

Corrections Certificate Program Executive Summary

The Corrections certificate program was developed through the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and Technical Education Authority (TEA) program alignment process. An Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree in Corrections was approved by KBOR in March 2008. This AAS Degree was developed by Barton Community College with the assistance of the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) and participating Wardens in Barton's Service Area. The purpose of the degree is to enhance and broaden the knowledge of current KDOC employees and to educate individuals with the desire to become employees of KDOC. Position advancement at KDOC is contingent upon completion of college credit/degrees. The KDOC believes further educating current employees will lead to better retention and better prepare new employees to enter this career field.

The initial program alignment process was to align Corrections and Criminal Justice. After meetings between the two parties, the alignment was separated into two distinct Corrections programs with Criminal Justice (Police Science) pursuing their own program alignment. This separation was communicated to participating colleges by KBOR on July 9, 2010 in their *Communiqué* for the Corrections Alignment Map. The following information was provided in this Communiqué:

Two distinctive types of corrections programs exist within the state: (1) programs preparing individuals for jobs in local communities as parole officers and (2) programs preparing individuals for jobs as Kansas correctional officers. This alignment focuses on the latter of the two programs, which prepares individuals to become correctional officers for the Kansas Department of Corrections.

The Corrections Alignment Map was taken from Barton's Associate of Applied Science Degree and includes the following 17 hours of coursework:

- Oral Communications in the Corrections Environment – 3 credit hours
- Corrections Report Writing – 3 credit hours
- Introduction to Corrections – 3 credit hours
- Ethical Decision Making in Corrections – 3 credit hours
- Special Populations in Corrections – 3 credit hours
- Spanish for the Workplace – 2 credit hours

Barton Community College plans to offer the 17-hour Corrections Certificate via Bartonline beginning fall 2011. Courses will be taught by associate faculty representative of the Kansas Department of Corrections industry professionals. Applications have been received and interviews will be scheduled in the very near future.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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