Due to COVID-19 all academy activities and course lessons are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.

**Criminal Justice**

Careers in criminal justice are highly competitive and rigorous**.**Some days are long and get your heart pumping; most days you’re working hard gathering evidence or nailing down accurate information for a critical report. Learn the ins and outs of keeping others safe!

The Criminal Justice program lays the foundation for students interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, criminal law, corrections, homeland security, investigative services, forensics, and related public safety career pathways. Cover the basics of traffic law / traffic enforcement; criminal and juvenile law; crime prevention; the court and correction systems; crime scene investigation; and more. Develop your observational, communication, documentation, and "people" skills critical for success in this field. You will also learn which career paths require further training or education.

**What will my classes be like?**

The program includes hands-on activities, demonstrations, report preparation, lecture and work-based learning experiences. Viewing the criminal justice system from the ground up will help you understand how a law enforcement career plays out at the local, private, state, and federal levels of service.

**Course Goals/Objectives**

Students will gain a solid academic foundation in criminal justice that will serve them well in any career they pursue within the field of criminal justice.  Students will acquire a wide variety of practical professional skills and enhance their professional writing.

**Course Outline**

* Police Functions and Roles
* Patrol Procedures/Directed Policing
* Laws of Arrest
* Fundamentals of Search and Seizure
* Fundamentals of Criminal Law
* Civil Rights
* Ethics
* Corrections
* Parole and Probations
* College and Career Preparations
* Health and Physical Fitness

\*The following skills are developed and practiced throughout the year:

      -  Radio Communications

      -  Traffic Stops

      -  Arrest Procedures

      -   Victims and Witnesses interview techniques

      -  Basic Crime Scene Processing (photographing, measuring, sketching, collecting evidence)

      -  Verbal Communication

      -  Report Writing

      -  Vehicle Searches

- Public Speaking

Industry professionals are scheduled as available to share their experiences with students.  Previous presentations included members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; and DEA and US Attorney General.

These presentations provide information regarding the educational background, career pathways and skills necessary to pursue these careers. Students have the opportunity to ask questions and speak personally with each professional.

**Assessment Standards/Grading Practices**

Students are both informally and formally assessed on their acquired skills.

Informal assessments may include class participation in discussions, group activities/projects, and performance of practical skills.

Formal assessments include performance assessments, written assignments, quizzes and tests.

**Field Experiences/Competitive Opportunities**

Law I,II and III students may have the opportunity in the spring to participate in internships or job-shadow experiences. Partnerships with various law enforcement organizations provide our students with this valuable opportunity to gain practical experience and to network with industry professionals. Students have the opportunity to compete in Skills USA competitions at the regional, state and national levels