

# Sample Education Plan Associate in Arts (AA) Area of Focus: Criminal Justice



Please note that the AA degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions and the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Criminal Justice Panel. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website:

[www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer).

## AA Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Criminal Justice

Students are encouraged to complete an AA degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a bachelor's degree criminal justice program.

Please refer to MCC's AA degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

## Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
<b>Communications</b>		<b>Diversity and Multicultural Studies</b>	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3		
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
<b>Humanities and Fine Arts</b>		<b>Electives</b> (approximately 23 credits, will depend on credit value of your required course selections)	
IAI Fine Arts	3	<b>Recommended Courses (select with your advisor):</b>	
IAI Humanities (Recommended—PHI251, Intro to Ethics)	3	CJS 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	CJS 106 Introduction to Corrections	3
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>		CJS 120 Juvenile Delinquency	3
ANT 151 Introduction to Anthropology	3	CJS 140 Criminology	3
SOC 151 Introduction to Sociology	3	Foreign Language	0–16
PLT 151 or PLT 155, US Government or State & Local Government	3	Examples of other courses that may satisfy requirements at your transfer school:	
<b>^Physical and Life Sciences</b>		CJS 110, CJS 115, CJS 125	
(7 credits, 1 lab course)		<b>Total Credits Required for AA Degree</b>	<b>60</b>
IAI Physical Science	3–4	Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60–64 transfer credits.	
IAI Life Science	3–4		
<b>Mathematics</b>			
IAI Mathematics	3		

^Course has prerequisite(s)—Please reference the current academic catalog for prerequisites.

## NOTE:

- Your transfer school may require at least 1 year of foreign language. High school foreign language may or may not count. It is always recommended that the foreign language requirement be completed prior to transfer.
- The AA degree includes the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC and transfer benefits.

For more information:  
[advising@mchenry.edu](mailto:advising@mchenry.edu) or (815) 479-7565  
[www.mchenry.edu/advising](http://www.mchenry.edu/advising)





### Transfer Notes

Criminal Justice is the study of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Bachelor's degree graduates in criminal justice find employment in a wide range of professions: law enforcement officer, probation, parole, corrections, and social services.

Admission and specific course requirements vary among four-year institutions. Criminal justice majors may have the choice of earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, depending on the school they attend. Some schools require additional math and science coursework for the BS degree. Competency through the second, third, or fourth semester of a single foreign language may be required for the BA degree in some schools and for all majors in the College of Arts and Sciences at other schools. Ask about the language requirement of the schools you are considering, and complete the required foreign language courses before transfer. In some cases, two years of foreign language study in high school will substitute for two semesters in college.

MCC also offers the Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Criminal Justice. The AAS is designed to provide skills and knowledge in a specific field to prepare students for immediate employment or to upgrade current employment status, not for transfer to a four-year school. Though the AAS degree is designed for immediate employment, MCC has partnership agreements with specific four-year schools that provide transfer opportunities.

### Transfer Schools

Many schools offer majors in criminal justice. Following is a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer criminal justice programs:

- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Columbia College Missouri (Crystal Lake campus)
- Concordia University
- DeVry University
- Dominican University
- Elmhurst College
- Governors State University
- Illinois State University
- Judson University
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- Millikin University
- North Park University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- Western Illinois University

### Transfer Resources

[www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org)—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

[www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer)—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.

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**For more information:**  
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