Criminal Justice - B.S.

Curriculum

Effective May 14, 2026 ENG0001 will no longer be a requirement in our undergraduate programs.

The Criminal Justice bachelor's degree program prepares students for professional careers in the field of criminal justice. Through this course of study, students are expected to acquire the communication, logic, critical thinking and ethical reasoning skills essential for both the understanding of complex global and domestic criminal justice issues and for effective career performance and progression.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are expected to:

- Apply the historical contexts and knowledge of the American criminal justice system to current issues within the field.
- Critically evaluate evidence using investigative theories and practices.
- Research and analyze criminal justice issues to generate appropriate recommendations and/or actions.
- Assess and resolve conflict situations using policies and procedures employed by criminal justice professionals.
- Apply ethical strategies to address criminal justice agency/operations within diverse communities and/or global contexts.

The program's judicious mix of criminal justice and arts and sciences courses is intended to develop and enhance each student's critical thinking and effective communication skills, as well as their appreciation for diversity, citizenship, leadership and public service. In keeping with the unique curriculum and varied career opportunities available to graduates of the Criminal Justice program, students are encouraged to take advantage of available internship, study abroad and elective course opportunities that target their specific interests and goals.

Students in Criminal Justice will have the opportunity to select a Community Justice specialization. The interdisciplinary nature of this curriculum provides students the opportunity to think differently about justice and criminal behavior that is reflective of industry trends toward crime prevention, community building and criminal justice. This specialization will allow students a means to foster their intellectual curiosity while enhancing and enriching their educational experience thereby stimulating professional success and lifelong personal and professional growth.

Graduates of the program are prepared for a wide variety of criminal justice employment at the local, national and federal levels including careers in court administration, private investigation, airport security and social services, or as a federal agent, police officer or border patrol agent, among many others.

Upon completion of the Community Justice specialization, graduates are expected to be able to:

- Analyze the evolution of community justice practices from domestic and global perspectives.

Criminal Justice

A four-year program leading to the bachelor of science degree

Major Courses		
CJS1002	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CJS1090	Law Enforcement	3
CJS2040	Corrections	3
CJS2050	Criminology	3
CJS3075	Criminal Investigation	3
CJS3850	Homeland Security	3
CJS4045	Criminalistics with Lab	3
CJS4080	Criminal Justice Senior Seminar	3
LAW3015	Criminal Procedure	3
LAW3025	Criminal Law	3
Major Electives or Specialization in Community Justice		
Choose five of the following: [*]		15
CJS1070	Criminal Courts	
CJS2085	Juvenile Justice	
CJS2150	Criminal Justice Ethics	
CJS3033	Community Policing	
CJS3210	Victimology	
CJS3450	Comparative Criminal Justice	
CJS3820	Cyber Crimes	
CJS4020	Offender Assessment and Case Management	
CJS4050	Advanced Topics in Criminal Justice	
CJS4065	Advanced Topics in Criminalistics with Lab	
CJS4070	Serial Killers	
COMJ1020	Community Justice	
COMJ1080	Restorative Justice	
COMJ2030	Race, Crime and Justice	
COMJ3050	Cultural Awareness and Diversity in Criminal Justice	
COMJ4060	Change and Innovation in Law Enforcement	
PSCI2001	International Relations and World Politics	
REL2001	Comparative Study of World Religions	
Or		
Specialization in Community Justice		
COMJ1020	Community Justice	
COMJ2030	Race, Crime and Justice	
COMJ4060	Change and Innovation in Law Enforcement	
Choose two of the following:		
CJS3210	Victimology	
CJS4020	Offender Assessment and Case Management	
COMJ1080	Restorative Justice	
COMJ3050	Cultural Awareness and Diversity in Criminal Justice	
PSCI2200	Race, Politics and Power in America	
PSYC3100	Community Psychology	
PSYC4150	Psychology of Conflict Resolution	
Applied/Experiential Learning		
Choose 6 credits from the following: [**]		6
ASCI4799	College of Arts & Sciences Internship [lc]	
RSCH3830	Undergraduate Research Experience	
RSCH4020	Honors Directed Academic Experience	
Study Abroad [Sa]		
Related Professional Studies		
PSYC1001	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYC2002	Abnormal Psychology	3
RSCH2050	Workshop in Acquiring Social Research Skills	3
SOC3060	Deviant Behavior	3
University Core Curriculum		
Communicating		9
ENG1020	Rhetoric & Composition I	
ENG1021	Rhetoric & Composition II	
ENG1030	Communication Skills	
Connecting		6
Two courses with the Connecting attribute (ECNG), one at the 2000 level, one at the 4000 level		
Experiencing		6
HIST3200	American Government	
Additional course with the Experiencing attribute (EEXP) in a different discipline		
Measuring		6
MATH1002	A Survey of College Mathematics (or higher, based on student's placement)	
MATH2001	Statistics I	
Exploring		3
Choose one of the following:		
SCI1015	Introduction to Life Science	
SCI2020	Introduction to Exercise Physiology	
SCI2031	Anatomy and Physiology	
Interacting		6
SOC1001	Sociology I	
or SOC2005	Honors Seminar: Social Inequalities	
Additional course with the Interacting attribute (EINT) in a different discipline		
A&S Electives		6
Two courses with the Arts & Sciences elective attribute (EASC)		
Free Electives [#]		
15 credits selected from 1000-4999 numbered offerings within the university		15
Total Credits		**120.0**

