

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
Criminal Justice Program
Revision Date: 08-18-25

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: CRIM2030
Course Title: Police & Society
Prerequisite(s): None

Catalog Description: Examines the role of the police in relationship to law enforcement and in the United States. Topics include, but are not limited to the role and function of police, the nature of police organizations and police work, and the patterns of police-community relations.

Credit Hours: 3.0
Class Hours: 45
Lab Hours: 0
Total Contact Hours: 45

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

- A. Trace the history of policing in the United States and the movement toward police professionalism.
- B. Describe the organizational structures and management styles of police agencies.
- C. Examine patterns of interaction between the police and the diverse population in the United States and demonstrate how special interest groups and politics affect the police along with community relations.
- D. Describe the issues of discretion, ethics, corruption, decision-making and morality.
- E. Explain the concept of police culture and subcultures.
- F. Explain civil liability within law enforcement.
- G. Review the practices of police recruitment and selection process.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- A. Student Learning Outcomes: *Student will be able to:*
 - 1. Explain the historical development of policing in the United States and its relationship to society.
 - 2. Describe the roles and responsibilities of police in maintaining order, enforcing laws, and providing community services.
 - 3. Explain the different policing models and strategies, including community policing, problem-oriented policing, and evidence-based practices.
 - 4. Analyze the relationship between police and diverse communities, with attention to issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and cultural differences.
 - 5. Analyze ethical and legal considerations in policing, including use of force, accountability, and civil rights protections.
 - 6. Examine contemporary challenges facing law enforcement, such as technology, terrorism, mental health response, and public trust.
 - 7. Identify career opportunities, hiring processes and requirements in policing.
 - 8. Demonstrate an understanding of professional skills and ethical standards expected in the field.
- B. General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs):
 - 1. GELO 1: Oral Communication

Outcome 4: Competently communicate messages – both verbally and nonverbally – to a variety of audience types and in a variety of situations.

2. GELO 2: Written Communication

Outcome 5: Read and write in mechanically-sound, college-level English.

3. GELO 3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

Outcome 4: Evaluate the validity of arguments, alternatives, data, outcomes, and/or impacts of actions.

4. GELO 6: Career and Life Skills

Outcome 7: Demonstrate choices that reflect personal responsibility in one's academic, civic, social, and vocational/professional life.

IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)

- A. Police History
- B. Organization
- C. Police Culture
- D. Ethics and Discretion
- E. Patrol
- F. Investigation
- G. Community Policing
- H. Police and the Law
- I. Contemporary Challenges in Policing

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s): Dempsey, John S., Forst, Linda S., *Introduction to Policing*, Current Edition, Cengage Learning.
- B. Other Resources: Varies by instructor

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture/Discussion
- B. Electronic Presentation
- C. Demonstrations
- D. Case Studies
- E. Field Trips
- F. Course Books
- G. Group Projects
- H. Hybrid, Blended, Virtual
- I. Online
- J. Subject Matter Expert

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams
- B. Quizzes
- C. Written Assignments
- D. Oral Assignments
- E. Practical Application
- F. Discussion
- G. Projects
- H. SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY:

A+	95-100	C+	75-79
A	90-94	C	70-74
B+	85-89	D+	65-69
B	80-84	D	60-64
		F	Below 60

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- A.** See instructor's course outline.