

# Law Enforcement in Parks and Protected Areas, Certificate

PPLEPPCERT

Gain a solid foundational knowledge of how to enforce protection of parks and protected areas and help the public treasure outdoor spaces.

## Description

As the Southwest continues to develop and urbanize, the demands and pressures on public lands and natural resources continue to grow. The interplay between society and natural resources is key to understanding modernity and continues to be at the center of policy issues and societal debates. The certificate program in law enforcement in parks and protected areas introduces students to issues of crime and criminal justice as related to parks and protected areas, with a focus on the distinct issues faced by managers of urban-proximate natural areas.

This certificate includes classes from a nationally accredited parks and recreation program and from a highly ranked criminology and criminal justice program. Students pursuing parks and recreation majors can attain basic knowledge of law enforcement while students pursuing criminology and criminal justice majors can be oriented to issues related to parks and protected areas.

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [Watts College of Public Service & Community Solut](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

## Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Certificate Map](#)  
[Certificate Map \(Archives\)](#)

The certificate requires 15 credit hours: 12 credit hours of required core courses and three credit hours of electives. Courses taken as part of a university major may count toward that degree and the certificate.

### **Required Core Courses -- 12 credit hours**

[CRJ 230: Introduction to Policing](#) (3)

[CRJ 410: Criminal Procedure I: The Law of Investigations](#) (3)

[PRM 370: Public Lands Management](#) (3)

[PRM 380: Wilderness and Parks in America \(SUST OR SB & H\)](#) (3)

### **Elective (select one) -- 3 credit hours**

[CRJ 315: Police Organization and Management](#) (3)

[PRM 340: Outdoor Survival](#) (3)

[PRM 360: Environmental and Cultural Interpretation](#) (3)

### **Standards**

1. 15 hours of graded classroom coursework (no internship, no independent study)
2. minimum of a "C" (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) grade required for all courses in the certificate
3. should be a junior to take 300- and 400-level courses

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

## **Enrollment requirements**

A GPA of 2.00 is required to add this certificate.

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

## **Program learning outcomes**

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical standards implicit in law enforcement in parks and protected areas.
- Apply critical thinking skills by taking into account the complexities of an issue and acknowledging other viewpoints.

## **Career opportunities**

Graduates of the certificate in law enforcement in parks and protected areas can find opportunities in diverse settings involving a wide range of organizations, including recreation, environmental and federal agencies, and private security.

## **Contact information**

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