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If you have ever wanted a realistic perspective on professional policing, sign up for the Burleson Police Department's Citizen Police Academy, which starts June 11.

This is a 10-week course. Classes will meet every Thursday from 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. from June 11 to Aug. 20 at the Burleson Police Department at the corner of Renfro and Bransom streets. Students may miss up to two classes and still be permitted to graduate with the class.

The classes are open to men and women who are at least 18 years old. Potential students must submit a written application, waiver form, and a form giving consent for a criminal record search. Applications will be available at the police department after April 1. Applications must be turned in by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 5. Class size is limited to 25. There is no fee to attend the academy.

Some of the topics covered are the recruiting and hiring process; Texas penal code; laws of arrest, search and seizure; use of force; special response teams; law enforcement communications systems; evidence identification and collection; criminal investigations; patrol procedures; traffic enforcement; victims assistance; records management system; recognizing suspicious behavior; and internal affairs.

Several of the classes include "hands on" activities to add to the interest and fun, however, none require strenuous activity so senior citizens are welcome to attend.

As part of the academy, students will be allowed to ride with an on-duty police officer for up to eight hours or observe a day in the life of a telecommunications operator.

For more information, call Burleson Police Sgt. Brian O'Heren at 817-447-5300, ext. 319 or e-mail boheren@burlesontx.com. For more information about this release, call the public information office at 817-447-5400, ext. 286.