

## **Instructional Unit – Program Review 2018-2021**

### **Part 1: - Program Overview**

**Program Name:** Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education

#### **Program Mission and Description:**

The mission of the Law Enforcement Program at Jefferson State Community College is to provide a comprehensive knowledge base pertinent to the various areas within the broad scope of Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement including but not limited to law, courts, corrections, criminology, ethics and public policy. The program emphasizes the development of analytical skills that are vital in the field of justice, and an understanding of the laws and legally defined procedures that law enforcement professionals must adhere to when working in this field.

#### **Program Admission and Awards:**

Acceptance in the program requires general admission requirements met to enter either the Law Enforcement or Criminal Justice degree pathways. The program offers (2) two-year degrees: Associates in Applied Science Degree in Law Enforcement as well as the Certificate and Short Certificate in Law Enforcement and an Associate in Science in Criminal Justice. For the Associate in Criminal Justice degree, Jefferson State Community College has had a long-standing agreement with the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Justice of Science department; whereby they accept many courses in addition to those covered by the state articulation. Other local state universities also accept our courses as we have an outstanding reputation within the academic and law enforcement community.

The faculty is one of the strongest aspect of the program, with the adjunct instructors being practitioners in their respective areas of expertise, i.e. attorneys teach the pre-law courses, police from upper management teach the investigation and law enforcement administration courses, etc. Student instructor evaluations continue to be very positive. The program coordinator is in her 25th year at Jefferson State.

Several graduates have gone on to have successful careers in criminal justice and many have been promoted through the ranks. Police and sheriffs' departments attest to the fact that JSCC graduates score higher on recruiting and promotional exams including the legal and ethical components. We stress that understanding the law and having integrity are two of the most important aspects of enforcing the law.

**Program Demographics:**

<b>Category 2019 - 2020</b>	<b>Student Totals</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Total Students	223	2%
Number of Male	91	2%
Number of Female	132	2%
Age 18-25	149	2%
Age 26-40	58	2%
Age 41+	16	2%
<b>Demographics</b>		
African American Students	54	2%
Asian Students	8	3%
Caucasian Students	140	2%
Hispanic Students	5	3%

<b>Category 2020 - 2021</b>	<b>Student Totals</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Total Students	188	2%
Number of Male	71	2%
Number of Female	117	2%
Age 18-25	132	2%
Age 26-40	43	2%
Age 41+	12	2%
<b>Demographics</b>		
African American Students	54	2%
Asian Students	5	2%
Caucasian Students	112	1%
Hispanic Students	7	2%

<b>Category 2021-2022</b>	<b>Student Totals</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Total Students	190	2%
Number of Male	67	2%
Number of Female	123	2%
Age 18-25	123	2%
Age 26-40	49	2%
Age 41+	17	2%
<b>Demographics</b>		
African American Students	54	2%
Asian Students	3	1%
Caucasian Students	114	1%
Hispanic Students	7	2%

**Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice demographics Total for 2019 -2021 (3 Combined totals)**

<b>Category 2019 -2021</b>	<b>Student Totals</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Total Students	507	2%
Number of Male	188	2%
Number of Female	319	2%
Age 18-25	349	2%
Age 26-40	123	2%
Age 41+	33	2%
Demographics		
African American Students	133	2%
Asian Students	13	2%
Caucasian Students	312	2%
Hispanic Students	16	2%

**Mode of Delivery:**

Classes are offered in traditional and online formats as well as occasional seminars and internships. Growth has been primarily in the internet classes and, therefore, more are in development. Traditional classes are taught primarily at the Shelby Campus, both day and evening. Night classes at the Jefferson Campus have failed to make for several terms and informal research suggests safety as the reason. Efforts to expand to Clanton and St. Clair campuses continue and it is expected that those numbers will soon be met to offer a few classes at those locations.

**Program/Department Goals:**

Maintain up-to-date curriculum and courses to prepare students for employment, advancements in employment, or continuing their education at four-year institutions.

Provide faculty professional development to enhance instruction and enhance program quality.

Continue to improve program advising.

**Program/Department Outcomes Achievement:**

*Program Enrollment* has remained stable, averaging 169 over the past 3 years (223, 188 and 190) which saw a 11.24 percent decrease from the previous review 2017- 2019 (average 188). This downward trend is conducive to the current anti-police movement that have been sweeping the nation. However, it remains to be seen if the trends change significantly over the next review cycle.

*Graduation Rate* over the three-year period totaled 47 graduated in both the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice programs. 21- Law Enforcement and 26- Criminal Justice. Giving a total average of 16 which is above the state minimum requirement.

*Credit Hour Production* is high for a small department with one full time faculty and an average of 2 adjuncts per semester. CHP averages 1,244 over the three-year period which is slightly more than at last reporting period (CHP 1217).

*Student Satisfaction* for the past three years has been 100%, ranging from mostly “highly satisfied” to “satisfied”. For instance, in 2019, 75% reported highly satisfied and 25% reported satisfied. The response rate average was 60%. There was also very positive feedback in instructor evaluations.

*Job Placement* is at 60% for the most recent graduates. The other 40% are seeking employment in field and/or pursuing a bachelor’s degrees. Most students are now taking advantage of advance degrees in the field of criminal justice, allowing for a dip in percentage of job placement after graduation.

*Faculty Professional Development* – the New Program Coordinator and only full-time faculty maintains memberships in state and regional accredited associations such as the Alabama Police Officer Association, the Alabama Police Trainers Association, and the Alabama Police Chief Association. Annual training conferences provide current information on all aspects of the Criminal Justice Arena from state and nationally recognized experts. Governors, senators, mayors, judges, corrections commissioners/directors, renowned therapists, homeland security experts and many more are keynote and session speakers.

Faculty are also provided in-house training at Jefferson State in many areas such as improving student experiences and learning, technology, computer programming, safety and self-defense, emergency planning, etc.

*Student Advising* has steadily improved with admissions advisors and faculty. With the Covid response, we had continued to monitor health advisories and work with student who are effected by the virus either directly or in-directly.

New Student Orientations, run smoothly with the program coordinator working directly with all new student to advise them on the program and college directions. All CRJ students receive one-on-one advising, mostly by email and phone, to help in scheduling and meeting graduation requirements in a timely manner.

## **Part 2: Program/Department Change**

### **Program/Department Goal Changes:**

The Program Coordinator plans on retiring at the end of the December of 2020. Some of the reporting numbers will be supplied by the new coordinator.

### **Course Student Learning Outcome Changes:**

New Learning outcomes were adopted with the approval of the Alabama Community College System’s Criminal Justice Advisory Committee which the new coordinator Dr. Robert Bland advised on. Those changes where implemented into the curriculum in the term of 2021. A review of the outcomes would be best to be revisited in the next program review.

### **Part 3: Evidence of Staff Participation in Program Review**

#### **Faculty/staff participation:**

Program Coordinator Dr. Robert Bland is responsible for the program review. He is the only full-time faculty in the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education Department. Periodically, he consults with his L19 Sheila Stephens and other adjunct faculty members about course offerings, marketing and student retention, but they are not actively involved assessments, reviews, reports, recruitment etc.

#### **Advisory committee minutes (if applicable) and list of members:**

The Advisory Committee has adopted a co-chair to assist with the chair in his absence. The committee is given semi-annual updates of the status of the program. The committee provides feedback on what their respective agencies are doing in areas such as recruiting and training needs where the program may be of assistance. Because we do not certify law enforcement officers, members trust us to meet the academic needs of students. They are responsible for official state-certified training of officers. A list of members is attached.