



CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LEGAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

www.washburn.edu/cj

Associate of Arts Degrees

CRIMINAL JUSTICE – 60 CREDIT HOURS

This degree is designed to be used as a step toward completion of the BCJ. Increasingly, correctional and law enforcement agencies are recognizing the Associate of Arts degree as desirable or required preparation for entrance to work in these fields. This degree includes courses in social sciences as well as specific offerings relating to correctional and law enforcement functions.

LEGAL STUDIES – 60 CREDIT HOURS

This program is geared towards aspiring paralegals. Paralegals are not permitted to practice law, but perform legal work under the supervision of a licensed attorney. Courses include topics on introduction to law, legal research, legal writing, litigation, and other specialty topics such as corporate law, family law, and personal injury law.

Certificate Programs

LEGAL STUDIES CERTIFICATE

Requirements for Completion of the Legal Studies Certificate (36 credit hours). The Certificate of Completion in the Legal Studies Program is available to those students who have already completed an associate, bachelor or graduate-level degree. There are 24 credit hours required and 12 credit hours of electives – Grade of “C” or better.

**All certificate courses may be applied to the Legal Studies Associate of Arts degree.*

Bachelor Degrees

BACHELOR OF LEGAL STUDIES (BLS)

This program is geared towards aspiring paralegals and pre-law students. Courses include topics on introduction to law, legal research, legal writing, litigation, interviewing and investigation, and other specialty topics. Students also complete an internship and a capstone course.

For more information contact: Amy Memmer at (785) 670-1478 or email at: amy.memmer@washburn.edu

BACHELOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BCJ)

Students completing a bachelor degree may choose one of four emphases—corrections, law enforcement, security administration, or forensic investigation. **Students pursuing a BCJ are required to complete an internship. Additionally, students wishing to complete a BCJ degree must choose a minor to complete as well.*

BCJ: Corrections

This major is designed to provide an academic and experiential learning environment that will prepare students for employment in federal, state, and local corrections agencies. Consequently, the curriculum addresses the nature of both institutional and community-based corrections. The degree includes an internship to promote the development of knowledge and skills of correctional practice. Graduates typically work in prisons/jails, probation, or parole.

BCJ: Forensic Investigation

This major is designed to provide students a balanced interdisciplinary education, emphasizing the practical issues and theoretical concepts employed by forensic professionals. Students will receive specialized training in crime scene investigations at the KBI Crime Laboratory. This major's global approach to understanding forensics role in Law Enforcement will prepare students for careers in certain positions at criminalistics laboratories and local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. This program is also designed for professionals already employed in the criminal justice field as well as pre-service students interested in the career.

BCJ: Law Enforcement

This major is designed to provide a balanced introduction to all aspects of the criminal justice process with particular emphasis on the theoretical and practical aspects of law enforcement. The program is interdisciplinary in content, utilizing courses in the social sciences as well as those more directly related to functions and programs in the Criminal Justice system. Graduates typically work for police departments, sheriff's offices, or federal/state agencies like the FBI, DEA, US Marshals, Secret Service, Border Patrol, and KBI.

BCJ: Security Administration

This major is interdisciplinary, emphasizing practical issues and theoretical concepts related to security, safety, fire, crime prevention, investigations, law enforcement and the social sciences. This program is designed to prepare students for professional and managerial employment in security, investigations, loss prevention, and risk management. Graduates typically work for corporations, government agencies and non-profit organizations as security guards, directors of security, or private investigators.

Criminal Justice FAST TRACK PLAN (FTP)

This program allows Washburn undergraduates the opportunity to complete their Bachelor of Criminal Justice (BCJ) and Master of Criminal Justice (MCJ) in five years. Those who participate will be eligible to take up to 12 hours of MCJ classes that will count toward the requirements of the BCJ and MCJ programs. Students may enroll in the program even if they do not plan to take all 12 hours. This, will, however, affect the ability to graduate in five years. The FTP is primarily designed for incoming freshmen, as the program requires careful consideration of courses taken via consultation with the MCJ graduate coordinator. Note, however, interested students will not officially apply for the program until they have completed 90 hours of coursework.

*For more information specific to this program, contact: Dr. Erin Grant at (785) 670-2216 or erin.grant@washburn.edu

For general questions on Criminal Justice or Legal Studies programs, please contact the department at (785) 670-1411 or email: criminal-justice-ls@washburn.edu

Graduate Degree

MASTERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Master of Criminal Justice (MCJ) degree is designed to meet the needs of criminal justice professionals and pre-professionals who desire to enhance their knowledge, skills, and talents in the field of criminal justice. The degree program is dedicated to informing professional practices, advancing scholarship, and promoting responsible leadership through a wide range of law enforcement, corrections, and security administration courses. As such, the program emphasizes both administrative and academic skills necessary to manage a program, design a policy, or conduct a research project in the criminal justice arena.

Juris Doctor/Master of Criminal Justice - Dual Degree Program

The J.D./M.C.J. concurrent degree program offers qualified students the opportunity to earn both a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the Washburn School of Law and a Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.) degree from the School of Applied Studies, both of which may be completed in as little as three years. Interested law students may obtain a Master's of Criminal Justice degree by taking 24 credit hours of MCJ courses and transferring 12 hours of law school credit. Reciprocally, the School of Law will accept 6 hours of MCJ course work toward the J.D. graduate degree. The accumulative 18 hours of academic credit reduces the total number of credit hours for students seeking the dual degree from 126 to 108 credit hours.

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Minors Offered

LEGAL STUDIES

The Legal Studies Program offers a minor in Legal Studies. The minor includes a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of course work in legal studies, consisting of six hours of lower division and nine hours of upper division course work.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Non-criminal justice majors may minor in criminal justice. A criminal justice minor must include a minimum of 15 credit hours in criminal justice, of which at least 6 credit hours must be at the 300 level or above. *Specific course descriptions and degree requirements can be found in the University Catalog.

MILITARY AND HOMELAND SECURITY STUDIES

To complete this minor a student is required to complete 15 hours of course work of which not less than 6 must be upper division.