



Criminal Justice

News about a College Tech Prep Initiative from the Six District Educational Compact



Instructor Shane Parker and Cuyahoga Falls Superintendent Todd Nichols welcome visitors to the Criminal Justice classroom during the Six District Educational Compact's annual meeting held at Cuyahoga Falls High School in August.

What you will learn in Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice is a new College Tech Prep Initiative headquartered at Cuyahoga Falls High School. Level I students study the different types of policing, laws and the court system. Students also learn about the various different opportunities in the Criminal Justice field.

Level II students learn about Forensics and Homeland Security. Throughout both years of Criminal Justice, students have the opportunity to engage in various experiential and hands-on activities.

According to instructor **Shane Parker**, "Criminal Justice College Tech Prep offers those students interested in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice Career Field a great learning experience. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to participate in and see a number of different career paths."



For more information

Interested students should contact **Shane Parker**, Criminal Justice instructor at Cuyahoga Falls High School. E-mail **cf_parkers@cfalls.org** or telephone 330-926-3808 ext. 502138. In addition to teaching Criminal Justice, Mr. Parker is the Student Council Advisor and Varsity Assistant Football Coach at Cuyahoga Falls High School.

Partnering with The University of Akron

Criminal Justice College Tech Prep has a formal partnership with The University of Akron. Students have the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit.

In order to be eligible for Dual Credit, students must take the ACT and earn a minimum overall score of 21, including an 18 on the English portion.

First semester includes a broad introduction to the

criminal justice system. **Dr. Mary Myers**, who is a retired City of Akron police captain and an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at UA, teaches the course. Dr. Myers includes stories about her own experiences in 24 years of service on the Homicide and Vice Squads. In addition, Dr. Myers is a licensed psychologist with a private practice, where she specializes in psychological evaluation and treatment of emergency services personnel.

Dual Credit students participate in college courses every Monday, Wednesday and Friday using distance learning. Special technology allows students to participate in real time with their professor on the Akron campus. Periodically, Dr. Myers teaches in the Criminal Justice classroom and broadcasts out to her UA class. Students are constantly exposed to new and interesting topics in the Criminal Justice field.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students engage in experiential opportunities which include field trips, field experience and physical fitness activities.



From left, Kelly Herold, Assistant Dean, College of Applied Science and Technology, The University of Akron, and Dr. Mary Myers, UA Assistant Professor of Criminology.



Six District Educational Compact

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Students “try” electronic GPS devices to simulate real-world situations

As part of a partnership between Criminal Justice College Tech Prep and Oriana House, several students had the opportunity to volunteer to wear electronic monitoring devices for a weekend. Founded in 1981, Oriana House is a nationally accredited community corrections and chemical dependency treatment agency located in Akron.

The ankle bracelets contained GPS units, which allowed Oriana House staffers to monitor students' location minute by minute. The units also show the speed and direction students were traveling in cars or motorcycles. One student was even “caught” speeding.

During this time, students were asked to do as much as possible to try to tamper with the electronic monitoring devices in an attempt to simulate real-world scenarios. Oriana House staffers also put strict restrictions on each student's device so that they could present their various “violations.”

All of these student volunteers from Criminal Justice were involved in busy weekends and went several places,” explains instructor **Shane Parker**. “One of our students went to Cedar Point. When Oriana House staff members made their presentation to our class, we were able to see very detailed information about his Cedar Point activities, including the rides he went on and how fast he was going.”

Another student was tracked while marching with the band at the football game. According to Parker, “Two other students spent a lot of time trying to tamper with the bracelets using several different methods, including ice packs, heating the ankle band, and separating the ankle band from the electronic monitoring device. However, none of the students were able to successfully remove the bracelet.”



Getting certified in CPR and First Aid

Students in Criminal Justice College Tech Prep have the opportunity to become certified through the American Red Cross in CPR and First Aid. Having these certificates makes students more marketable in the field of Criminal Justice.



Riding along with the Cuyahoga Falls PD

Criminal Justice College Tech Prep has partnered with the Cuyahoga Falls City Police Department. This partnership allows students to interact with personnel in several different police departments. One opportunity is the chance to “ride along” with a CFPD officer. Another experience includes setting up and investigating a mock crime scene.

Criminal Justice Day includes trip to courtroom



Students in Criminal Justice College Tech Prep participated the annual Criminal Justice Day sponsored by the Akron Bar Association. Throughout the day, students observed live drug court sessions, spoke with a number of judges and attorneys and heard firsthand accounts from former prison inmates.

Students also had the opportunity to observe an Akron City Police Department police dog in action.