

CRIMINAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP

Bachelor of Science

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Program Vision

To empower and enrich current and future leaders who are in the field of criminal justice.

Program Mission Statement

To develop dynamic and ethical leaders in the field of criminal justice who possess the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to navigate the complex challenges of this ever-evolving field. Through comprehensive education, practical experiences, and a dedication to community service, we are committed to facilitating graduates who are equipped to successfully lead with integrity, compassion, and a solid commitment to social justice in the pursuit of a safer and more just society.

Program Description

The Criminal Justice Leadership Bachelor of Science program offers a unique educational perspective and experience that seeks to empower and enrich current and future leaders in the criminal justice field. Through a comprehensive curriculum, students will gain a strong understanding of the criminal justice system and its role in society's formal leadership perspective. With a focus on developing critical thinking skills, effective communication, and problem-solving methodologies, students will be prepared to engage the challenges and complexities in the field of criminal justice. The program also offers opportunities for firsthand learning, networking with other professionals, and engaging in real-world scenarios. Upon completion of the program, graduates will have gained the necessary knowledge and skills to not only effectively lead but to make a positive impact in their communities as ethical criminal justice leaders.

Program Learning Outcomes

CJLD graduates will be well-equipped to make a positive impact within the criminal justice field and address the ongoing challenges and issues within the system.

1. Comprehensive understanding of leadership dynamics including critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration with agencies and other professionals.
2. Effective communication, team management, and conflict resolution skills.
3. Cultural competence with sensitivity, awareness of diversity, and global perspectives
4. Commitment to continuous learning, ethical principles, and social responsibility.
5. Mental resilience, stress management, and a commitment to lifelong service with a positive societal impact.

Program Values

B – Beyond expectations, ethical decision-making

U – Unrivaled effective communication skills

I – Innovative critical thinking and problem-solving abilities

L – Leadership and management skills

D – Diverse perspectives and technology in criminal justice

I – Impactful victim advocacy and support

N – Navigate complex crisis situations

G – Geared towards promoting human rights

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L – Logical conflict resolution and mediation techniques

E – Engaging community and public relations skills

A – Accurate risk assessment and crisis management

D – Dynamic research and writing skills

E – Ethical Leadership

R – Resourceful budgeting, planning, and risk management

S – Strategic policy development and analysis

What You Will Study

The Criminal Justice Leadership program is a 120-hour degree completion program targeted to working adults with two years of work experience, who have at least 40 hours of transfer, prior learning, or equivalent credit.

The CJLD program requires completion of 120 credit hours which includes the 48 Core Leadership credits, 45 hours of Electives, and 27 hours of Foundation Courses.

The Criminal Justice Leadership degree requires completion of the following courses:

CORE REQUIREMENTS - 48 CREDIT HOURS		
FIRST SEMESTER		
CJLD 150	Leadership in Criminal Justice Organizations	3 credits
CJLD 300	Principles of Criminal Justice Leadership	3 credits
CJLD 302	Principles of Criminal Justice Management	3 credits
CJLR 304	Planning and Organizational Decision Making	3 credits
SECOND SEMESTER		
CJLR 306	Leadership Health, Wellness and Morale	3 credits
CJLD 308	Criminal Justice Leaders: Ethics and Moral Values	3 credits
CJLD 310	Leadership Skills for Escalation Prevention & Management	3 credits
CJLD 400	Resilient Leadership in Crisis Situations	3 credits
THIRD SEMESTER		
CJLD 402	Human Resource Development for Leaders	3 credits
CJLR 404	Cross Cultural Leadership and Diversity	3 credits
CJLD 406	Criminal Justice in Media	3 credits
CJLD 408	Leadership and Innovation: Emerging Criminal Justice Perspectives	3 credits
FOURTH SEMESTER		
CJLD 410	Managing Civil Unrest	3 credits
CJLD 412	Performance Evaluation & Assessment	3 credits
CJLD 416	COMPSTAT: Data and Accountability	3 credits
CJLD 425 *	Capstone: Global Perspectives in Criminal Justice Leadership	3 credits

*Students must earn an overall grade of “C” or higher in CJLD-425 to receive credit for the CJLD senior capstone course.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements to the program include:

- Admission to the University of Charleston:** Students must first be admitted to the university to be eligible for any programs or honors.
- Transfer of College Credits:** Students must transfer at least 40 semester hours of college credit to the University of Charleston. They can transfer in up to 90 credit hours.
- Work Experience:** Students must have at least two years of work experience.
- Minimum Completion Requirement:** All students must complete at least 30 credit hours with the University of Charleston, regardless of transferred credits.
- Graduation with Honors:** To graduate with honors, students must meet the following criteria:
 - Complete at least 50% of their coursework with the University of Charleston, which equates to at least 60 credit hours.
 - Meet necessary GPA requirements.
- Academic Distinction:** The title of Academic Distinction is awarded to transfer students with a 3.9 GPA or above who do not meet the 50% coursework requirement for honors.

These criteria provide a structured pathway for students to qualify for various programs and honors at the University of Charleston.

CJLD Minor

The Minor in Criminal Justice Leadership requires the student to complete 18 credits in CJLD. The minor in CJLD is delivered online:

Criminal Justice Leadership Minor (18 credits)		
CJLD 300	Principles of Criminal Justice Leadership	3 credits
CJLD 308	Criminal Justice Leaders: Ethics and Moral Values	3 credits
CJLD 310	Developing Leadership Skills for Escalation Prevention and Management	3 credits
CJLD 408	Leadership and Innovation: Emerging Criminal Justice Perspectives	3 credits
CJLD 416	COMPSTAT: Data and Accountability	3 credits
CJLD 425	Capstone: Global Perspectives in Criminal Justice Leadership	3 credits