

Law & Public Safety Course Descriptions

Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security TEA # 13029200 Course # 0339

Grade Placement: 9-12

Credit: 1

Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security introduces students to professions in law enforcement, protective services, corrections, firefighting, and emergency management services. Students will examine the roles and responsibilities of police, courts, corrections, private security, and protective agencies of fire and emergency services. The course provides students with an overview of the skills necessary for careers in law enforcement, fire service, protective services, and corrections.

Anatomy and Physiology TEA # 13020600 Course # 0439

Grade Placement: 10-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Biology and a second science credit

Recommended Prerequisite: A course from the Health and Science Career Cluster

The Anatomy and Physiology course is designed for students to conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students in Anatomy and Physiology will study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interaction of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.

Note: This course can satisfy a science credit requirement for students on the Foundation High School Program. Students are encouraged to meet with their Academic Counselor to ensure they are following the appropriate science course sequence and can apply this course to their science graduation requirements.

Anatomy and Physiology Honors TEA # 13020600 Course # 0438

Grade Placement: 10-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Biology and a second science credit

Recommended Prerequisite: A course from the Health and Science Career Cluster

Anatomy and Physiology is course designed for students to conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. This course is similar to Anatomy and Physiology; however, it incorporates higher-order thinking skills through assessment and synthesis of the anatomical knowledge combined with exposure to clinical analysis and lab work. Students in Anatomy and Physiology will study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interaction of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.

Note: This course can satisfy a science credit requirement for students on the Foundation High School Program. Students are encouraged to meet with their Academic Counselor to ensure they are following the appropriate science course sequence and can apply this course to their science graduation requirements.

Business Law TEA # 13011700 Course # 0544

Grade Placement: 11-12

Credit: 1

Business Law is designed for students to analyze various aspects of the legal environment, including ethics, the judicial system, contracts, personal property, sales, negotiable instruments, agency and employment, business organization, risk management, and real property.

Career Preparation I TEA # 12701300 Course # 0531 & 2531

Grade Placement: 11-12

Credit: 2 Prerequisite: None

Career Preparation I provides opportunities for students to participate in a work-based learning experience that combines classroom instruction with business and industry employment experiences. The goal is to prepare students with a variety of skills for a changing workplace. Career preparation is relevant and rigorous, supports student attainment of academic standards, and effectively prepares students for college and career success.

Note: This course requires a Course Interest Form to be submitted and requires students to have either paid or unpaid employment. The employment site is typically selected by each individual student to ensure it correlates to their specific career interest area. Most employment sites are located out in our surrounding community.

Correctional Services

TEA # 13029700

Course # 0337P

Grade Placement: 10–12

Credit: 1

Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

In Correctional Services, students prepare for certification required for employment as a municipal, county, state, or federal correctional officer. Students will learn the role and responsibilities of a county or municipal correctional officer; discuss relevant rules, regulations, and laws of municipal, county, state, or federal facilities; and discuss defensive tactics, restraint techniques, and first aid procedures as used in the municipal, county, state, or federal correctional setting. Students will analyze rehabilitation and alternatives to institutionalization for inmates.

Note: This course has a competition requirement.

Court Systems and Practices

TEA # 13029600

Course # 0926P

Grade Placement: 10–12

Credit: 1

Recommended Prerequisite: Law Enforcement I

Court Systems and Practices is an overview of the federal and state court systems. The course identifies the roles of judicial officers and the trial processes from pretrial to sentencing and examines the types and rules of evidence. Emphasis is placed on constitutional laws for criminal procedures such as search and seizure, stop and frisk, and interrogation.

Note: This course has a competition requirement.

Criminal Investigation

TEA # 13029550

Course # 0932P

Grade Placement: 10–12

Credit: 1

Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

Criminal Investigation is a course that introduces students to the profession of criminal investigations. Students will understand basic functions of criminal investigations and procedures and will learn how to investigate or follow up during investigations. Students will learn terminology and investigative procedures related to criminal investigation, crime scene processing, evidence collection, fingerprinting, and courtroom presentation. Through case studies and simulated crime scenes, students will collect and analyze evidence such as fingerprint analysis, bodily fluids, hairs, fibers, shoe and tire impressions, bite marks, drugs, tool marks, firearms and ammunition, blood spatter, digital evidence, and other types of evidence. **Note: This course has a competition requirement.**

Forensic Science

TEA # 13029500

Course # 0906

Grade Placement: 11–12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

Recommended Prerequisite or Corequisite: Any Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Safety Career Cluster course

Forensic Science is a course that introduces students to the application of science to connect a violation of law to a specific criminal, criminal act, or behavior and victim. Students will learn terminology and procedures related to the search and examination of physical evidence in criminal cases as they are performed in a typical crime laboratory. Using scientific methods, students will collect and analyze evidence such as fingerprints, bodily fluids, hairs, fibers, paint, glass, and cartridge cases. Students will also learn the history and the legal aspects as they relate to each discipline of forensic science. Scientific methods of investigation can be experimental, descriptive, or comparative. The method chosen should be appropriate to the question being asked.

