



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN **Criminal Justice Foundations**

Certificate Description

This certificate provides high school graduates, professionals with limited experience or out-of-field students and professionals the opportunity to understand foundation of criminal justice.

Foundations of Criminal Justice Systems—CRJS 101 (required)—This course provides an overview of the criminal justice system. Emphasis will be on crime in America, the criminal justice process, law enforcement, adjudication, punishment, corrections, and prisons. Students will also learn about crime, law and justice, as well as special issues in the criminal justice system.

Outcomes:

- Identify and define the various components of the criminal justice system
- Explain the process associated with moving an accused through the criminal justice system
- Explain and analyze the relationships between law enforcement, the judicial system and corrections
- Analyze and determine crime rate, crime index, and recidivism rates
- Identify career options in the criminal justice field

Introduction to Criminal Law—CRJS 205 (required)—This course furnishes a concise but comprehensive introduction to the substantive criminal law. It offers an understanding of the legal environment in which criminal justice professionals must function and helps students to gain a clear understanding of the principles of the law that will be vital to success in the field of criminal justice.

Outcomes:

- Differentiate between civil and criminal law
- Identify the constitutional rights afforded to individuals who enter the criminal justice system
- Identify the elements of crimes and the various types of offenses
- Identify the various defenses available to people charged with crimes

Introduction to Law Enforcement—CRJS 210 (required)—This course surveys the police service delivery system at the Federal, state, and local levels. Consideration will be given to historical development, the police role in contemporary society, and primary objectives of police agencies.

Outcomes:

- Describe the history of policing in American society
- Identify the various segments of police services
- Describe the organization structure and management style of police agencies
- Analyze issues of discretion, ethics, decision-making and morality



Foundations of Corrections—CRJS 220 (required)—This course is an introduction to the correctional process and interventions designed to prevent and control adult criminal behavior. This course will address the philosophy and goals underlying the correctional interventions, types of criminal sentencing, and penal sanctions including community-based corrections, institutional corrections, and parole.

Outcomes:

- Trace the history of corrections in the U.S.
- Describe the different models of punishment and the various correctional alternatives
- Explain the organization and management of correctional institutions, both Federal and state
- Describe the legal rights of prisoners
- Describe probation, parole and the revocation process
- Discuss contemporary issues in corrections

Crime Victim Studies—CRJS 310—This course presents the scientific study of crime victims and public policy responses to victims and their situations. It also looks at the different types of victimizations, how victimization rates are measured, and what attempts the government has made to increase the involvement of victims' role in the criminal justice system.

Outcomes:

- Explain the history of victimology
- Describe the impact of public policy and the crime victims' movement on victim rights
- Analyze the methodology used to determine crime and victimization rates
- Analyze specific victim populations
- Discuss current issues in victimology

Arson Investigations—CRJS 350—This course will explore criminal and scientific investigation techniques associated with arson. Various arson causation theories and principles of incendiary fire analysis and detection along with social, psychological and environmental factors associated with arson will be explored. This course will assist students in identifying the origin and cause of suspicious fires.

Outcomes:

- Demonstrate technical knowledge of methods used to conduct arson investigation
- Explain the ignition and burning process of different fuels
- Apply various scientific investigative techniques in arson investigation
- Analyze the legal foundation for conducting an incendiary fire investigation
- Identify and analyze the social, economic and psychological motives behind incendiary fires



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Cultural Diversity in Criminal Justice—CRJS 410—This course offers a social historical overview of issues of race, class, gender, crime, and justice. The impact of the criminal justice system on culturally diverse groups is the primary theme of all class activities.

Outcomes:

- Explain the history of race, ethnicity and social class in the U.S. criminal justice system
- Analyze the theoretical perspectives used to explain cultural diversity and criminal justice
- Describe the differential and inequitable treatment encountered by racial and ethnic groups in policing, courts and corrections
- Discuss contemporary issues in cultural diversity, crime and justice

Ethics in Criminal Justice—CRJS 420—This course is designed to help students develop a working knowledge of the theoretical underpinnings of ethical conduct in the administration of justice. This course explores moral choices associated with individuals in the criminal justice field, and examines consequences associated with various choice options.

Outcomes:

- Identify and define the theoretical concepts associated with ethical and moral behaviors in criminal justice
- Discuss and analyze the ethical decision making processes in law enforcement, law and the courts, corrections and forensics
- Identify dilemmas and the consequences associated with immoral behaviors within the criminal justice system and in the broader context of society and the government
- Critique and evaluate current ethical policies and posture through the examination of case studies