



Classes are taught by police detectives, veterans, attorneys, and other experts



Day and evening class scheduling options are available



Receive specialized training to get the job done and uphold a high level of public trust

Associate Degree in Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice is no longer available to incoming students.

Safeguard your community with a degree in Criminal Justice

Obtain an honorable and rewarding career protecting and serving your community with an associate degree in Criminal Justice. The criminal justice field includes careers in law enforcement, security, corrections, and intelligence. Those who meet this challenge earn the respect of their families, friends, and neighbors and live their lives knowing that they're making a positive difference.

Criminal justice is a highly professionalized field. Its members must have the right training to get the job done and uphold a high level of public trust. Our program develops the critical thinking skills necessary for modern law enforcement, security, emergency response, and investigative professions. Students are exposed to contemporary policing issues, historical development, and the future of criminal justice.

Our Criminal Justice professors include an all-star roster of law enforcement professionals who are committed to passing on their knowledge to you.

Classes are taught by police commanders, detectives, state troopers, military veterans, attorneys, and other experts. Their experience gives you insight into the realities of policing and other criminal justice fields that you won't find in any textbook — the kind of knowledge most people don't get until they're on the force.

Associate Degree in Criminal Justice

General education core: 22 credits		
ENG 101	English Composition	3
ENG	Open Elective	3
MATH 135	Viewing Life Mathematically	3
SCI 1XX	Science w/lab (SCI)	4
PSY 112	Introduction to Psychology	3
PHIL 103	Ethical & Legal Issues OR	
PHIL 105	Ethics, Values, and Cultural Competence in Human Services	3
	General Education Elective	3
Programmatic general education core requirements: 6 credits		
COM 1XX	Communications Elective	3
SOC 101	Elective	3
Major core requirements: 24 credits		
Freshman year		
CJS 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice and the Law	3
CJS 106	Investigative Report Writing	3
CJS 112	Criminal Procedures	3
CJS 130	Introduction to Computer Crimes and Security	3
Sophomore year		
CJS 150	Criminology	3
CJS 210	Criminal Law	3
CJS 243	Juvenile Justice in America	3
CJS 299	Internship	3
Electives: 9 credits		
CJS 1XX	Electives	6
CJS 2XX	Elective	3

Total credits: 61

Graduation requirements

Students must complete all the general Associate graduation requirements as stated in the catalog. In addition, students must complete the Criminal Justice major core courses with a minimum grade of “C-” in each course and a cumulative GPA of 2.3.

Program outcomes

Upon successful completion of all Criminal Justice program requirements, graduates will be able to:

- Explain the basic structure and function of the American criminal justice system
- Describe current issues and trends facing American policing, courts, and corrections systems
- Assess American criminal justice policies and procedures through a diversity and equity lens
- Evaluate ethical and legal issues facing criminal justice professionals

Careers in criminal justice:

- Corrections
- Customs and Border Protection
- Drug enforcement agency
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Law enforcement
- Private and personal security agencies
- Transportation Security Administration

Goodwin University is a nonprofit institution of higher education and is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).