



Letter of Intent

For a Dual/ Joint Degree

**Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice (A.A.)
and
Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (B.A.)**

Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science
Kingsborough Community College/CUNY

Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration
John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

1. Purpose and Goals

Over the next four years, John Jay has decided to phase out its associate degree programs and focus more intensely on its baccalaureate and graduate programs. As a result, John Jay has instituted a partnership with the community colleges of CUNY designed to preserve study at the associate degree level for undergraduates seeking careers in criminal justice and provide such students with a strong foundation and seamless transfer opportunities to complete their criminal justice studies at the baccalaureate level.

Kingsborough plans to be a partner in this new endeavor by developing a jointly registered A.A./ B.A. degree program in Criminal Justice Studies with John Jay. The goal of Kingsborough's A.A. in Criminal Justice will be to provide students with an associate degree that is grounded in liberal arts disciplines and suitable for transfer to the baccalaureate level study particularly in the social sciences.

The program will be housed within the Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science, which has as its primary mission offering a wide range of courses in American and world history, philosophy and political science. These courses are designed to meet the core distribution/ general education needs and interests of all Kingsborough majors and particularly Liberal Arts majors. Among the most popular core distribution courses offered by the Department are POL 51, *American Government and Politics* and POL 63, *Introduction to Criminal Justice*. POL 51 is equivalent to GOV 101, which is a general education requirement for John Jay's current B.A. and B.S. in Criminal Justice. POL 63 is equivalent to CRJ 101, the foundation course for this major at John Jay. The popularity of these courses at Kingsborough gives us good reason to believe that there is a significant cohort of students who would enroll in a criminal justice program if it were offered here.

II. Need

John Jay College is the only college in the United States devoted exclusively to criminal justice and public service and is recognized internationally as a leader in criminal justice education and research. Following a comprehensive analysis, John Jay College has concluded that the scope of degrees offered, including the associate, baccalaureate and graduate degrees, dilutes the College's efforts and stretches resources to the point where services are compromised. As a result, John Jay has opted to use the strengths of the CUNY community colleges to offer programs at the associate level where resources and services can be allocated to the degree needed for optimum student success.

Currently, Kingsborough Community College is the only community college serving Brooklyn, a borough that is home to 2.5 million residents. Over 90% of Kingsborough students reside in Brooklyn and, at present, a significant number of associate degree students attending John Jay College reside in Brooklyn. Kingsborough is a college that encourages transfer. Among students who graduate from Kingsborough, over 85% transfer to four-year colleges. Therefore, we anticipate that a jointly registered A.A./ B.A. program will attract a new population of students to the college.

There are 23 N.Y.C. police precincts in Brooklyn and a significant number of housing and transit authority police posts. There are also a large number of personnel employed by the federal and state courts in the borough. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment of criminal justice professionals is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations through 2014. A more security-conscious society and concern about drug-related crimes should contribute to the increasing demand for police services.

Furthermore, the population of Brooklyn is projected to continue to rise over the next ten years. Brooklyn has become the borough of choice for large numbers of newly arrived immigrants. Attracted to the good salaries and benefits, one can anticipate that this population will actively seek positions in criminal justice fields in New York especially since well-trained personnel reflective of these multicultural, multilingual populations will also continue to be in high demand.

Both John Jay and Kingsborough Community College can best serve the needs of CUNY students interested in pursuing first an associate degree and then a baccalaureate degree in criminal justice through the close collaboration required for the joint registration of these programs. Students, particularly Brooklyn residents, will benefit from the strengths of both institutions.

III. Students

A. Potential Majors

Kingsborough Community College serves a diverse student population and ranks among the top community colleges in the country in associate degrees awarded to minority students. In 2005-2006, Kingsborough had a total credit enrollment of 14,689 students of which 10,691 were matriculated in a degree program. Forty percent (4,691) of the students matriculated in a degree were Liberal Arts majors. When surveyed, seventy-four percent of degree students gave the transfer to a senior college as their primary goal.

