

Associate Degree in Criminal Justice (ACJ)



An Associate Degree in Criminal Justice provides a versatile education that opens the door to a career in the criminal justice field or to a Bachelor's Degree program in a number of fields. College students, current law enforcement employees, military personnel, and adult learners can all benefit from our online program, saving time and money and with the flexibility to learn on a schedule that works for them.

PREPARING YOU FOR A CAREER . . .

- ✓ Earning an Associate in Arts Degree from SMC will prepare you for the next step in your education. It is designed to transfer into a four-year degree program, including our Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice or Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration.
- ✓ A two-year degree at SMC will provide you with the credentials for a career in law enforcement, security, corrections, investigation, and government.
- ✓ With an Associate Degree, you can get a higher paying job while you finish your four-year degree. Many employers will consider you for an entry-level position in your chosen career field because you have a degree in hand.

Career Opportunities

Earning an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice can open the door to many exciting career opportunities. At SMC we prepare our graduates to enter the criminal justice or law enforcement fields leading to a number of careers, including:

- Arson Investigator
- Ballistics Officer
- Canine Officer
- Corrections Officer
- Crime Scene Investigators
- Forensic Technicians
- Juvenile Counselors
- Law Enforcement Officers
- Paralegals
- Probation & Parole Officers
- Public Safety Officers
- Social Workers, and more

ABOUT OUR ONLINE PROGRAMS

All of SMC's online degree programs provide the same coursework, professional development program, and career-based experience opportunities as our traditional, on-campus programs. Students will learn from the same faculty who teach in our classrooms. All advising and other support functions are provided online by staff experienced in serving remote students.



START HERE
to begin your higher education journey.



FINISH HERE
with the skills you need to succeed.

The Associate in Criminal Justice is a program that will make a Spartanburg Methodist College education accessible to adult learners who prefer the flexibility of an online degree. The degree is designed for individuals already working in the criminal justice field, for individuals interested in careers in that field, and transfer into the Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Criminal Justice degree completion program.

Course Requirements

Associate in Criminal Justice Degree

Subject/Course Requirement	Semester Hours
English	
ENGL 101	3
ENGL 102	3
ENGL 2 _____ (ENGL 201, 202, 203, 204 or 210)	3
Computer Science	
CSCI _____	3
History	
HIST _____ (HIST 101, 102, 112, 201 or 202)	3
SMC Group	
SMC 120	3
Mathematics	
MATH _____ (112 or higher)	3 or 4
Health and Wellness	
_____ (PHED 121, HLTH 101, or HLTH 201)	3
Public Speaking	
SPCH 201	3
Religion	
RELI _____ (RELI 103, 211, 212, 215 or 220)	3
Science	
Science _____	4
Social Science	
Social Science* _____	3
Social Science* _____	3
Criminal Justice	
CRMJ 101	3
CRMJ 230 Policing	3
CRMJ 250 Courts	3
CRMJ 270 Corrections	3
CRMJ 280 Criminal Justice Ethics	3
CRMJ 290 Crime and Criminology	3
Electives	
Electives	2
Total 60 credit hours	

*Social Science = ANTH101; BSAD201, 202; POLS202, 203; PSYC101, 201; SOCI101, 202, 203; HIST101, 102, 112, 201, 202.

Class Schedule

SMC Online offers five eight-week terms per year — August, October, January, March, and May. All SMC Online courses are taught in an asynchronous format, although some courses offer voluntary synchronous sessions throughout the term.

	Start / Stop	Course 1	Course 2	Hours
Fall – 12 Hours Total				
August Term	Aug. – Oct.	_____	_____	6
October Term	Oct. – Dec.	_____	_____	6
Spring – 12 Hours Total				
January Term	Jan. – Mar.	_____	_____	6
March Term	Mar. – May	_____	_____	6
Summer – 6 Hours Total				
May Term	May – Jul.	_____	_____	6

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PATHWAY

Students can earn an Associate degree as a stand-alone qualification, as a stepping stone into further study, or as a guaranteed pathway into a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration degree. Upon admission, the student will declare an Associate degree (AA, ACJ, or AB) as part of the degree plan and will have completed the first two years of a bachelor's degree upon completion of the Associate degree.

ASSOCIATE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE PATHWAY

The Associate in Criminal Justice (ACJ) is a pathway into the Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Criminal Justice. An ACJ degree also prepares you with the skills to enter the field of criminal justice and enhances your ability to be hired in local, state, federal agencies, and private sector entry-level positions.

TUITION & FEES

The SMC Online Tuition & Fees below apply to the 2023-2024 school year. Please note that all tuition and fees are subject to change at any time when circumstances so warrant.

Tuition (per credit hour)	\$335.00
Academic Resource Fee (per semester)	\$450.00