

UConn

POLICE DEPARTMENT



University Safety Educational Programs

UConn Police Department Community Outreach Unit

Community Educational Programs

Every member of the UConn Police Department is committed to a strong educational experience for our community. The Community Outreach Unit brings that commitment to the next level with topical, interesting, and professionally developed educational programming. Members of our Community Outreach Unit and S.T.A.R.T. officers are selected in part for their ability to develop programming, desire to teach and train in both academic and experiential education settings, and a strong commitment to building a safer community through education. We offer a variety of programs and can tailor our educational endeavors to meet your needs. Our community educational programs are available at all UConn campuses upon request.

Responding to an Active Threat: A Survival Mindset

1 hour or 2 hours

In a classroom and group discussion setting, this course is offered as either a 2 hour or a 1 hour session and includes commonalities in active threat situations, pre-attack indicators, instilling a survival mindset, survival options (Run, Hide, Fight), law enforcement responses, and reporting behaviors of concern. Staff and faculty groups especially are strongly encouraged to schedule a 2 hour block of training as they are often looked to as leaders by the student body and visitors to campus.

De-Escalation Strategies in the Workplace

1 hour

Community members participating in this workshop will develop an understanding of the following de-escalation concepts, through group discussion, lecture and role playing exercises: simple and effective techniques to de-escalate conflict, recognize when de-escalation strategies will be ineffective and when to call for help, and understand the involuntary physiological responses to conflict and techniques to combat those responses. This program has been specifically adapted for the community by our own UCPD instructors who train officers in de-escalation strategies. These time-tested and proven strategies will definitely enhance the safety and confidence of your group.

Campus Safety Overview

30 mins

This is a basic program designed to give new community members a framework of UConn's main campus as a "city within a town" and identify the Division of University Safety services offered in Storrs. The class will highlight the most common criminal offenses across campus as well as providing general safety strategies to reduce that risk.

Community Policing in the 21st Century

1 hour

This highly interactive program defines two main models of policing in the United States: Traditional and Community Policing. Group discussion identifies potential strengths and challenges of each model and the potential to merge them into more effective policing in any community. Participants will also engage in a group activity where they identify a potential crime within a neighborhood and then act as problem solving agents within that community to address it.



Bright Future - Simple Decisions: Alcohol and Other Drug Safety 1 hour

In a group discussion setting, this course is designed to develop an awareness of common misconceptions surrounding campus drinking and drug use, gain an understanding of actual college drug use and its consequences, present the signs of alcohol poisoning and how to get help, group discussions on strategies to say “no” to alcohol or drugs in a social setting, and discussions on strategies for intervening when a friend is about to make a dangerous decision involving alcohol or other drugs.

First Year Experience

1 hour

As part of the University’s First Year Experience program, the Police Department offers one hour programs including an overview of the UConn Police Department and its services, how to call 911, emergency alerts, general personal safety on campus, identifying suspicious activity, a tour of the police facility, and an open Q&A with officers. This program is hosted at and includes a tour of the Police Department. For more information on the FYE program at UConn visit the FYE website.

General Campus Safety and Risk Reduction Strategies

1 hour

In a group discussion setting, participants will identify risks they may face in daily life and discuss risk reduction strategies. Participants will understand the importance of risk awareness, recognition, reduction, and avoidance. Through group discussion, participants will develop risk recognition specific to general campus life, at parties, in residences, online, and in dating situations. The group will discuss ways to reduce those risks they self-identify.

International Student Orientation 30 mins

This program is a specialized overview of police services and safety tailored for international students and scholars. It includes a general overview of the UConn Police Department and its services, how to call 911, emergency alerts, general personal safety on campus, driving in Connecticut, and legal topics. We also understand that policing is different all over the world so we discuss interacting with the police in the United States.

New Student Orientations

30 mins

Officers will guide new students through an overview of safety on their respective campuses, the UConn Police Services in their area, and topical discussion on areas of interest. This program is specifically tailored to each of UConn’s campuses.



Police and the Use of Force**1 hour**

In a classroom setting, participants will learn the broadly applicable aspects of police use of force in modern American society as well as several specific areas of law governing police use of force at the Federal and State level. Particular focus is given to *Graham v. Connor*, *Tennessee v. Garner*, and Connecticut statutory authorizations for force. Participants will learn the basic concepts of practical police force application through continual assessment of individual circumstances as well as the types of force used by police. The group will also engage in a discussion of the physiological effects of stress and danger within a combat situation and how this effects force.

