

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**CRIM- 120**

**Patrol Operations**

**3 Semester hours**

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

This course focuses on the basic police patrol methods used in a modern law enforcement agency environment. Students will develop multi-tasking skills and critical thinking skills necessary for performing effective patrol responsibilities. Only students authorized by the Howard County Police Department Academy are eligible to enroll in this course. (3 hours weekly)

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the various tasks of a patrol officer.
2. Given a practical exercise depicting an accident scene, prepare an acceptable proportional sketch that reflects the following: probable point of impact, final positions of vehicles, traffic control devices, street names, visual obstructions, direction of north.
3. Given a practical situation, such as the two previous exercises, evaluate available evidence and identify proper enforcement action.
4. Demonstrate procedure for gathering complete and appropriate information from witness at a traffic accident scene.
5. Demonstrate procedure to check accident vehicle's equipment for suspected failure, such as, brakes, lights, tires.
6. Identify the non-traffic offenses for which a written citation may be issued in lieu of an arrest (i.e., local ordinance, violation of administrative regulation, etc.)
7. Identify the arresting/booking officer's responsibility for securing the personal welfare of those prisoners being controlled during the booking process.
8. Identify the procedures regarding searching individuals of the opposite sex.
9. Demonstrate the property inventory process of items obtained in a search.
10. Describe the circumstances in which a police officer has authority to transport juveniles.
11. Identify the booking procedures and conformance with the law and minimum jail standards, involving adult prisoners, including the required notification procedures an officer must make when handling adult prisoners with mental illnesses or emotional instability.
12. Demonstrate the proper use of the police radio including proper microphone techniques, clear speech and pronunciation, rate of delivery, organization of information, brevity, accuracy, courtesy, phonetic alphabet, and use of squelch control.
13. Demonstrate the following radio transmission procedures: Acknowledgement of a message, arrival at the scene of assignment, supplemental data pertinent to the crime in progress, and termination of assignment, information on a vehicle stop.
14. Define the procedure an officer would follow to check for outstanding warrants on an individual prior to release from custody.
15. Identify the negative factors in the following security hazards in a residential structure and how they can be prevented: door (hollow core and solid), sliding glass doors, various types of windows, lighting and landscaping.
16. Describe the basic tactical principles of crowd and riot control for containment.
17. Identify factors to be considered when handling mentally disturbed or irrational persons, such as ignore verbal abuse, avoid excitement and use restraining force sparingly.
18. Identify the circumstances in which a mental commitment is appropriate.
19. Complete the forms required to initiate a mental commitment.

20. Describe the circumstances in which a police officer has authority to transport mental patients.
21. Roll a full set of legible fingerprints on a standard fingerprint card.
22. Identify circumstances and procedures to evacuate areas endangered by hazardous materials, including bomb threats.
23. Identify circumstances in which a police escort of an emergency nature is appropriate.
24. Identify the factors used to determine what might be a suspicious person, i.e., time of day, area, actions or dress.
25. Identify objectives of the field interview including identification, information, and prevention.
26. Describe methods to familiarize one's self to an assigned duty area, i.e., review make-up of area: commercial v. residential, crime reports, memorizing street names.
27. Identify the role of a law enforcement officer in traffic regulations.
28. Given various situations, determine that there is a violation and identify it by common name, crime classification and section number, for example:
29. Identify an officer's options if a violator refuses to sign a citation issued by an officer.
30. Identify the options a violator may exercise in response to a traffic citation, to include court procedures or pay monetary penalty.
31. Identify circumstances of situation when an arrest is the appropriate officer response during a traffic stop.
32. Identify the reason why it is important to obtain the violator's driver's license and vehicle registration as soon as it is reasonably possible when making a traffic stop.
33. Demonstrate proper use of chemical agents available to the police officer, i.e., smoke, CN, mace and/or O.C. spray.
34. Identify the proper first-aid treatment for chemical agent exposures to the eyes, skin and clothing.
35. Identify, Describe and Perform all additional MPCTC objectives required for Patrol Operations not specifically listed in this brief course description.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Accident Investigation
- II. Alternatives to Arrest
- III. Booking Procedures
- IV. Communications (Radio)
- V. Crime Prevention
- VI. Crowd Control
- VII. Emergency Committals
- VIII. Fingerprinting
- IX. Hazardous Materials
- X. K-9
- XI. Patrol Methods
- XII. OC Spray
- XIII. Motor Vehicle Law

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- written assignments
- tests/Quizzes
- attendance and participation

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is taught in the classroom using a variety of instructional techniques which are intended to meet the varied learning styles of our diverse student population.