Although Kingsborough Community College does not offer a specific degree or certificate in criminal justice, student enrollments indicate a strong interest in the field. During the 2005-2006 academic year, *Introduction to Criminal Justice* had a student enrollment of 1,024 and 65% of these students were Liberal Arts majors. A number of students enrolled in the A.S. in Liberal Arts have not selected an area of study in which to concentrate or a career path to focus on either at KCC or upon transfer. An A.A. in Criminal Justice will make accessible another option for undecided students to consider.

Students who would otherwise attend John Jay's associate programs will no longer have this option in the future. As planned, these students, particular those residing in Brooklyn, will be a major source of enrollment for the new A.S. program.

B. Learning Communities of Criminal Justice Majors

Kingsborough Community College has recently emerged as a leader in the implementation of successful learning communities for full-time, first-time freshmen

particularly those who need to build college-level writing skills. The Kingsborough model has a strong student support component which is fully integrated within the academic program. Tutors, counselors, advisors and case managers work closely with faculty and academic program directors to achieve the goals of the learning communities program:

- Build a sense of community among students
- Enhance learning - particularly active learning and reflection
- Foster connections between students and their instructors as well as support personnel on campus
- Improve academic and writing skills and exit remediation quickly
- Increase retention

Participants in KCC's Opening Doors (non-ESL) Learning Communities Program pass the ACT writing exam on re-test at a significant higher rate than non-Learning Communities first-time freshmen. Upon re-test, eight percent more Learning Communities participants passed the ACT writing than non-Learning Communities test-takers (67.8 % versus 59.6). This result is more significant when you consider that five-percent more of them had initially failed the ACT writing than all first-time freshmen combined. The first-semester to second-semester retention rate for Learning Communities participants was 6% higher than non-Learning Communities freshmen.

**Kingsborough Community College
Opening Doors Learning Communities (ODLC)
Fall 2005 First Time Freshmen
Enrolled in Eng91, Eng92, Eng93 or Eng12
Initial Skills Tests Passing Rates & Fall 2005 Retest Passing Rates**

Freshmen Category	Initial Writing Skills Tests				Total
	Pass/Exempt		Fail		
	#	%	#	%	
ODLC	149	40.9%	215	59.1%	364
All other First Time Freshmen	492	45.9%	579	54.1%	1071
Total Tested Freshmen	641	44.7%	794	55.3%	1435

Freshmen Category	Fall 2005 Writing Skills Tests				Total
	Pass/Exempt		Fail		
	#	%	#	%	
ODLC	59	67.8%	28	32.2%	87
All other First Time Freshmen	165	59.6%	112	40.4%	277
Total Tested Freshmen	224	61.5%	140	38.5%	364

Kingsborough Community College
Opening Doors Learning Communities (ODLC)
Fall 2005 First Time Freshman
Enrolled in Eng91, Eng92, Eng93 or Eng12
Fall to Spring Retention Rates

Freshman Category	Fall 2005 Enrolled #	*Spring 2006 Still Enrolled	
		#	%
ODLC	366	325	88.8%
All Other First Time Freshman	1096	905	82.6%
Total Freshman	1462	1230	84.1%

Note: Spring 2006 figures are based on the Spring 2006 Show Registration preliminary file.

To repeat these enhanced learning outcomes for A.S. in Criminal Justice majors, KCC will work closely with John Jay enrollment management and student development personnel to (1) identify and recruit students into KCC's program who would otherwise have attended John Jay's associate degree program and (2) enroll full-time, first-time freshmen Criminal Justice majors into KCC's learning communities program with the goal of creating and sustaining a cohort of future transfers to John Jay who are well-prepared to succeed.

IV. Curriculum

The proposed curriculum includes five courses in the major. Four have emerged from the John Jay Educational Partnership Initiative as among the courses all majors should have for a Criminal Justice Degree. For a KCC Associate Degree in Criminal Justice, majors will take: *Introduction to Criminal Justice*, *Criminology* (currently *Crime and Punishment* at KCC), *Constitutional Law* and *The American Judiciary* (*The American Legal System* at KCC). Following the Educational Partnership curriculum design, *Introduction to Criminal Justice* and *Criminology* will be required in the first year as they are pre-requisite for the other major courses to be taken in the second year.

