Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration

Approx. program length: 4 years
Credits: 120
Cost per credit: $398
Format: Online & Campus

Influence law enforcement

Gain a strong foundation in the criminal justice field and learn leadership skills to help you prepare for administrative responsibilities in law enforcement, criminal courts and corrections. This versatile degree blends global industry perspectives with specialty coursework in criminal justice services. Courses are taught by leaders in criminal justice and security, and content is updated regularly to keep pace with the evolving physical, technological and interpersonal skills needed for criminal justice professions.

In this BS in Criminal Justice Administration program, you’ll study:

- Elements of criminal procedure, including search and seizure and pretrial and trial processes
- Effective emergency management responses across multiple agencies
- Strategies for fighting organized crime
- Issues inherent to juvenile arrest, sentencing and incarceration
- The relationships between crime and justice, ethics and cultural diversity

During your program, you’ll select an elective track in Criminal Justice Management, Cybercrimes, Human Services or Criminal Justice System/Criminal Justice Security. You can complete your Criminal Justice program in four years, and you’ll take one 5-week course at a time, so you can balance work and life on the path to your degree.

What sets us apart?

When you choose our Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration program, you can:

Learn from CJ leaders
Develop real-world insights from instructors who work in the criminal justice system, including police chiefs, wardens, judges, prosecutors and detectives.

Finish your degree faster
Transfer eligible college credits or apply to have military, law enforcement, POST or other relevant industry experience evaluated for potential credit.

Specialize your degree
This program offers four elective tracks: Criminal Justice Management, Cybercrimes, Human Services and Criminal Justice System/Security.
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration

Projected job growth:
7%
According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job growth for first-line supervisors of police and detectives is projected to be 7 percent between 2016 and 2026. A Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration can help prepare you to be a:

- Detective sergeant
- Police sergeant
- Sergeant
- Loss prevention manager

Networking opportunities

Access powerful networking tools through our PhoenixLink™ career services platform. Take advantage of personal career coaching. Search and apply for jobs, or make your resumé visible to employers. And connect with employers and alumni through career fairs and mixers. It's all about connections. And we help you make them.

Learning outcomes

Along with the knowledge and skills related to the University Learning Goals, graduates should gain program-specific knowledge, skills and abilities. Each college or school creates a set of Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) to describe the knowledge, skills or attitudes students will possess upon completion of the program of study. By the time you complete your Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration degree, you should be able to perform these learning outcomes.

Program purpose statement

The University's Criminal Justice programs are educational degree programs. For those interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, corrections or as a peace officer with any particular local, state, federal, tribal or international agency, there are numerous additional qualifications (and often disqualifications), depending on the position. Before enrolling in a Criminal Justice program, potential students are highly encouraged to check with the relevant agency for a complete list of position requirements. The University makes no representations regarding whether any particular University program will qualify a graduate for any such position.

The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality. Accreditation is your assurance the University meets quality standards.

Institutional accreditation

Regional accreditation is an institution-level accreditation status granted by one of six U.S. regional accrediting bodies. Accreditation by more than one regional accrediting body is not permitted by the U.S. Department of Education.

University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), hlcommission.org. Since 1978, University of Phoenix has been continually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and its predecessor.
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration

Course length: 5 weeks
Total credits required: 120
Max. number of transfer credits: 90

Requirements and prerequisites

You'll need 120 credits to complete this program. These may be earned through a combination of required and elective courses. Required courses may vary based on previous experience, training or transferable credits.

During your program, you'll select an elective track in Criminal Justice Management, Cybercrimes, Human Services or Criminal Justice System/Criminal Justice Security.

Transfer credits

Earn your degree faster. Transfer eligible college credits or, if you have military or law enforcement training such as Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), basic academy training or Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy training, you can apply to have relevant experience evaluated for potential college credit. Contact an enrollment representative at 844.YES.UOPX for more information.

Core courses

- CJA484: Criminal Justice Administration Capstone
- CJS245: Juvenile Justice Systems And Processes
- CJA365: Budget, Finance, And Planning
- CJA385: Criminal Justice Policy Analysis & Program Evaluation
- CJS251: Introduction To Criminal Court Systems
- CJS255: Introduction To Corrections
- CJA325: Criminal Organizations
- CJA305: Criminal Law
- CJA335: Research Statistics
- CJS241: Introduction To Police Theory And Practices
- CJA375: Interagency Communication
- CJA355: Grant Writing
- CJS231: Criminology
- CJA315: Criminal Procedure
- CJA345: Research Methods And Evaluation
- CJS221: Cultural Diversity In Criminal Justice
- CJS211: Ethics In Criminal Justice

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.