



*Office of the President*

August 22, 2023

Lazaro Salinas, Department Chair  
Criminal Justice

Dear Laz Salinas,

Thank you for all the work you put into completing your comprehensive program review. It has been reviewed by the College Planning Committee and the Executive Team. The College Planning Committee feedback is attached. Below, you will find comments, commendations, and recommendations from the Executive Team. These are provided for incorporation into your annual program planning processes. Typically, recommendations require planning improvements that will be implemented over time. Thus, in your subsequent annual mini reviews, you will want to provide updates on progress made towards addressing these recommendations.

**Comments:**

- The VC Criminal Justice Program offers an education to students in the varied aspects of law enforcement, court procedures and corrections. A foundation of knowledge is provided for those interested in becoming competitive candidates for these rewarding and challenging positions. VC offers a traditional CJ (Criminal Justice) degree program and a premier Police Science Academy.
- While enrollments in law enforcement have been soft over the past 3-4 years, Federal, State, and local support for criminal justice is starting to gain momentum because of increasing violent crime rates as well as critical shortages in qualified applicants, resulting in career opportunities at the national, state, and local level.
- The CJ program offers criminal justice transfer degrees to both UC and CSU systems. From 2019 to 2021, the criminal justice program increased the rate of transfer by over 30%. There was a drop in 2022, most likely related to the pandemic.

**Commendations:**

1. Before the pandemic, CJ enrollments were on the rise. No significant gender gap in enrollments occurred in CJ as compared to the college gender differences overall.
2. The Police Science program has bounced back from the pandemic and has exceptional success rates and employment history.

*Ventura College will be a beacon of learning — a source of inspiration and guidance — for our students and community.*

4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003 | 805-289-6102 | [venturacollege.edu](http://venturacollege.edu)

**Recommendations:**

1. Create and communicate 2- and 3-year pathways in programs in the CJ department so the college can better support these opportunities for students.
2. Hispanic students are disproportionately more likely to be CJ students. Additionally, female students experience lower success rates in CJ courses despite making up the majority of the student population in the program. Therefore, the program faculty should engage in more PD (Professional Development) opportunities that support equity and student learning, including CVC/POCR, CCAR, Faculty Academy, ZEN and the like.
3. Work with the VCEC Dean to offer more Dual Enrollment courses.

CPC's overall recommendation was **no action needed**, to which I concur. Thank you again for your dedicated work in improving outcomes for our students.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Hoffmans, R.N., Ed.D.

President

Ventura College

cc: Debbie Newcomb, Dean of Student Learning  
Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz, Vice President of Academic Affairs

# Default Report

*CPC Program Review Feedback Form - Criminal Justice*

June 14, 2023 4:03 PM PDT

## Q2 - What is this program doing well?

What is this program doing well?

---

Course success rate in POSC is impressive as is the course rate by ethnicity.

Dedicated to providing opportunities for students in higher wage careers that are in-demand and increased opportunities Implementing a new forensic program in response to local need that is also historically one of the only female-dominated careers in law enforcement

Provides exposure and awareness to students on the criminal justice system which is more important than ever now due to the widespread division and decreased support we have seen for careers in this field recently.

Creating employment opportunities

### Q3 - What could this program improve upon?

What could this program improve upon?

---

Find ways to recruit students to boost enrollment. Needs to address equity gap by gender.

Continued planning for increasing post-pandemic success rates

Improve transfer rate as there has been a drop over the last couple years. Boost enrollment because there has been a big dip over the last 3 years. Increase success rate of Female degree seeking students. Additional outreach and marketing for these programs may help awareness and support.

Increase enrollment and success rates

## Q6 - How well do the program's objectives align with the VC Educational Master Plan?

How well do the program's objectives align with the VC Educational Master P...

---

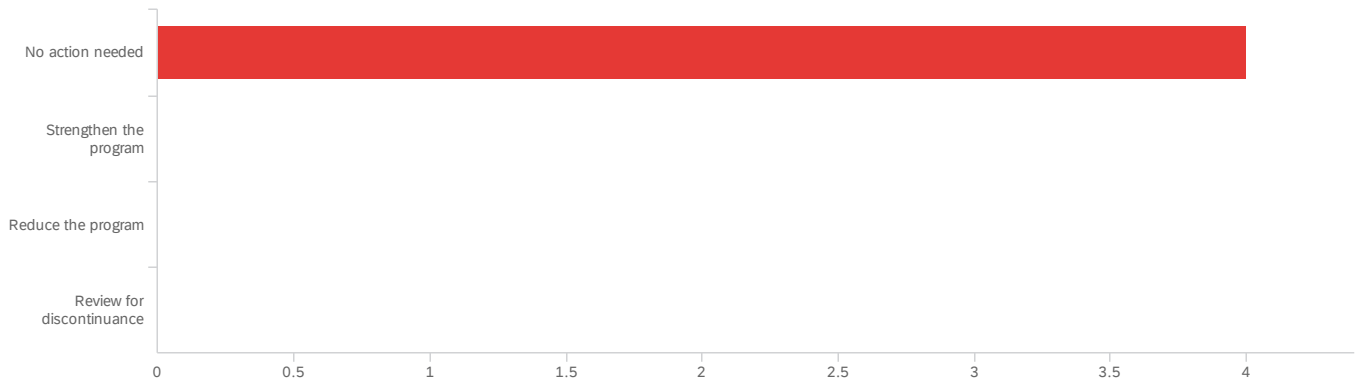
This program offers students a pathway to a high paying career in law enforcement. Not only does it align with the Educational Master Plan, but it also fits with the stated mission of the California Community Colleges to "advance California's economic growth and global competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to continuous work force improvement."

Aligns well with closing equity gaps and increasing access to workforce preparation as well as transfer. Also aligns with strengthening local partnerships and community engagement.

The program aligns with closing equity gaps while increasing the success of our students. This program also helps with skill building for careers that are growing in demand.

They align

## Q8 - I recommend the following course of action for this program:



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	I recommend the following course of action for this program:	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	4

#	Field	Choice Count
1	No action needed	100.00% 4
2	Strengthen the program	0.00% 0
3	Reduce the program	0.00% 0
4	Review for discontinuance	0.00% 0

4

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

**End of Report**