Program Highlights

- 8 credit hours may be applied to the AAS in Criminal Justice or BAS in Public Administration/Public Safety as elective credits
- Serves as general elective credits for Biological and Environmental Sciences
- 140 contact hours
- Courses offered fall, summer, and spring
- First PSD program in Colorado offering college credit
- Meets POST requirements for continuing education
- Colorado and Utah POST approved
- Basic open water scuba certification
- Dry suit certification
- Full face mask/redundant air source certification
- Training components include classroom, pool and open-body water
- Offers students an opportunity to stay on the cutting edge with crime scene investigations and forensic studies
- Public Safety Diving Phase I course meets the standards for Scientific Diving
- Receive a technical and recreational dive certificate

Western Colorado Community College (WCCC) is an open admission community college providing higher education instruction for academic transfer programs, career and technical education programs, and continuing education. WCCC offers a variety of certificate programs that can be completed in nine months, associate degree programs that average two years in length, and many skills courses for career advancement. Developmental studies courses are also available in pre-college math, reading, and writing for students preparing to enroll in college-level coursework.

WCCC is committed to student success. Key to the student learning experience are relevant dynamic courses which are facilitated by effective teaching practices through hands-on instruction. Strong business and industry advisory committees assist WCCC in maintaining high quality programs. WCCC is a division of Colorado Mesa University and partner to Mesa County Valley School District #51.

About the Community College

General Electives for Biological and Environmental Science Majors

- 8 credit hours may be applied to the AAS in Criminal Justice or BAS in Public Administration/Public Safety as elective credits
- Serves as general elective credits for Biological and Environmental Sciences

Technical Certificate

Public Safety Diving

- First PSD program in Colorado offering college credit
- Meets POST requirements for continuing education
- Colorado and Utah POST approved
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- Dry suit certification
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Bo Tibbetts
Public Safety Diving Instructor
970.261.1334 • rtibbett@coloradomesa.edu

Jane Quimby
WCCC Public Safety Department Director
970.255.2611 • jaquimby@coloradomesa.edu

CALL 970.255.2670
WEBSITE wccc.coloradomesa.edu
2508 Blichmann Avenue • Grand Junction, CO 81505
Public Safety Diving

Public Safety Diving (PSD) is underwater work conducted by law enforcement, fire rescue, and search and rescue/recovery dive teams.

PSD is the ability to work in sub-surface environments to enhance the overall strength and effectiveness of a department. Western Colorado Community College's PSD certificate program equips graduates with the skills and ability to work in sub-surface environments searching for evidence, searching for a body or re-enacting a crime scene, and possibly conducting an in-water rescue.

When law enforcement approach a land-based crime scene, there are certain protocols that need to be followed in order to not contaminate the scene and collect valuable evidence that is admissible in court. Without proper training, valuable information may be overlooked. Many law enforcement departments do not have qualified divers who can process an underwater crime scene. Typical crime scenes for PSDs are in rivers, lakes, and ponds.

Unlike the recreational diver who can choose the date, time, location, and the type of weather to dive in, PSDs respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and in all types of weather conditions.

Career Opportunities

Public safety diving offers many exciting career opportunities while allowing graduates the opportunity to become more marketable in their professions, including:

- Investigator
- Sub-Surface Crime Scene Specialist
- Forensic and Environmental Investigator
- Police Diver
- Team Training Officer
- Safety Officer
- Water Operations Supervisor
- Marine Biology Research
- Archaeological and Environmental Research

Individuals who acquire specialties within the law enforcement, fire service, and investigative occupations are sought after and are better compensated by local law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI, National Park Service, State Police Dive Units, and scientific dive teams.

CREDIT HOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRJW 270</td>
<td>Homicidal Drowning Investigations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRJW 280</td>
<td>Public Safety Diving Phase I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRJW 290</td>
<td>Rapid Diver Deployment SARR/UWCSI</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
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TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 8

8 credit hours may be applied to the A.A.S. in Criminal Justice or B.A.S. in Public Administration/Public Safety as elective credits.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CRJW 270  Homicidal Drowning Investigations (2)
Homicidal Drowning Investigations - The approaches to water related death investigations. Exploration of the crime scene. Prerequisites: POST association, or Criminal Justice Major, or Law Enforcement, or Forensic study, or Fire Service, or Emergency Medical Services, or instructor’s permission.

CRJW 280  Public Safety Diving Phase I (4)
Public Safety Diving Environments. The formation of responsible scuba diving practices. Includes Basic Open Water Scuba Certification and protection from contaminated environments. Prerequisites: POST Association, or Criminal Justice Major, or Fire Service, or medical evaluation, or physically fit, or instructor permission.

CRJW 290  Underwater CSI (2)