



University of Maryland University College

**Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice
Department of Business and Professional Programs**

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN
Program Outcomes and Learning Assessment Criteria

Summer 2007

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Overview: Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice3

Program of Study: Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice4

Development of Program Outcomes: Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice.....6

Program Outcomes: Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice8

Alignment of Program Outcomes with Learning Objectives and Assessment Methods: Baccalaureate Degree
Program in Criminal Justice.....9

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Criminal Justice program is designed for entry-level students interested in careers in any of the three main areas of the criminal justice system (courts, law enforcement, and corrections), as well as in public and private security. The program also serves criminal justice professionals already working in the field who desire to advance. The curriculum, which is available in online and face-to-face formats, provides students with the theoretical knowledge and practical application of criminology, criminal law, corrections, law enforcement, security, and introductory forensics. Graduates of the program may use experience and knowledge gained through the course of study to advance as criminal justice administrators, as law enforcement and security personnel, and in a wide variety of occupations within the criminal justice system that support both offenders and victims of crimes. Graduates are equally prepared to pursue graduate and doctoral education within the field.

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The program of study for the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice is as follows:

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Communications	12 credit hours
Arts and Humanities	6 credit hours
Behavioral and Social Sciences	6 credit hours
Biological and Physical Sciences	7 credit hours
Mathematics	3 credit hours
Interdisciplinary or Emerging Issues	7 credit hours

CROSS-CURRICULAR PERSPECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

Historical Perspective	3 credit hours
International Perspective	3 credit hours
Civic Responsibility Perspective	3 credit hours

REQUIRED COURSES

CCJS 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice or CCJS 105 or CCJS 230	3 credit hours
ENGL 391	Advanced Expository and Research Writing	3 credit hours
CCJS 320	Introduction to Criminalistics or CCJS 234, CCJS 340, CCJS 350, CCJS 352, CCJS 360, CCJS 400, CCJS 432, CCJS 445, CCJS 497	3 credit hours
CCJS 350	Juvenile Delinquency or other core course for major	3 credit hours
CCJS360	Victimology or other core course for major	3 credit hours

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

PROGRAM OF STUDY (continued)

SOCY 313	The Individual in Society or CCJS 351, CCJS 370, CCJS 372, CCJS 451, CCJS 452, CCJS 427	3 credit hours
CCJS 430	Legal and Ethical Issues in Security Management or CCJS 331, HIST 319B, HIST 319L or HIST 372	3 credit hours
CCJS 497	Correctional Administration or any upper-level CCJS course	3 credit hours
CCJS 445	Introduction to Security Management or CCJS 486A/B	3 credit hours
<u>MINOR AND ELECTIVE COURSES</u>		46 credit hours

Minor and/or elective courses are to be taken in the last 60 hours along with required major courses. Refer to the current UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies Catalog for the minor and/or elective course requirements.

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The table below identifies the curricular influences that support the program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice.

SOURCES/RESOURCES PROVIDING CURRICULAR FOUNDATION FOR PROGRAM OUTCOMES		
Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice		
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	WEB ADDRESS OR DOCUMENT NAME (if applicable)
Core Learning Areas of the UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies	<p>All UMUC degree programs are required to imbed identified Core Learning Areas into the program of study. The Core Learning Areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Communication (COMM) • Technology Fluency (TECH) • Information Literacy (INFO) • Quantitative Literacy (QUAN) • Critical Thinking (THIN) • Scientific Literacy (SCIE) <p>The expanded definition for each Core Learning Area was considered in creating the respective program outcome.</p>	UMUC <u>Institutional Plan for the Assessment of Student Learning</u>
UMUC Criminal Justice Advisory Board	The Advisory Board is comprised of criminal justice professionals, full-time and adjunct faculty members, practicing lawyers, law enforcement personnel, security professionals, computer forensic professionals, forensic scientists, and CCJS graduates. The Board provides input on curriculum to keep current with trends and needs in the field of criminal justice.	
Criminal Justice Academic Program Review, 2001	The Academic Program Review sets forth goals and objectives for the Criminal Justice program.	
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)	ACJS fosters professional and scholarly activities in the field of criminal justice. ACJS promotes criminal justice education, research, and policy analysis within the discipline of criminal justice for both educators and practitioners.	<u>www.acjs.org</u>