* Students are responsible for meeting prerequisites.

** In lieu of an internship, research course, or study abroad, students may use the Applied/Experiential Learning credits towards a minor.

[Ic]Typically, internships require a minimum of six credits. Students interested in a 9 or 12-credit internship can apply additional experiential learning and free elective credits, if available. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling internship and free elective credits.

[Sa]To be eligible to count toward Applied/Experiential Learning, a Study Abroad offering must meet certain requirements. Contact Experiential Education & Career Services to discuss eligible Study Abroad options for this degree program and visit the study abroad website for information, program descriptions and online applications.

In addition to classes, free elective credits may be applied to a number of options such as internship, study abroad, and courses in a specialization or minor as relevant. For students who qualify for the J2 program, up to four graduate courses may apply. Students are strongly encouraged to contact a faculty advisor before scheduling free elective credits.

Note: Students must pass MATH0010 Pre-Algebra or have equivalent placement scores to enroll in required math courses.

Admissions Requirements

Johnson & Wales University holistically reviews all elements of a student's application to identify those students most likely to succeed at the university.

For first-year applicants, a completed application and high school transcript(s) are required. For transfer applicants, a completed application and high school and/or college transcript(s) are required. Completion of optional materials is encouraged.

Successful candidates for first year admission have taken a high school, college preparatory academic program including English, mathematics, science, social science and foreign language. Admissions decisions may also consider individual experiences and particular circumstances unique to each student. Other considerations are made based upon recommendations, writing ability and extracurricular activities.

Visiting campus, both in-person or virtually, is a valuable way of assuring that JWU is the right university for you.

Accelerated Program Options

J2 Program

The JWU J2 program allows qualified students enrolled in a matriculating undergraduate program to take graduate level courses at JWU. Students interested in pursuing this option should meet with their academic advisor to discuss their interest, qualifications and plans. The undergraduate student may take up to four graduate courses (maximum 12 credits) and are limited to 6 credits a semester and 3 credits per session (Fall Session I and Fall Session II).

The completion of graduate credits to fulfill undergraduate program requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the graduate program after completion of the baccalaureate degree. Matriculating undergraduate students who wish to formally enroll in a graduate program must fulfill all requirements for entrance into the intended graduate program and complete a graduate program application.

Note: Not all graduate courses are included as part of this policy. Courses offered as part of the Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies and doctoral courses are excluded from this policy and are restricted to program majors only. Additional courses and/or programs as determined by individual colleges may also have restricted access.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to enroll in graduate-level courses (excludes: Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, doctoral courses, Counseling graduate program courses, and other programs as outlined by the colleges), undergraduate students must meet the following criteria:

- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher
- Completed and registered undergraduate credits at least 90 credits
- Meet the individual course prerequisites

Appeal to Eligibility Criteria

College dean or designee will receive a copy of the Petition Form, Student's GPS and email requesting appeal if the student requests to appeal the GPA or earned/registered credit criteria. College dean/designee will review and determine approval.

These courses carry graduate credit and will replace undergraduate degree requirements when applicable, traditionally free-electives (maximum of 12 credits). The course will be applied to the undergraduate degree in the order in which they are taken (if required) and will also be applied towards both the students undergraduate and graduate GPA.

Students should maintain enrollment in at least 12 credits of undergraduate coursework to maintain full-time status; graduate course enrollment is not calculated into undergraduate full-time status. For students already attending full-time as undergraduates (12 credits or more) and paying the full-time tuition, the graduate credits will be included in full-time tuition fee. Students attending part-time (11 credits or less) will pay the cost per-credit undergraduate tuition for the graduate course.

Course registration will be based on space availability and students enrolled in graduate level courses will be required to maintain good academic standing at the undergraduate and graduate level.