Constitutional Law and *The American Legal System* are subject matter covered in two courses which are suggested for the first semester of the junior year at John Jay. Based on discussions with John Jay Professor Todd Clear, KCC proposes to offer these two courses in our A.S. program, thereby giving our students a solid nine-credit foundation in law which will prepare them well for the concentration in Law and Due Process leading to the B.A. at John Jay. *Constitutional Law* will be re-designed to emphasize procedural issues and the reading of cases. While *The American Legal System* is already equivalent to John Jay's *The American Judiciary*¹, it will also undergo careful review and some adjustment.

¹ CUNY TIPPS

The remaining course in the major will be either *Policing or Corrections and Sentencing* or the equivalent of *Crime and Justice in Urban Society*. All three of these courses cover subject matter that the John Jay College Educational Partnership Initiative has emphasized as important in the first two years of criminal justice study. The extent to which KCC students will have a choice of a fifth course among these three will be determined from further discussion with John Jay and KCC faculty and will be finalized before the completion of the full proposal for the dual/joint AA/BA degrees.

Kingsborough's sixty-credit curriculum consists of a minimum of 47 liberal arts and science/ general education credits. Seven of these credits are freshman English, ENG 12 and 24, and a minimum of 31 are selected from five groups which students will be advised should correspond with John Jay general education courses. Not counting the tentative possibility noted above that KCC Criminal Justice majors may take *Crime and Justice in Urban Society*, the major currently reflects a minimum of nine credits which meet State Education guidelines for liberal arts subject matter (*Introduction to Criminal Justice, Crime and Punishment* and *The American Legal System*).

CUNY articulation policy ensures that transfers from Kingsborough who have earned an A.A. degree will have met all John Jay general education requirements except for foreign language and one course in a John Jay general requirement discipline not taken previously by the student. The A.A. in Criminal Justice curriculum is designed to meet John Jay's current 37-credit minimum general education distribution requirement.

Unless exempt, Criminal Justice majors will be required to take a two-semester sequence in a second language (Spanish, French, Italian, Chinese, Hebrew, Yiddish or Arabic) for a total of eight credits. This requirement and exemption policy is the same as John Jay's. If exempt from one year of second language study, students are required to select from liberal arts courses equivalent to required John Jay general education courses.

The remaining thirteen credits are the other major courses in corrections and law, HPE 12, a college-wide general education requirement, and a maximum of six elective credits which may or may not be liberal arts and sciences subject matter. For example, students will be encouraged to use a portion of the elective credit to take a computer applications course.

More and more frequently, the typical community college student is likely to be a student who has completed some prior credits elsewhere. As far as possible, these credits should be valued for what they contribute to a broader preparation for future study and should be counted in some way toward the new curriculum. Therefore, although majors will be guided to take courses equivalent to specific John Jay general education core or distribution requirements, students who transfer into the program with coursework already completed prior to admission to Kingsborough, will be able to apply previously completed courses toward the Criminal Justice degree distribution requirements regardless of whether they are the exact equivalent of John Jay general education courses. For first-time freshmen enrolled in the A.A. in Criminal Justice, requirements will be met from the following list of courses:

