Program Purpose

The Criminal Justice program prepares students for entry-level employment in the four areas of criminal justice: law enforcement, courts, corrections, and private security. These persons will perform a wide range of tasks in the fulfillment of their job duties. The program consists of 63 semester hours. There are 42 semester hours of pre-professional, major, and elective courses (Area V), with the remaining courses consisting of selected general education courses (Areas I-IV).

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Criminal Justice (CRJ) program are able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the entire criminal justice process from law enforcement to the administration of corrections. (CRJ 100, CRJ 110, CRJ 150)
- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the history and philosophy of law enforcement which includes the duties and functions of law enforcement officers. (CRJ 110)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the philosophical and historical foundations of corrections in America. (CRJ 150)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the operation, organization and problems in providing safety and security to business enterprises such as the private, retail and industrial security industry. (CRJ 160)
- Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of substantive and procedural law specific to the Criminal Code of Alabama. (CRJ 140)
- Demonstrate competence in types of evidence, their definitions and uses, as well as the functions of the court regarding evidence. (CRJ 146)
- Demonstrate knowledge into the nature and extent of crime in the United States and the theories of crime causation. (CRJ 208)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the causes of delinquency, programs of prevention, and control of juvenile delinquency in America. (CRJ 209)
- Demonstrate the duties and responsibilities of a criminal investigator in the area of scientific investigations. (CRJ 230, 236)
- Demonstrate the handling of ballistics, photography, fingerprints, DNA, trace evidence, body fluids, and casts. (CRJ 230)
- Demonstrate the fundamentals of crime scene investigations such as measuring and sketching the scene, photography, evidence collection and preservation. (CRJ 238)
- Demonstrate practical experience with a criminal justice agency under faculty supervision. (CRJ 280)
• Demonstrate the ability to read, research, write, and discuss selected subjects related to criminal justice. (CRJ 290)
• Exhibit a positive work ethic. (WKO 106)

Assessed Needs and Assumptions

According to the United States Department of Labor (www.bls.gov/oco/ocos002.htm), job openings for entry-level police and detectives are projected to grow a total of 10%, or 84,700 positions, during the period 2008-2018, representing a growth rate near the average for all occupations. These jobs carry a salary ranging from a low of $38,850 to a median of $64,940 nationwide.

A review of other specific entry-level, criminal justice-related occupations such as correctional officers and private security officers revealed statistics similar to those above, with openings and salaries ranging from slightly below to slightly above average, both nationwide and in Alabama.

Structure

Northeast is authorized to offer both a certificate, short-term certificate, and the Associate in Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice. The Criminal Justice program offers a single program option including the following core courses: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Introduction to Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Internship. Elective courses include Corrections, Security, Criminal Law, Criminal Evidence, Criminology, Juvenile Delinquency, Criminalistics, Crime Scene Investigations, and Selected Topics in Criminal Justice.

Accreditation

The Criminal Justice program at Northeast Alabama Community College is within the institutional accreditation granted by the SACS Commission on Colleges and reaffirmed in 2005.

Assigned Faculty

The Criminal Justice program currently has one full-time instructor and one adjunct instructor.

Brent Satterfield, full-time instructor of criminal justice, has a Master of Science Degree in Public Administration. He has 5 years of full-time instructional experience at Northeast Alabama Community College and 17 years of adjunct instruction at other institutions of higher education in the Criminal Justice division. His continued professional development is extensive in areas of law enforcement administration,
police procedures and distance learning instruction. Mr. Satterfield is also a state-certified police officer, serving since 1985 in areas of patrol, supervision and instruction.

David Davis, adjunct instructor of criminal justice, has a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He has two semesters of part-time experience at Northeast Alabama Community College in the Criminal Justice program. His professional development has consisted of specialized training in law enforcement and crime scene investigation. He also works full-time as a Sergeant of Investigations at the Fort Payne Police Department in Fort Payne, Alabama.

**On-going Costs for the Program**

The major on-going costs for this program are material and supplies, travel for professional development, and the salaries of the instructors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$89,695</td>
<td>$92,133.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$2,914.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Expenses</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$357.78</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$93,295</strong></td>
<td><strong>$95,405.35</strong></td>
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**Instructional Quality and Enhancements/Curriculum Design**

The Criminal Justice program includes a total of 21 semester hours of general education classes. These classes include English Composition I (3 hours), Fundamentals of Public Speaking (3 hours), humanities and fine arts elective (3 hours), math elective (3 hours), microcomputer applications (3 hours), one math, computer science or natural science elective (3-4 hours), and a history, social science, or behavioral science elective (3 hours).