Public Safety Overview for New Residential Staff**1 hour**

This program provides new residential staff a basis of understanding of the services and responsibilities of members of the Division of University Safety across UConn. The course will introduce staff to police and fire department roles and jurisdictions, how to obtain emergency and non-emergency help, and certain on-scene protocols for each department.

START a Conversation**1 hour or 1.5 hours**

The START a Conversation program aims to get the participants discussing a wide range of topics surrounding social issues wherein people can be physically or emotionally harmed. The conversations are guided by videos of scripted scenarios as they relate to strategies to intervene on behalf of one another to create a safer, more respectful society. The participants are shown videos and engaged in facilitated discussion about intervention strategies in a safe, culturally aware and diverse environment.

We Stand Up - Men Preventing Violence against Women**1.5 hours**

We Stand Up - Men Preventing Violence against Women is designed to engage self-identified men to serve/act as a key component in reducing violence against women. Participants will engage in group discussion and analysis of examples of men they respect, healthy masculinity, unhealthy behaviors, and strategies to engage peers in reducing violence against women.

Workplace Safety**1 hour**

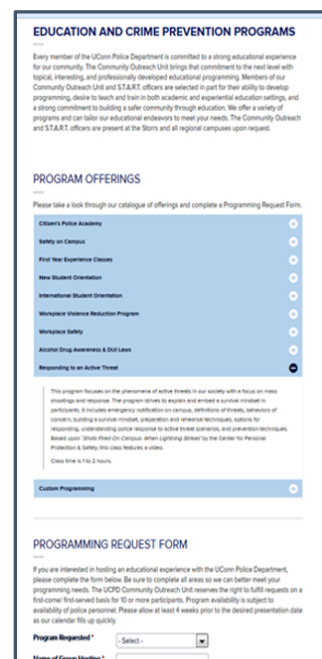
This classroom presentation is designed to give employees basic safety guidelines in the workplace. Participants will learn to identify and report suspicious behavior. Specific topics include safe cash handling procedures, responding to and reporting suspicious packages and threatening phone calls, as well as evacuation protocols. Participants will learn how to deal with disruptive people and when to call 911. A brief introduction to the "Run, Hide, Fight" model of active threat scenarios will be discussed. Understanding the specific language used in alert messages will also be discussed.

Requesting a Class or Facility Dog Appearance

The Community Outreach Unit of the UConn Police Department makes every attempt to have a flexible schedule and meet individual programming requests. However, our calendar does fill up quickly so we recommend a two week lead time to have the greatest flexibility of scheduling. To request a program, email **PDStartTeam@uconn.edu** or call the Community Outreach Unit at 860-486-5909. You can also request classes online at **<http://universitysafety.uconn.edu/police/education-and-programs/education-and-crime-prevention-programs/>**

Police Department Tours

Group tours of the UConn Police Department Headquarters in Storrs are available upon request. Tours last for 15-20 minutes and are subject to limited availability. If you'd like to schedule a tour, please email **PDStartTeam@uconn.edu**.



Special Programs



Teambuilding and Communication Workshops 2+ hours

We here at UConn PD believe a safe community begins with cooperation and a deeply held belief that we can work together to solve the issues we face. Communication, cooperation, planning, empathy, and respect are just a few of the elements that a community needs to be safe and thrive. To this end, we are proud to offer an immersive Teambuilding and Communication Workshop that allows participants to explore and learn both as individuals and as a group. These workshops feature a variety of games and group

initiative projects that are specifically designed to allow participants to explore their group and themselves. Focus is placed on problem solving, interpersonal and group communication skills, leadership traits, organizational processes, adventurous daring-do, productive silliness and more.

One of the core concepts of experiential learning is challenge of choice. We learn most when we step outside of our comfort zones, but positively reinforced learning stops when we enter a panic zone. All of the activities we include in our program are structured and sequenced in a manner that allows participants to learn and grow while acknowledging that each element of every activity might not be for every individual. We will

encourage everyone to participate past their comfort zone and into an area of true exploration while empowering participants to help guide their own adventure.

All of our programs are entirely portable and we bring them to you! To host a Teambuilding and Communication Workshop you'll need:

- A group of 10 to 20 people
- Space appropriate to the event
- At least two hours
- Clothing to be outside (weather appropriate)
- Close-toed shoes
- Water
- A discussion with our staff in advance to plan and customize your experience!



Community Leadership Workshops

If community groups are to work together to build safe environments, they need skilled leaders to coordinate their efforts. Community participation in the safety processes is essential and we here at UConn PD can't do it on our own. We want you to lead the way to a safe and inclusive community with us.

