

## Official Program Outline



**HERZING**  
— UNIVERSITY —

### Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

#### Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice program prepares students for dynamic careers in law enforcement, corrections, legal systems, victim services, social justice, and public safety. This degree emphasizes both foundational knowledge and emerging psychologies and technologies shaping the criminal justice and criminology fields today. Students will explore core areas such as criminology, criminal law, ethics, investigative procedures, victimology, and social justice. From predictive policing and crime pattern analysis to digital forensics and automated case management, students will explore how AI tools are increasingly used to enhance decision-making, improve efficiency, and strengthen criminology strategies to reduce criminal activity and assist victims of crime. Graduates will evaluate the ethical implications and practical applications of the rapidly evolving criminal justice landscape and the criminology tools that are used to assist professionals in the field.

(Some states, including but not limited to Minnesota, require additional certification, licensing, and/or training academy completion to be eligible for employment in a law enforcement capacity.)

#### Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student should be able to:

1. Apply foundational principles of criminal law, criminology, and ethics to analyze and address justice-related issues.
2. Integrate principles of psychology, criminology, and victimology when working with diverse populations.
3. Analyze current ethical, legal, and societal issues within modern criminal justice systems.
4. Apply leadership and ethical decision-making to guide teams, manage conflict, communicate effectively, and advance justice in diverse environments.
5. Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams to develop solutions for complex problems in the modern criminal justice system.
6. Analyze predictive policing and crime forecasting using data analytics and emerging technologies, including AI, to develop evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies.

#### Program Content

A minimum of 120.00 semester credit hours is required for graduation.

#### Required Courses

All courses, 64.00 semester credit hours, are required.

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
BH 200 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	None	3.00
CJ 105 Introduction to Criminal Justice	None	3.00
CJ 115 Criminal Law	None	3.00
CJ 150 Ethics in Criminal Justice	None	4.00
CJ 160 Law Enforcement Foundations	None	3.00
CJ 200 Introduction to Corrections	None	3.00
CJ 225 Predictive Policing and Crime Technology	CJ 150	3.00
CJ 250 Juvenile Justice	None	3.00
CJ 260 Introduction to Criminology and Victimology	None	3.00
CJ 311 Criminal Investigation	None	3.00

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
CJ 315 Criminal Justice Leadership	None	3.00
CJ 345 Innovation in Criminology	CJ 150, CJ 260	3.00
CJ 355 Predictive Policing and Behavioral Analytics	CJ 225	3.00
CJ 360 Victimology	CJ 260	3.00
CJ 365 Psychological Traits and Criminology	CJ 260	3.00
CJ 370 Restorative and Transformative Justice	None	3.00
CJ 415 Cybercriminology	CJ 260	3.00
CJ 425 The Globalization of Crime	CJ 260	3.00
CJ 435 Understanding Group and Extreme Crime	CJ 365	3.00
CJ 440 Substance Use and Criminal Behavior	CJ 365	3.00
PS 420 Introduction to Forensic Psychology	PS 101	3.00

### Open Elective Courses

A minimum of 15.00 semester credit hours is required. Eligible students can take approved dual credit graduate level courses to complete a portion of the open electives requirement.

### Dual Credit Courses

Eligible students can replace up to 12.00 semester credit hours of the core program requirements with approved dual credit graduate level coursework. A total of 12.00 graduate semester credit hours can be taken throughout the student's program.

### Required Capstone or Internship

3.00 semester credit hours are required.

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
CJ 490 Criminal Justice Capstone Project	Final Semester.	3.00
CJ 494* Internship	Final Semester.	3.00

\* Online students in some states may not be allowed to take this internship due to state restrictions.

### Required Courses in General Education

Students enrolled in this bachelor's degree must complete a minimum of 36.00 semester credit hours in general education distributed among the following disciplines. Refer to the General Education section of the catalog for specific information about courses within each discipline. Courses transferred from other accredited colleges may also be used to meet these requirements.

- EN 104 English Composition I, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- EN 111 Information Literacy, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- EN 116 Speech, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- EN 304 English Composition II, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- HU 140 Cultural Diversity, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- HU 240 Introduction to Humanities, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- HU 340 Humanities and Contemporary Popular Culture, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- MA 109 College Algebra, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- MA 320 Statistics, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- SC 270 Environmental Literacy, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00
- PS 101 Psychology, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00

- SS 350 Social Issues and Technology, Semester Credit Hours: 3.00

**Personal and Professional Development Courses**

All courses, 2.00 semester credit hours, are required.

