

**Core Program Goal #1: Provide a Base Knowledge of the Criminal Justice System**

Learning Outcomes:

- A. Define the major components of the criminal justice system and the fundamental processes that take place therein.
- B. Explain the vital role each branch plays in order for the criminal justice system as a whole to perform its proper function.
- C. Identify the responsibilities and challenges faced by professionals working in the principle branches of the criminal justice system.
- D. Discuss the process of the development, enforcement, reformation, and behavior of law.

**Core Program Goal #2: Communicate the Scientific Pursuit of the Causes of Criminal Behavior**

Learning Outcomes:

- A. List the major criminological theories that have been developed to describe the root causes of criminality.
- B. Define the causal arguments outlined by these fundamental theories.
- C. Compare and contrast varying theoretical frameworks.
- D. Understand basic methodological techniques employed in past and current research done on the causes of criminal behavior and the interworkings of the criminal justice system.
- E. Identify and interpret research that illuminates the strengths and weaknesses of current criminal justice policy, as well as research that attempts to reveal the causes of criminal behavior.

**Specific Goals for the Emphasis in Criminology**

**Criminology Emphasis Goal #1: Develop Critical Thinking Skills in Criminology and Criminal Justice**

Learning Outcomes:

- A. Distinguish personal views from knowledge based on empirical research that addresses criminal behavior and the criminal justice system.
- B. Connect real, diverse facts to criminological theories.
- C. Collect and use empirical evidence in drawing conclusions and in practice.
- D. Apply problem solving strategies to create solutions to the many challenges faced by those working in and controlled by the criminal justice system.

**Criminology Emphasis Goal #2: Application of Criminology and the Study of Criminal Justice**

Learning Outcomes:

- A. Use criminological theory and crime trends to address criminal behavior within certain contexts.
- B. Evaluate the costs and benefits of criminal justice programs and policies.
- C. Identify key applied areas in the discipline and determine whether an applied specialty can provide a solution for a given problem.
- D. Apply criminological theory and proper research methods to varying criminal behaviors or functions within the criminal justice system.





