



Welcome to our program at NGTC! We are glad you are here!

First, let me introduce our faculty. We have one full-time instructor: Pamela Segers. She will be your academic advisor and will aid you in planning which courses to take each semester. Additionally, we have adjunct instructors: Juanita (Marie) Griffin-Taylor, Justin Turner, Robin Krockum, Steve Hill, and Dr. Tony Sirianni. Our instructors have worked or are working in the field of criminal justice and will share their practical experiences with you.

We have compiled the following “Question & Answer” section below. Please email Pamela Segers at psegers@northgatech.edu if you have additional questions.

Q: Should I enroll in the diploma or the degree program?

A: Whether you enroll in the diploma or degree program depends on many factors. One of those factors is the availability of financial aid. If you receive HOPE, it will be very important for you to discuss regulations with a financial aid representative before switching to degree. Other factors may include your current job requirements, your educational goals, or your personal preferences. The more education you receive, the better prepared you will be! I hope every student eventually obtains the associate degree, but many start out in the diploma program.

Q: What are the differences between the classes for the diploma and the degree program?

A: There is no difference between the CORE criminal justice classes for either diploma or degree. You are required to take the following nine classes:

CRJU 1010	Intro to Criminal Justice	CRJU 1030	Corrections
CRJU 1040	Law Enforcement	CRJU 1068	Criminal Law
CRJU 1400	Ethics	CRJU 2020	Constitutional Law
CRJU 2050	Criminal Procedure	CRJU 2070	Juvenile Justice
CRJU 2090 OR 2100	Practicum or Externship (to be taken AFTER other eight are completed with => C grade)		

The main difference is in the general education classes and the electives.

- For the diploma, you will take COLL 1010, ENGL 1010, MATH 1012, PSYC 1010, and nine hours (three classes) of electives.
- For the degree, you will take COLL 1010, ENGL 1101, a GEN ED Elective, a choice from MATH 1103, 1111, OR 1127, a choice from SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, a choice from HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS, and 15 hours (five classes) of electives (includes the three electives taken under diploma).

Q: Can I begin my program under the diploma and then “switch over” to the associate so I do not have to take the diploma level general education courses (Math, English, and Psychology)?

A: Switching over from diploma to degree is always an option, but we recommend graduating with the diploma and then re-enrolling into the degree program. This way, you can indicate the receipt of your diploma on your resume. Financial aid concerns might influence whether a student begins under diploma or associate, so it is always wise to ask your financial advisor.

Q: It has been a long while since I was in school and I am nervous about studying. Is there anything special I can do to prepare?

A: There are two things that could help you.

- 1) We offer a required course called COLL 1010 (College Success & Survival Skills). It is a three-credit hour course. Topics include learning styles, time management, study and testing skills, stress management, and communication skills. It can be very helpful in getting back on track! Please make sure you take this within the first two semesters.

2) Each campus has a Student Success Center where we offer tutoring, assistance with student services, computers for student use, and study skills assistance for all program areas. It is free of charge and available to our students to help them be successful.

Q: What kind of electives can I take?

A: We offer five classes specifically related to criminal justice and you may take any of those classes. We also allow electives outside of the program and those are found on the electives list. However, all electives are not offered each semester. Some may be taught only once a year. You will have to review the course listings to see if the elective is available.

Q: When do the criminal justice classes meet?

A: In the summer of 2020, our program decided to offer our classes as online classes with live, virtual sessions. The online environment requires multiple log ins each week to take part in weekly readings, recorded reviews, community discussions, and quizzes. One of our elective courses, CRJU 1063 (Crime Scene Processing), is taught each fall and spring and does meet once per week for lab sessions.

Q: How long will it take me to get my diploma or degree?

A: That will depend on how many classes you plan to take each semester. Twelve credit hours is a full load. All criminal justice classes count as three credit hours, so twelve hours = four classes. If you take the full load each semester, it will take you approximately four semesters to obtain your diploma and approximately five or six semesters to obtain your degree. Of course, a student may take more than 12 credit hours, so this could enable a student to finish earlier. Due to admissions test scores, some students must take learning support classes. If this applies to you, it may lengthen the amount of time it takes to complete your coursework.

Q: Is there any particular sequence for the courses?

A: Yes. We have adopted a recommended sequence for our new students. We will provide a list of the recommended coursework (four classes each term) as well as an anticipated graduation plan date. Obviously, some students will have transferred credits and/or need learning support, so the plan might require adjustment as the student moves along. The CRJU 1010 (the intro class) is scheduled to be taken first, as it is a pre-requisite for the 2000 level courses. The student takes the externship/practicum at the end of the coursework, after successfully completing the eight required core criminal justice classes. I am here to advise you on your way! Let me know what your goals are and how I can help.

Q: What is the difference between the capstone choices -CRJU 2090 or CRJU 2100)?

A: The student will choose between an independent research project (2090) or internship hours with an approved agency (2100). The research project covers an approved topic for the student to research and make a presentation detailing various aspects. The internship offers practical experience within an agency related to criminal justice. We have working relationships with various agencies and jurisdictions: local Police & Sheriff offices, District Attorney's Office (various circuits), Power House for Kids, Circle of Hope, misdemeanor Probation, 911 Centers, and many others. We make every effort to place students with the agency of their choice.

Welcome!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

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