Note: This course can satisfy a science credit requirement for students on the Foundation High School Program. Students are encouraged to meet with their Academic Counselor to ensure they are following the appropriate science course sequence and can apply this course to their science graduation requirements.

Forensic Science Honors

TEA # 13029500

Course # 0910

Grade Placement: 11–12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

Recommended Prerequisite or Corequisite: Any Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Safety Career Cluster course

Forensic Science is a course that introduces students to the application of science to connect a violation of law to a specific criminal, criminal act, or behavior and victim. Students will learn terminology and procedures related to the search and examination of physical evidence in criminal cases as they are performed in a typical crime laboratory with the use of higher order thinking skills and strategies. Using scientific methods, students will collect and analyze evidence such as fingerprints, bodily fluids, hairs, fibers, paint, glass, and cartridge cases. Students will also learn the history and the legal aspects as they relate to each discipline of forensic science. Scientific methods of investigation can be experimental, descriptive, or comparative. The method chosen should be appropriate to the question being asked. Students are expected to work collaboratively as well as individually to reach specific course requirements.

Note: This course can satisfy a science credit requirement for students on the Foundation High School Program. Students are encouraged to meet with their Academic Counselor to ensure they are following the appropriate science course sequence and can apply this course to their science graduation requirements.

Law Enforcement I

TEA # 13029300

Course # 0338

Grade Placement: 10–12

Credit: 1

Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

Law Enforcement I is an overview of the history, organization, and functions of local, state, and federal law enforcement. Students will understand the role of constitutional law at local, state, and federal levels; the U.S. legal system; criminal law; and law enforcement terminology and the classification and elements of crime.

Law Enforcement II

TEA # 13029400

Course # 0555

Grade Placement: 10–12

Credit: 1

Recommended Prerequisite: Law Enforcement I

Law Enforcement II provides the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare for a career in law enforcement. Students will understand ethical and legal responsibilities, patrol procedures, first responder roles, telecommunications, emergency equipment operations, and courtroom testimony.

Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security

TEA # 13030100

Course # 0557 & 2557

Grade Placement: 12

Credits: 2

Prerequisite: At Least Two Other Credits from this Career Pathway

The practicum course is designed to give students supervised practical application of previously studied knowledge and skills in law, public safety, corrections, and security. Practicum experiences can occur in a variety of locations appropriate to the nature and level of experience. Students are encouraged to participate in extended learning experiences such as career and technical student organizations and other leadership or extracurricular organizations.

Note: This course requires a Course Interest Form to be submitted.

STC Dual Enrollment Criminal Justice Academy (DECJA)

Course # 1015 & 2015

Grade Placement: 11-12

Credit: 1 per course

Prerequisite: Meet South Texas College acceptance criteria; 2-Year Commitment

This South Texas College (STC) Dual Enrollment Criminal Justice Academy (DECJA) is a two year-round dual enrollment program developed for high school juniors and seniors who are seriously interested in pursuing a career in criminal justice. This academy is designed to encourage area high school students into the criminal justice professions by providing college course-work and opportunities that will motivate, educate, and prepare students for higher education in the field of criminal justice. With the support of the local law enforcement professionals, the Dual Enrollment Criminal Justice Academy will promote and participate in efforts that will reinforce the schools' and communities' commitment to prepare students for careers in criminal justice. Contact your school Counselor for more information on how to enroll into this program.

Note: This course has an application process in place.

STC Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Program

Course # Various

Grade Placement: 12

Credits: Various

Prerequisite: Biology; Principles of Health Science; and Medical Terminology; Meet South Texas College acceptance criteria

Recommended Prerequisite: Anatomy & Physiology

This program prepares students to deliver out-of-hospital emergency care at the scene of an accident or a medical emergency. EMTs typically work at 911 ambulance companies, flight paramedics, emergency rooms, transport teams, and fire departments. Contact your school Counselor for more information on how to enroll into this program. Visit the STC EMT Program website for more information on the program requirements and specific course offerings: <https://nah.southtexascollege.edu/emt/index.html>. **Note: This program has an STC application process in place.**