All of the syllabi in the program curriculum are in the process of approval by the Student Learning Outcomes Committee per the five-year course plan. All approved class syllabi are posted on the NACC website. These syllabi are used by the instructors to develop course handouts that are given to all students at the beginning of each course. Course reviews to measure the attainment of general and/or program learning outcomes are accomplished on a five-year rotating schedule, with approximately 20% of the classes receiving a review each year. These reviews are all current as of the end of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Courses used in general education requirements are scheduled every term. Program specific courses are scheduled in the following manner. Introduction to Criminal Justice
(CRJ 100), Criminal Law and Procedure (CRJ 140), and Introduction to Corrections (CRJ 150) are offered each fall semester during the day, and Criminalistics (CRJ 230) is offered in the evenings. Introduction to Policing (CRJ 110), Criminal Evidence (CRJ 146), and Introduction to Criminology (CRJ 208) are offered each spring semester during the day, and Crime Scene Investigation (CRJ 238) is offered in the evenings. Introduction to Security (CRJ 160), Juvenile Delinquency (CRJ 209), and Selective Topics (CRJ 290) are offered each summer semester. Internship in Criminal Justice (CRJ 280) is offered every semester based on student need. CRJ 110, CRJ 146, CRJ 160, and CRJ 208 are offered every other year on-line during the fall semester. CRJ 100, CRJ 140, CRJ 150, and CRJ 209 are offered every other year on-line during the spring semester. CRJ 100 is offered each year on-line during the summer semester based on student need. CRJ 230 and CRJ 238 will be offered on-line starting with the fall 2012 semester. Plans are ongoing to increase course offerings in the Criminal Justice program, both in the classroom and on-line. The present rotation allows for a student to finish within 4 semesters if the student takes advantage of all available offerings either in the classroom or online.

Physical facilities are adequate as of this time. A dedicated classroom for the instruction of Criminal justice is desirable, and office space for adjunct instructors is needed.

Advisory Council

An Advisory Council for the Criminal Justice Program is in the developmental stage, and it will consist of criminal justice professionals from both DeKalb and Jackson Counties. Faculty members from the program will also be invited to attend. The council will be fully implemented by fall 2012 with regular meetings to follow. The committee will be given a presentation of activities within the program for the year, and the members may make recommendations and suggestions for improvement or redirection.

Enrollment and Completions

Enrollment and completions for Fall 2009 through Fall 2011 were as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Number Enrolled*</th>
<th>Number of AAS Awards</th>
<th>Number of Certificates</th>
<th>Number of STC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2011</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>40</td>
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*Number Enrolled signifies number specified as program majors.
Job Placement Rates

Out of the 45 students on the most recent completer/leaver report covering Fall 2011, five are working in the same or a related field, six are working in an unrelated field, 33 are continuing their education and one is currently unemployed. No data is available for prior years.

Findings of Review

Subject matter has been updated regularly and is current with respect to the state of the industry. Additional criminal justice elective courses will continue to be added as needed for the degree and certificates. A class rotation schedule has been established, placing each criminal justice course on a semester rotation. Each criminal justice course will be offered on campus at least once during the year, and it will be offered online within a two-year time frame. With the employment of a part-time instructor, courses are now being offered in the evening as well as those being offered during the day and online. Students are highly encouraged to apply for all certificates in which they qualify. The advisor will be available to assist students with the job application process as needed. Even though the criminal justice program is relatively new, it has been recognized by the local police agencies as a good source for recruitment. Many of the departments in the service area are now contacting the college for possible job candidates. Another area of support from local agencies has been their involvement with the criminal justice internship program. After completion of the internship course, the students apply for employment, and many have been hired either on a part-time or full-time basis. The College and Career Planning Center on campus has provided assistance in helping students identify their career paths and has assisted students interested in the field of criminal justice. One area of concern as it relates to student advisement is the amount of students in the program. As the course load increases on the part-time instructor it would be requested that the part-time instructor be reclassified to assist with student advisement.

Report Affirmed by:

Brent Satterfield, Instructor of Criminal Justice  Date

Dr. Joe Burke, Vice President/Dean of Instruction  Date

Date reviewed by Curriculum Committee:  

Curriculum Committee Chair:  Rodney Land, Chemistry Instructor