Criminology and Criminal Justice Undergraduate Certificate

Effective Fall 2019, the Criminology and Criminal Justice Certificate will no longer be accepting applications.

Certificate in Criminology and Criminal Justice

The certificate in Criminology and Criminal Justice is designed to provide students information about criminal behavior and the criminal justice system to advance current careers, prepare for a new career path, or earn valuable credit toward a Bachelor's degree. Students will gain a solid foundation about career relevant topics that include: policing, security, victim services, juvenile justice, law, social services, and corrections.

Required Coursework

The certificate consists of 6 courses for a total of 18 hours met through completing four blocks of study.

Block One

All students must complete the following course:

CRIMIN 1100 Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice 3

Block Two

Select at least one of the following three courses:

CRIMIN 1110 Theories of Crime
CRIMIN 1120 Criminal Law
CRIMIN 2130 Criminal Justice Policy

Block Three

Select at least one of the following three courses:

CRIMIN 2240 Policing
CRIMIN 2250 Courts
CRIMIN 2260 Corrections

Block Four

Select at least two Criminology and Criminal Justice courses at the 3000 level or higher with the exception of CRIMIN 3280

One additional CRIMIN course 3

Total Hours 18

Expected Learning Outcomes

The Certificate in Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJ), which is three more hours than the Minor, provides students the opportunity to identify and select more advanced (higher level) courses than required for the Minor, thereby allowing students the opportunity to grasp a more comprehensive theoretical understanding of crime and responses to it.

Students earning a Certificate in CCJ will have greater latitude, than provided by the Minor, to select courses that focus in specific areas in CCJ. This includes courses that address subjects such as: criminal justice policy; the role and experience of the victim; the role that race, gender and/or culture play in crime and criminal behavior; focusing on specific forms of criminal behavior (e.g., violent, property, drug, computer...).

- Students will acquire knowledge to employ critical thinking skills when evaluating issues in criminology and criminal justice
- Students will be able to describe the structure and functioning of the fundamental institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections) that comprise the criminal justice system in the United States.
- Students will critically assess and evaluate contemporary issues and research in criminology and criminal justice.
- Students will be able to draw on relevant criminological theory and assess the application of such theory to the complexity of crime analysis.
- Students earning a Certificate in CCJ will be able to develop an assessment plan for an academic major or program and/or assist them in selecting a career path.
- Students earning a Certificate in CCJ will explore and focus on specific advanced areas of crime and criminal justice that are appropriate for graduate school preparation and career advancement.