
A-	92% − 90%
B+	89% − 88%
B	87% − 83%
B-	82% − 80%

Grade	Percentage
C+	79% − 78%
C	77% − 73%
C-	72% − 70%
D+	69% − 68%
D	67% - 63%
D-	62% - 60%
F	59% - Below

Late Work Policy

- All assignments must be turned in on the posted due date.
- Work turned in late will receive a 50% deduction from the earned grade.
- Students have up to 5 school days (one calendar week) after the due date to submit late work.
- If the 5th day falls on a weekend or holiday, assignments must be submitted electronically that day.
- Any assignment not submitted within the 5-day window will receive a zero (0) and cannot be made up.

Standards of Professional Behavior

- Behavior in the classroom, or training room that is disruptive to other students, the instructor, staff, or patients is not acceptable.
- The instructor will discuss disruptive behavior with the student when first identified.
- Repeat offenses may result in a loss of points or an inability to participate in the classroom, or training experiences.

Career Information

MN Program of Study	
Career Field	Human Services
Career Cluster	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
Career Pathway	Law Enforcement Services, Correction Services & Emergency Services

Related occupations requiring postsecondary education & training:

- Animal Control Officer
- Bailiff
- Criminal Investigator and Special Agent
- Evidence Technician
- Federal Marshal
- Game Enforcement Officer
- Gaming Investigator
- Highway Patrol Officer
- Immigration and Customs Inspector
- Park Ranger
- Police and Patrol Officer
- Police Detective
- Police, Fire and Ambulance Dispatcher
- Private Detective and Investigator
- Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff

- Transit and Railroad Police
- Community Correction Practitioner
- Corrections Educator
- Corrections Officer
- Corrections Trainer
- Detention Deputy
- Jail Administrator
- Parole Officer
- Transport Officer
- Warden
- Youth Services Worker
- Emergency Management & Response Coordinator
- Emergency Planning Manager
- Hazardous Materials Responder
- Training Officer

Career Outlook	*information available @* **careerwise.minnstate.edu**

College Credit Opportunities

College credits can be earned if you maintain a "B" or above grade. Students may earn college credits through the following schools:

- Alexandria Technical & Community College*Visit the following website for specific articulated college courses - www.ctecreditmn.com*

The **WRIGHT** path for High School