

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Description and Outcomes

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice program is designed to offer a level of academic study that provides you with a solid foundation in criminal justice and a broad liberal arts knowledge base. The baccalaureate program combines the professional skills of various specialized areas of criminal justice with research and analytical skills.

If you seek a practice-based program, the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice is designed to enhance your qualifications to help you pursue more challenging responsibilities in criminal justice agencies and corporations. Upon graduation, you may seek employment opportunities in various criminal justice environments such as law enforcement, courts, adult and juvenile corrections, corporate security, public safety, loss prevention, private protective services or investigations, or community-based programs and services. It should be noted that some positions may require additional academy training and experience.

If you have already completed an associate's or bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, you may be eligible for degree requirements to be waived and replaced with advanced start credit. Refer to Advanced Start Credit in Bachelor's Degrees (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/prior-learning-assessment/advanced-start-credit-bachelors-degrees>) in the Prior Learning Assessment section for details.

Concentrations

The bachelor's degree program offers you the opportunity to personalize a degree with a concentration in law enforcement, forensic psychology, crime scene investigation, homeland security, or juvenile justice.

ExcelTrack Option

The ExcelTrack option is available for students interested in taking the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice without a concentration or with the crime scene investigation concentration. The ExcelTrack option is designed to allow students with applicable skills, professional experience, and self-direction to accelerate their pace toward earning their degree. In the ExcelTrack option, there are no required weekly assignments or class hours per course—just one final comprehensive project. Students can skip material they know and focus on what they need to learn to master course outcomes. With a few rare exceptions, ExcelTrack courses are divided into small one-credit courses that allow flexible course loads each term. ExcelTrack uses a term-based tuition model: the more courses students complete per term, the greater their cost savings. To determine if ExcelTrack is a good fit for you, speak to your University representative.

For more information on the policies governing ExcelTrack programs, see the **academic policy** section of the Catalog.

Program Length

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice program consists of a minimum of 180 quarter credit hours. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded a bachelor of science degree.

Accelerated Master's Degree Options

If you are interested in earning a master's degree in human services, legal studies, psychology, or public administration, consider an accelerated master's degree option. Refer to the Progression Requirements (<https://>

catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/social-behavioral-sciences) section for details.

Program Outcomes

Discipline-Specific Outcomes

1. **Criminological Theory:** Use biological, sociological, and psychological criminological theories to understand the reasons individuals commit criminal acts.
2. **Law:** Apply the principles of criminal law and civil liabilities to keep officers and agencies from committing criminal acts and violating civil liabilities.
3. **Research Methods:** Use scientific methods to make professional and logical decisions.
4. **Leadership:** Build relationships within the community by understanding organizational culture, community relations, and theories of behavior.
5. **Operations:** Use available resources to make sound operational decisions for the criminal justice agency.
6. **Technology:** Apply new technology to improve the operations within a criminal justice agency.
7. **Internationalism:** Understand and evaluate worldwide criminal justice systems and enterprises.

General Education Literacies and Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, general education literacies and professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the general education literacies and professional competencies associated with your academic program in the undergraduate School of General Education (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/general-education>) section of this Catalog.

Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

Policies

Please refer to school-specific policies (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/social-behavioral-sciences>) and the Policy Information (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/policy-information>) section for general Purdue Global policies.

Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certain state certification and licensure boards have specific educational requirements for programs to lead to a license or nongovernmental certification that is a precondition for employment in a recognized occupation.

Unless otherwise specified, Purdue Global's programs are not designed to meet any specific state's licensure or certification requirements. If certain licensed occupations, vocations, or professions are not explicitly listed, Purdue Global has not made a determination with respect to the licensure or certification requirements of those occupations, vocations, or professions. Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability

Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.

You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, meeting other certification requirements, or the program or the University itself having appropriate accreditation or licensure.

Degree Plan

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
CM107	College Composition I	5
CM220	College Composition II	5
CS204	Professionalism - Theory and Practice in the Global Workplace	3
Mathematics (select one of the following):		5
MM150	Survey of Mathematics	
MM212	College Algebra	
Arts and Humanities (select one of the following):		5
HU200	Arts and Humanities - Modern Creative Expressions	
HU245	Ethics	
HU250	Humanities and Culture	
Science (select one of the following):		5
SC200	Discovering Science - Current Issues in a Changing World	
SC235	General Biology I - Human Perspectives	
SC246	Fundamentals of Microbiology	
SC250	Fundamentals of Science	
Social Science (select one of the following):		5
SS211	The 1960s - Reshaping the American Dream	
SS236	People, Power, and Politics - An Introduction to American Government	
SS250	The Technological Revolution - A Social Scientific Approach	
Total Core Requirements		33
Major Requirements		
CJ100	Preparing for a Career in Public Safety	5
CJ101	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System	5
CJ102	Criminology I ¹	5
CJ210	Criminal Investigation	5
CJ212	Crime Prevention ¹	5
or CJ233	Introduction to Forensic Psychology	
CJ216	Computers, Technology, and Criminal Justice Information Systems ¹	5
CJ227	Criminal Procedure	5

CJ230	Criminal Law for Criminal Justice ¹	5
CJ340	Applied Criminal Justice Ethics	6
CJ345	Supervisory Practices in Criminal Justice	6
or CJ444	Managing Criminal Justice Organizations	
CJ490	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	6
300/400 Level	Major Electives (see below)	24
CJ499	Bachelor's Capstone in Criminal Justice	6
Total Major Requirements		88
Open Elective Requirements		
Open Electives ²		59
Total Open Elective Requirements		59
TOTAL CREDITS		180

¹ These degree requirements can be waived for students who are eligible for advanced start credit with a prior degree. See Advanced Start Credit in Bachelor's Degrees in the Prior Learning Assessment section for details.

² Eligible students who choose to complete an accelerated master's degree option will take four graduate-level courses in addition to selected undergraduate electives.

Concentration Requirements

Concentration courses are completed within the major electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are not required to select a concentration area.

Law Enforcement

Code	Title	Credits
CJ333	Family and Domestic Violence	6
CJ355	Homeland Security	6
CJ370	Crime Scene Investigation II	6
CJ411	Drugs and Alcohol in the Criminal Justice System	6
TOTAL CREDITS		24

Forensic Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
CJ325	Psychology for Law Enforcement	6
CJ440	Crisis Intervention	6
PS440	Abnormal Psychology	6
300/400 Level	Criminal Justice Elective	6
TOTAL CREDITS		24

Crime Scene Investigation

Code	Title	Credits
CJ328	Forensic Fingerprint Analysis	6
CJ345	Supervisory Practices in Criminal Justice	6
CJ370	Crime Scene Investigation II	6
CJ385	Forensic Chemistry and Trace Evidence Analysis	6
TOTAL CREDITS		24

Juvenile Justice

Code	Title	Credits
CJ150	Juvenile Delinquency	5
CJ333	Family and Domestic Violence	6

CJ420	Juvenile Justice	6
CJ445	Case Management	6
PS440	Abnormal Psychology	6
TOTAL CREDITS		29

Students will take CJ150 Juvenile Delinquency in place of an open elective. CJ150 Juvenile Delinquency is eligible for waiver for students with advanced start credit.

Homeland Security

Code	Title	Credits
CJ307	Crisis Management in Terrorist Attacks and Disasters	6
CJ355	Homeland Security	6
CJ407	Crisis Negotiation	6
FS320	Recovery Practices in Emergency Management	6
TOTAL CREDITS		24

Students who select the homeland security concentration will have the prerequisite of FS120 Introduction to Emergency Management waived.