

SANTA ANA COLLEGE  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMIES  
COURSE SYLLABUS

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

Santa Ana College  
inspires, transforms, and  
empowers a diverse  
community of learners.

**COURSE TITLE:** Vehicle Theft for Patrol and Traffic Officers  
(CJA 016)

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Recognize the magnitude of the problem vehicle thefts pose to society in the country and state
- Describe the different ways a field patrol officer can concentrate on combating the crime of vehicle theft
- Know the resources available to assist a patrol officer in investigating a vehicle theft
- Use tactics that are consistent with accepted officer safety practices when investigating vehicle thefts

**GRADING:**

All course testing protocols are consistent with California - Standard Training (for) Corrections (STC) or Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) rules and regulations.

STC or POST certified instructors evaluate student performance in all tested exercises. Students are required to pass all tested exercises to pass the course.

Homework assignments – Evaluated by instructor

Practical application exercises – Evaluated by instructor

Scale: 70% or higher – Pass / Lower than 70% - No Pass

**SCHEDULED COURSE:**

See Santa Ana College 2017-2018 Catalog at [sac.edu](http://sac.edu), or call the CJA Office at 714-566-9200

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Auto Theft for Patrol and Traffic Officer Binder prepared by presenter (OCSD) given to students on first day of instruction

2017 Kelly Blue Book (on flash-drive) given to students on the first day of instruction

**COURSE CONTENT:****VEHICLE THEFT STATISTICS**

Magnitude of the problem, theft and recovery statistics, class discussion

**VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION**

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), VIN plate switching, National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), terminology, laws related to vehicle theft

**MODI OPERANDI OF VEHICLE THEFT**

Motivation to steal a vehicle, how to steal a vehicle, recovering stolen vehicles

Field trip component:

**IDENTIFYING STOLEN VEHICLES**

Practical application: Examination of various vehicles and their VIN number plates

**THEFT OF MOTORCYCLES, WATERCRAFT, TRAILERS, HEAVY EQUIPMENT**

Location of VIN plates, serial numbers, secret secondary VIN locations, entering information into National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

**FIELD TACTICS**

Using officer safety tactics to make field contacts, inspection of vehicles, sources of information available to law enforcement officers, law enforcement task force assistance

**QUESTION AND ANSWER / POST EVALUATIONS**

**LEARNING METHODS TO BE EMPLOYED:**

Class Discussions, Field Trip, Handouts, Lecture, Oral Presentation, Practical Application, Reading Assignments

**SKILLS TO BE MEASURED BY:**

Practical application exercises, Homework assignments

**ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

From 2017-2018 SAC Catalog, page 20: Students at Santa Ana College are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to steal the words or ideas of another, or to cheat on an examination, corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. Academic dishonesty is seen as an intentional act of fraud, in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic exercise. As institutions, we also consider academic dishonesty to include forgery of academic documents, intentionally impeding or damaging the academic work of others, assisting other students in acts of dishonesty or coercing students into acts of dishonesty.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMODATION STATEMENT:**

A student with a disability, who would like to request an academic accommodation, is responsible for identifying herself/himself to the instructor and to the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS). To make arrangements for academic accommodations, contact the Disabled Student Office in Johnson Center, U-103, or phone (714) 564-6264, TTY (714) 564-6284 for a referral to the appropriate DSPS Department.