GENERAL EDUCATION (NON-MAJOR) COURSE EQUIVALENCIES²

KCC COURSE	JOHN JAY EQUIVALENT
ENG01200, English Composition I	ENG 101, College Composition I
ENG02400, English Composition II	ENG 102, College Composition II
HPE01200, Foundations of Health	Any Physical Ed & Athletics course
SPE01100, Listening and Speaking Skills or SPE02100, Public Speaking	Satisfies General Education requirement or Satisfies Gen Ed with equivalent of SPE 113
Any Art or Music or Drama course	Any Art or Music or Drama course
SPA 01000, Elementary Spanish I or FR 01000, Elementary French I or IT 01000, Elementary Italian I or ENG 03200, World Literature or ENG 03500, Modern European Literature or HIS 05200, Roots of the Modern World or HIS 03100, Europe: Napoleon to Hitler, 1789-1945 or HIS 02000, The Immigrant in American Society or HIS 05000, African-American History	SPA 101, Introductory Spanish I or FRE 101, Introductory French I or ITA 101, Introductory Italian I or LIT 231, Medieval and Early Modern Literature or LIT 232, Modern Literature or HIS 231, Origins of the Contemporary World or HIS 232, Contemporary History of Civilization HIS 214, Immigration and Ethnicity in the U.S. ETH 123, Race & Am. Soc.: African-Am Exp.
PHI 07100, The Classical Philosophers or PHI 07200, The Modern Philosophers	PHI 231, Philosophical Method and its Applications
POL05100, American Government & Politics	GOV101, American Government & Politics
SOC03100, Introduction to Sociology	SOC101, Sociology
SOC03600, Minority Groups in the U.S.	ETH 125, Race & Ethnicity in America
MAT0090, College Algebra or MAT01300, Survey of Mathematics & Computer Concepts	MAT 105, Modern Mathematics or MAT 108, Social Science Mathematics
BIO03300, Concepts of Modern Biology	BIO 103, Modern Biology I

² As per CUNY TIPPS.

The Curriculum Outline

<u>College Requirements</u>	10 credits
English 01200	
English 02400	
HPE 01200	
<u>Department Requirements</u>	15 credits
POL 06300, Introduction to Criminal Justice	
POL 06400, Crime and Punishment *	
POL 06600, Constitutional Law	
POL 06700, The American Legal System; the Courts * *	
XX XXXX, Policing *** or Corrections and Sentencing *** or the equivalent of <i>Crime and Justice in Urban Society</i>	
<u>Distribution Requirements</u>	
Group I – Speech and Art, Music or Performing Arts	6 credits
Group II – Philosophy 71 or 72	3 credits
Group III – Political Science 51	3 credits
Group IV – Sociology 31 and 36	6 credits
Group V – Mathematics 9 or 13 and Biology 33	7-8 credits
+Foreign Language for 8 credits or if exempt then Eng. Lit. and History electives recommended for 6 credits	6-8 credits
<u>Electives</u> – A course in computer applications is recommended.	4-7 credits

Total Credits: 60

* Equivalent to *Criminology* at John Jay

** Equivalent to *The American Judiciary* at John Jay

*** New Courses

+ Foreign Language I and II required unless exempt based on three years of a language completed at the high school level plus a passing score on Level III Regents Exam or a high school degree from a country whose primary language is not English. A 3 or higher on the Advanced Placement Exam will also exempt and six credits will be awarded toward the degree. Credit or exemption may be granted based on CLEP examination.

V. Faculty

Professors Voorhees Dunn and Vernon L. Mogensen are full-time members of the Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science who have taught *Introduction to Criminal Justice* and are ready to assist and support the initiation of this new program.

Professor Dunn has a Ph.D. in Political Science and has published in *Rutgers Law Journal*, *Judicial Reform in the States* and *Constitutional Commentaries and Notes*. Prior to Kingsborough, he taught at the University of South Alabama where he was faculty advisor to the student Criminal Justice Club and a member of the Board of Crime Stoppers for the City of Mobile.

Professor Mogensen also has a Ph. D. in Political Science. He has taught *Introduction to Criminal Justice* linked with a developmental English writing course in Kingsborough's Opening Doors Learning Communities Program. He has led students on field trips to NYS Criminal Court, Brooklyn. Among his publications are two entries for *The Encyclopedia of American Law*.

Several adjunct instructors have strong backgrounds in various aspects of criminal justice. Paul Odems is a Senior Court Clerk and has worked in the field of private security for over twenty years. Dr. Lloyd Klein is a sociologist who has published articles on community crime control policies, domestic surveillance and sexual predators legislation.

Kingsborough is committed to offering an exemplary criminal justice program. Professors Dunn and Mogensen will be needed to continue teaching the Department's Political Science offerings. Their role is mainly to assist in the initial stages of the Criminal Justice program's development. As soon as possible, the College plans to begin a search for a new full-time member of the Department faculty who will teach and sustain the five courses in criminal justice core content areas.