We are pleased to announce our Community Leadership Workshops. In this adaptation of our teambuilding workshops, our experienced police leadership staff will work with you to develop a program specifically designed to meet your group's leadership needs and organizational objectives. All of the activities are centered on various elements of leadership, followership, and positive organizational strategies. We will meet in preparation for the workshop and work to gain an understanding of your group's mission, vision, and goals. Building off of a framework of your current strengths and growth areas, we will develop a customized leadership workshop plan for your group. Once in the workshop, we'll help members of your group construct their own internal leadership capacity while working to craft solutions to the organizational challenges you identified.

Once your workshop is complete, we'll work with you to identify positive, next-steps for your group members and organization to keep growing. Our outreach team, bolstered by over 50 years of law enforcement leadership experience, is looking forward to connecting with you.



Self Defense Classes

12 hours

This 12 hour class is usually broken down into 3 and 4 hour blocks, educates participants about defensive strategies using simple and effective tactics and a unique teaching methodology. This comprehensive course progresses from awareness, prevention, risk reduction, and avoidance to basic self-defense participation. The student class features various guest speakers from our on-campus and local partners.

This course is offered throughout the year and general sessions are announced on our website and through the UConn Daily Digest. We also can work to schedule a special program for your group. Please note that any self-defense class requires

practice time and physical exertion. The Police Department cannot offer self-defense classes of fewer hours than listed. If you would like general safety programming, please visit the www.publicsafety.uconn.edu/self-defense for more information.



Citizen's Police Academy

The UConn Police Department sponsors an annual Citizen's Police Academy in Storrs during the fall academic semester. The academy is held for approximately eleven weeks and each course lasts approximately 3 hours. The purpose of the academy is to create better understanding and communication between the police department and the community through education.



UConn students, staff, faculty and Town of Mansfield residents are eligible to apply. The academy is open to a limited number of people who will be selected after a background screening is conducted, which may include a criminal history check, personal reference check and interview.

The courses are designed to move quickly and be informative as well as interesting. Several courses will consist of practical, hands-on training. A 'ride-a-long' with a UConn Police Officer while on duty will be available during the program. Some of the topics to be

discussed include motor vehicle law, DUI law, narcotics, patrol procedures, K-9 demonstration, crime scene forensics, critical incident management, use of force, and firearms safety.

Police Community Challenge (PCC)

The UConn PCC is a community building challenge course program co-hosted by the UConn Police Department and UConn Department of Student Activities. Community members and police officers participate side-by-side in activities and initiatives at the **UConn Four Arrows Challenge Course**.

Based upon the Police Youth Challenge Program (PYC) from **Baltimore Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School** and the **Baltimore Police Department**, the UConn PCC provides a chance to intentionally

bring community members and police officers together in a neutral setting outside of the traditional police service roles. This gives the two groups the opportunity to become one and learn more about each another as individual people. Hosted within a setting of adventure education, the group is offered opportunities to engage in fun and experiential activity as they build trust, develop communication channels, create social bonds, and more. These events are jointly facilitated by trained members of the Four Arrows program and the UConn Police Department who ensure a safe and open environment of personal and community exploration where every participant can feel welcome.



The UConn PCC also conducts participant perception surveys before and after each event. These surveys are designed to determine each individual's perception of the "other" group and assess if the UConn PCC program is an effective means of changing those perceptions and increasing community satisfaction with the police and enhance police officer skills in community engagement.

Experiential adventure programs are designed to give all participants skills in problem solving through practical and concrete experience and the UConn PCC facilitation team works with the group in dedicated reflection periods to help translate the skills learned during the PCC experience into real world community problem solving. Community members and police officers leave with a new set of connections and skills to create a safer and more socially-close UConn community.

Who can participate in the UConn PCC?

Any student organization, staff/faculty group, or community agency can participate alongside the members of the UConn Police Department. The UConn PCC is actively looking for partner groups and departments to engage with officers. A group is expected to have 8-10 members willing to participate in a day-long challenge course at the Four Arrows facility in Storrs, CT. The UConn Police Department will assign the same number of officers to the event. Each and every participant will be asked to assist the UConn PCC mission by giving approximately 20 total minutes of their time to complete online perception questionnaires before and after the event.

If you would like to find out more about the UConn Police Community Challenge initiative or participate in a course with us, please email PDSTARTteam@uconn.edu.



Follow us on Facebook!

Be sure to see updates on public programming and other Community Outreach events by checking out our 'UConn Division of University Safety' Facebook page!
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