CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE STUDIES - A.A.S.

College of Applied and Technical Studies
www.kent.edu/cats

Contact Information

- Program Coordinator:
  Mary Wilson
  mgwilson@kent.edu
  330-675-8925
- Speak with an Advisor
  • Ashtabula Campus
  • East Liverpool Campus
  • Geauga Campus
  • Salem Campus
  • Stark Campus
  • Trumbull Campus
  • Tuscarawas Campus
  • Twinsburg Academic Center
  • Online (any campus above)
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

- Online (Peace Officers Training Academy concentration not offered)
- Hybrid (online/on-ground)
  • Ashtabula
  • East Liverpool
  • Geauga
  • Salem
  • Stark
  • Trumbull (Peace Officers Training Academy concentration)
  • Tuscarawas
  • Twinsburg Academic Center

Description

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminology and Justice Studies prepares graduates for para-professional positions in the field of criminal justice studies. The program can serve as a foundation for advanced study in several areas, including retail security, industrial security, forensics, law and corrections. Graduates typically seek employment in probation offices, social service agencies, courts, local law enforcement offices and crime labs.

The Criminology and Justice Studies major includes the following optional concentration:

- The Peace Officers Training Academy concentration is open only to students admitted to the Kent State Basic Police Academy. The coursework covers the basics of defensive tactics, firearms, driving, traffic, patrol, civil disorders and first aid. In addition, students learn investigative methods and the fundamentals of policing, the criminal justice system, constitutional law and homeland security.

Students may declare the Criminology and Justice Studies major without a concentration. That course of study is ideal for students interested in the structure, functions and issues within the criminal justice system, as well as those who want a pathway to complete Kent State’s B.A. degree in Criminology and Justice Studies.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Kent State campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, and the Twinsburg Academic Center, have open enrollment admission for students who hold a high school diploma, GED or equivalent.

For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

Peace Officers Training Academy Concentration: Admission to this program is selective. Applicants must meet all admission criteria for acceptance into the Kent State Basic Police Academy. Criteria includes a valid driver’s license, high school diploma or GED, be age 20 or turning age 20 at time of enrollment, good physical condition and no felony or drug convictions or arrests for domestic violence.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Explain the structure and function of the criminal justice system, namely police, courts and corrections
2. Explain criminal law and how it intersects with and impacts society
3. Explain and compare the theories on crime, criminality and criminal justice practices
4. Communicate the experiences of marginalized populations within the criminal justice system

In addition, graduates of the Peace Officers Training Academy concentration will be able to:

1. Identify the components and legal processes of the criminal justice system, and apply basic criminal laws to various situations
2. Explain the different types of police procedures and their effective uses in law enforcement
3. Use ethical, analytical and critical-thinking skills toward situations typical to criminal justice settings
4. Safely and properly conduct a traffic stop and respond to a domestic disturbance, dispatched call or crime in progress
5. Properly carry out comprehensive criminal investigations and write various reports
6. Proficiently provide first aid at the level of a first responder

University Requirements

All students in an applied or technical associate degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements, please see Program Requirements for details.
### Program Requirements

#### Major Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIM 12000</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO JUSTICE STUDIES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM 22300</td>
<td>POLICE ROLE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM 26704</td>
<td>ISSUES IN LAW AND SOCIETY (KSS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM 33200</td>
<td>CRIMINAL LAW</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 12050</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC 10097</td>
<td>DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR</td>
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</table>

#### Kent Core Requirements

- Kent Core Composition (KCMP) 3
- Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR) 3
- Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) 3
- Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) 3
- Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) 3

**Total Credit Hours:** 15

#### Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)

- General Electives 4

**Minimum Total Credit Hours:** 22

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**Peace Officers Training Academy Concentration Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>POTA 11001</td>
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<tr>
<td>POTA 11002</td>
<td>PEACE OFFICERS ACADEMY II</td>
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<tr>
<td>POTA 11003</td>
<td>PEACE OFFICERS ACADEMY III</td>
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<tr>
<td>POTA 11004</td>
<td>PEACE OFFICERS ACADEMY IV</td>
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</table>

**Minimum Total Credit Hours:** 22

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**Graduation Requirements**

- Minimum Major GPA 2.000
- Minimum Overall GPA 2.000

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**Roadmap**

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

#### Semester One

<table>
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**Credit Hours:** 16

#### Semester Two

<table>
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<td>CRIM 22300</td>
<td>POLICE ROLE</td>
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**Credit Hours:** 15

#### Semester Three

<table>
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<tr>
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**Credit Hours:** 11-12

#### Semester Four

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<td>CRIM 36702</td>
<td>CRIMINOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CRIM 37311</td>
<td>MINORITIES IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CRIM 37411</td>
<td>WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Credit Hours:** 14

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**Additional Requirements for Students Not Declaring a Concentration**

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<td>MINORITIES IN CRIME AND JUSTICE (DIVD)</td>
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</table>

**Minimum Total Credit Hours:** 60

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**General Electives**

- 4

**Minimum Total Credit Hours:** 22