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

SOURCES/RESOURCES PROVIDING CURRICULAR FOUNDATION FOR PROGRAM OUTCOMES		
Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice		
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	WEB ADDRESS OR DOCUMENT NAME (if applicable)
American Correctional Association (ACA)	The ACA strives to build relationships with the educational community, influence research agendas and the implementation of valid research findings within correctional agencies, ensure that pertinent research is recognized, shared, and widely distributed, and promote continuing education and the expansion of degree programs relevant to corrections.	www.aca.org
American Jail Association (AJA)	The AJA provides leadership in the development of professional standards, pertinent legislation, management practices, programs, and services.	www.corrections.com/aja/index.shtml
American Parole and Probation Association (APPA)	The APPA Accreditation Committee promotes continuing education efforts for probation and parole professionals and to enhance those efforts by providing accreditation for approved training programs.	http://www.appa-net.org/
International Association of Chiefs of Police (AICP)	The AICP places emphasis on education about and acquisition of new technology in the field of policing.	www.theiacp.org
American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS)	ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security practices by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security concerns.	www.asisonline.org
American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)	AAFS is dedicated to the application of science to the law. The AAFS is committed to the promotion of education and the elevation of accuracy, precision, and specificity in the forensic sciences.	www.aafs.org
American Bar Association (ABA)	The Criminal Justice Section of the ABA has primary responsibility for work regarding solutions to issues involving crime, criminal law, and the administration of criminal and juvenile justice.	www.abanet.org

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice are delineated below. The program outcomes describe the expectations for all graduates of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice.

CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and which meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+
	Use effective written communication skills to clearly express the role of the criminal justice system (police, courts, and corrections) in the administration of justice in the United States and other countries.*
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+
	Use computer technology and gaming for analysis of a crime scene and laboratory scenario.*
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+
	Utilize web-based sources to find information about crime and the criminal justice system.*
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+
	Use cost-effective approaches to meet the challenges confronting security professionals in dealing with varied and unpredictable states of national security.*
THIN	Analyze fact patterns and recognize crimes and defenses generated by the facts presented.*
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+
	Explain basic methods and techniques used in the forensic examination of physical evidence.*

+ Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of the general education requirements. This program outcome is common across all UMUC baccalaureate degree programs.

* Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of requirements in the baccalaureate degree program. This program outcome is unique to each UMUC baccalaureate degree program.

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

ALIGNMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES WITH LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

The following grid aligns the program outcomes of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice with: 1) learning objectives from the designated program coursework and 2) specific methods used to assess student learning within the degree program. .

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and which meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+	Plan and write a research-based essay that makes effective use of resources found in databases available from UMUC's Office of Information and Library Services as well as resources located through Web search engines. (WRTG 101)	Research Paper
		Research, compile, and document relevant, credible information and use it to support ideas presented in your writing. (WRTG 393)	Research Paper
		Collect, select, analyze, interpret, and organize data, and use it appropriately in business communications, including a long formal report. (WRTG 394)	Research Paper
		Conduct a systematic audience analysis and apply it to a report, essay, or research paper. (WRTG 391)	Research Paper
	Use effective written communication skills to clearly express relevant ideas of the role of the criminal justice system.*	Interview someone in the criminal justice system: police officers, attorneys, judges, probation officers, researchers, current or former inmates, etc. (CCJS 100)	Individual Report/Paper

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+	Analyze issues faced by information system professionals, including security, ethical, and privacy problems. (IFSM 201)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Use computer technology and gaming for analysis of a crime scene and laboratory scenario.*	Use the Crime Scene game appropriately to play the role of primary crime scene investigator after downloading onto a personal computer. (CCJS 320)	Other: Crime Scene Game Reports
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+	Select relevant print and electronic sources to answer research questions. (LIBS 150)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Utilize web-based sources to find information about crime and the criminal justice system.*	Use library resources to find two journal articles (or other reference documents) relating to current topics in criminal justice. (CCJS 100)	Research Paper
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+	Solve linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, fractional, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and absolute value equations and inequalities. (MATH 107)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Use cost-effective approaches to meet the challenges confronting security professionals in dealing with varied and unpredictable states of national security.*	Develop problem solving skills. (MATH 105 or MATH 106)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
THIN	Analyze fact patterns and recognize crimes and defenses generated by the facts presented.*	Design and develop an operational budget for an organization's security department. (CCJS 445)	Other: Mock Budget
		Prepare a five- to seven-page critique discussing what you consider to be key evidence against the defendant. (CCJS 230)	Other: Legal Analysis Paper

Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
Baccalaureate Degree Program in Criminal Justice			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+	Recognize the differences and the interrelationships among physics, chemistry, the earth sciences, and astronomy. (NSCI 100)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
		Explain the significance of DNA in determining the composition, characteristics, reproduction, and behavior of an organism. (BIOL 101)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Explain basic methods and techniques used in the forensic examination of physical evidence.*	Using a hypothetical crime scene, role-play as the primary crime scene investigator; working to properly process the crime scene. (CCJS 320)	Other: Crime Scene Game

+ Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of the general education requirements. This program outcome is common across all UMUC baccalaureate degree programs.

* Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of requirements in the baccalaureate degree program. This program outcome is unique to each UMUC baccalaureate degree program.