The Police Science Program is designed to provide students interested in pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice with the opportunity to attend the Police Academy as part of their program studies.

**POLICE SCIENCE**

**Degree:** Associate in Applied Science  
**HEGIS Code:** 5505  
**Curriculum Code:** 2080  
**Campus Location:** North  
(First year of courses can be taken at any campus)

**Business & Public Service Division**

**Pre-Admission Recommendations:** Sworn police officers affiliated with a New York State certified law enforcement agency, and 30 semester credit hours of collegiate instruction with Quality Point Average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 system.

**Career Opportunities/Further Education:** Law enforcement agencies, correctional facilities and campus and industrial security. Graduates also receive certification from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services which certifies the student to attend an abbreviated Police Equivalency Course (six week course), if hired by a police agency.

**Program Description**

The Police Science Degree Program at SUNY Erie has been designed to provide students interested in pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice with the opportunity to attend the Police Academy as part of their program studies. The first year or 34 credit hours of study is intended to provide the student with a foundation in criminal justice, English and social science courses that will smooth their transition into the specialized courses given in the second-year Academy program (Police Basic Training Course).

Students can then go on to pursue their careers with a law enforcement agency or elsewhere in the criminal justice system. Graduates of this program are not restricted to a career with a law enforcement agency. They also have the option to transfer their credits and pursue a four-year Bachelor of Science degree at another college or university.

**Program Competencies**

Upon graduating from the Police Science Program, the officer will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the criminal justice vocabulary;
- demonstrate an understanding of the philosophical and historical background in the three parts of criminal justice: law enforcement, courts and corrections;
• demonstrate an understanding of the theories and causes of crime whether economic, sociological and psychological;
• operate a police vehicle in pursuit and rapid response situations;
• prepare clear and concise police reports and memos;
• understand the fundamentals of police crime-scene investigation and other complaints;
• earn certification as an EMS First Responder;
• attain a level of physical fitness consistent with Cooper Standards;
• prove proficiency in arrest techniques, including use of non-lethal weapons;
• perform patrol and traffic functions efficiently; and
• possess familiarity with New York State Criminal Laws (e.g. Penal Law, Code of Criminal Procedure and V&T Laws).

Department Notes

Students can now earn an Associate in Applied Sciences (A.A.S.) degree if they complete the Police Basic Training Certificate and complete the first two semesters of this program (34 credit hours). This is a great alternative for criminal justice students who want to earn an A.A.S. degree in just one and a half years while attending the academy.

CURRICULUM

Total Degree Credits: 64.0

First Semester
CR 150 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3 cr)
EN 110 College Composition (3 cr)
GO 101 American Government I (3 cr)
PE 202 Physical Fitness I (1 cr)
PS 100 General Psychology (3 cr)
______ Humanities Elective (3 cr)

Second Semester
CR 160 Criminology (3 cr)
EN 111 Composition and Interpretation of Literature (3 cr)
GO 102 American Government II (3 cr)
SO 100 Introduction to Sociology (3 cr)
______ Criminal Justice Elective (3 cr)
______ Math Elective (3 cr)

Law Enforcement Academy
PB 201 Police Physical Fitness (3 cr)
PB 202 Basic Law for Police (3 cr)
PB 203 Emergency Medical Services/First Responder (3 cr)
PB 204 Police/Community Relations (3 cr)
PB 205 Police Administration of Justice (3 cr)
PB 206 Police Arrest Techniques (3 cr)
PB 207 Police Investigative Procedures (3 cr)
PB 208 Police Patrol Functions (3 cr)
PB 209 Police Traffic Procedures (3 cr)
PB 210 Emergency Vehicle Operations (3 cr)

Note: Classes in the third and fourth semesters are all 3 credit Police Academy courses. It is recommended that students take the above first and second semester courses first, but it is not necessary. They can complete any courses necessary for the A.A.S. Degree in Police Science even after they complete the Police Basic Training Certificate and still earn an A.A.S. Degree in Police Science.