



## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN **General Criminal Justice**

### Certificate Description

**This certificate provides high school graduates, professionals with limited experience or out-of-field students and professionals the opportunity to understand law enforcement**

**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



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### **Principles of Communication and Report Writing in Criminal Justice—CRJS 230 (required)—**

This course introduces students to multiple aspects of criminal justice investigations, interviewing and report writing activities practiced by police, courts and correctional subsystems. Students will learn writing, reporting procedures and requirements, crime scene management, technology, interviewing and interrogation skills practiced by criminal justice professionals in the field.

#### **Outcomes:**

- Practice and use critical thinking and writing skills
- Recognize the difference between writing in the academic and criminal justice fields
- Describe the importance of interviewing and report writing concepts and methods to obtain facts
- Show increased knowledge of information literacy and writing skills

**Administration of Criminal Justice—CRJS 345**—This course focuses on the challenges administrators face in law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Students will examine the various organizational frameworks in the criminal justice system and the concepts, organizational principles, and models associated with these criminal justice agencies.

#### **Outcomes:**

- Describe and analyze the organizational and administrative structure of criminal justice administration
- Locate and classify theories of management and leadership principles in policing, courts and corrections
- Describe and analyze the roles of police, courts and correctional administrators in the operation of their organizations
- Explain the roles of police, courts and correctional administrators in the handling of criminal justice personnel and their functions

**Evidence—CRJS 355**—This course examines the various types of evidence admissible by law, including real, demonstrative and documentary evidence. This course addresses the roles lay witnesses and expert evidence play in the legal setting as well as during a criminal trial.

#### **Outcomes:**

- Explain and identify the difference between real, demonstrative, and circumstantial evidence
- Explain the concepts of impeachment, hearsay, privileges, and burdens of proof
- Analyze the Federal Rules of Evidence
- Analyze the Exclusionary Rule and its application to illegally seized evidence



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**Terrorism and Homeland Security—CRJS 370**—This course presents an overview of the key security issues facing the United States in both the areas of Homeland Security and Terrorism. It introduces students to the changing dynamics of homeland security at both the national and state levels. Students will explore the various dynamics of providing security in different settings. Additionally the history and future of terrorism will be examined.

**Outcomes:**

- Analyze the history of terrorism and the impact of terrorist acts waged against the United States and its allied governments
- Identify and analyze the historical, psychological and sociological explanations of domestic and international terrorism
- Identify, analyze, and describe various terrorist methodologies, ideologies, behavioral patterns, and trends of terrorism, including modes of attack, tactics and strategies
- Identify and analyze the governmental response to terrorism as it relates to civil liberties

**Aspects of Forensic Psychology—CRJS 375**—This course examines the aspects of human behavior directly related to the legal process and the professional practice of psychology in the context of forensic science. The course explores many aspects of the practice of forensic psychology including assessment, treatment, and consultation within the legal system that encompasses both criminal and civil law. The student will learn the many ways psychology can assist and influence the legal system. Finally, students will be introduced to various career opportunities in forensic psychology and will be exposed to a variety of professionals who work in the area of forensic science.

**Outcomes:**

- Examine the history and conflicts between psychology and law
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of a forensic psychologist and their relationships with the criminal justice system
- Explain and analyze the techniques of criminal investigation involving criminal profiling, psychological autopsies, hypnosis and lie detection
- Explain and evaluate defense strategy as it relates to insanity, competency, and psychological syndromes such as battered woman syndrome and rape trauma syndrome
- Identify career opportunities in forensic psychology