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
PD 121 Professional Development I	None	1.00
PD 202 Professional Development II	None	1.00

Distribution of Contact Hours by Course					
Course	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Internship Hours	Total Contact Hours	Credits
BH 200	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 105	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 115	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 150	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	4.00
CJ 160	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 200	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 225	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 250	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 260	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 311	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 315	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 345	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 355	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 360	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 365	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 370e	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 415	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 425	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 435	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 440	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
CJ 490 (or CJ 494*)	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
PS 420	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
PD 121	15.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	1.00
PD 202	15.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	1.00
Electives	225.00	0.00	0.00	225.00	15.00
Gen Ed - Communications	180.00	0.00	0.00	180.00	12.00
Gen Ed – Humanities	135.00	0.00	0.00	135.00	9.00
Gen Ed – Mathematics	90.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	6.00
Gen Ed - Science	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	3.00
Gen Ed – Social and Behavioral Sciences	90.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	6.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1800.00</b>	<b>120.00</b>
*Totals with Internship CJ 494 Internship: 0/0/135/135	1755.00	0.00	135.00	1890.00	120.00

**New Courses**

<b>CJ 150 Ethics in Criminal Justice</b>	<p>This course explores how ethical principles shape decision-making across policing, courts, societal issues, and corrections. Students will apply major ethical frameworks and critical reasoning skills to analyze real-world moral dilemmas, professional standards, and organizational norms within the field. The course examines the factors that influence ethical behavior, including culture, power, and systemic pressures, as well as the ethical challenges posed by emerging technologies, AI, and data use.</p>
<b>CJ 160 Law Enforcement Foundations</b>	<p>This course provides an overview of the modern law enforcement profession, exploring its structure, purpose, and historical development. Students will learn core patrol strategies, evidence-handling procedures, and fundamental case preparation techniques. Emphasis is placed on community engagement, ethical decision-making, and legal standards surrounding use of force. The course also addresses officer wellness by examining practical strategies for self-care and burnout prevention.</p>
<b>CJ 225 Predictive Policing and Crime Technology</b>	<p>This course introduces students to the foundational concepts, tools, and models used to forecast criminal activity and inform public safety strategies. The course examines major predictive models, their practical applications, and their limitations, while analyzing the ethical challenges posed by algorithmic bias, surveillance, and data-driven decision-making. Students will apply current technologies to real-world scenarios and evaluate their use within legal, regulatory, and constitutional boundaries. The course also investigates research methodologies, data sources, and emerging innovations to prepare students for the future of technology-driven policing.</p>
<b>CJ 260 Introduction to Criminology and Victimology</b>	<p>This course examines the causes of criminal behavior and victimization through classical and contemporary theories. Students will explore risk factors across diverse populations, motivations behind crime, and the psychological and social processes influencing offending. The course also addresses stages of victimization, justice system interactions, and strategies for recovery and rehabilitation. Emphasis is placed on applying criminological and victimological theories to real-world criminal justice scenarios.</p>
<b>CJ 315 Criminal Justice Leadership</b>	<p>This course explores the principles of leadership, management, and supervision within criminal justice organizations. Students will analyze major leadership theories and styles, apply management strategies for supervising teams, and utilize critical thinking to make ethical decisions in diverse scenarios. Emphasis is placed on professional written and verbal communication, understanding group dynamics to enhance team performance, and examining laws and policies that influence leadership roles in criminal justice settings.</p>
<b>CJ 345 Innovation in Criminology</b>	<p>This course explores emerging technologies and practices transforming criminal justice. Topics include artificial intelligence, data analytics, predictive policing, digital forensics, and other innovations shaping crime prevention, investigation, and corrections. Students will examine ethical considerations, policy implications, and practical applications of technology-driven solutions in modern criminology.</p>
<b>CJ 355 Predictive Policing and Behavioral Analytics</b>	<p>This course examines the use of data-informed strategies to forecast crime and understand offender behavior. Students will explore predictive policing models, crime pattern analysis, and behavioral analytics, applying both quantitative and qualitative data to real-world scenarios. Topics include hot spot analysis, risk terrain modeling, ethical and privacy considerations, and the impact of bias on community trust, as well as emerging tools. Emphasis is placed on integrating criminological theories with advanced analytical tools to improve crime prevention and resource allocation.</p>
<b>CJ 365 Psychological Traits and Criminology</b>	<p>This course explores how biological dispositions, personality traits, and individual differences interact with environmental and social systems to shape pathways into offending or recovery. Students will analyze dispositional and situational explanations for crime while examining how social context, community factors, and victim-offender dynamics influence behavior and justice outcomes. The course also compares early intervention and rehabilitation strategies, emphasizing evidence-based approaches that support prevention and victim recovery. By integrating psychological, social, and systemic perspectives, students will develop informed proposals for policy improvement and public safety reform.</p>
<b>CJ 370 Restorative and Transformative Justice</b>	<p>This course explores the principles, values, and practices of restorative and transformative justice as alternatives to traditional justice models. Students will examine restorative methods, community-based approaches, and the psychological processes that support healing, accountability, and reconciliation. The course also evaluates ethical considerations and the effectiveness of these models in advancing equity and justice reform.</p>

<b>CJ 415 Cybercriminology</b>	This course explores major types of cybercrime, their global impact, and the social and psychological factors that drive cyber offending. Students will learn basic digital forensic and cryptographic techniques used to investigate cyber incidents and evaluate effective security and prevention measures. The course also examines international legal frameworks and how emerging technologies continue to shape the evolution of cybercrime.
<b>CJ 425 The Globalization of Crime</b>	This course explores how globalization shapes the rise and spread of transnational crime, from organized criminal networks to terrorism and political violence. Students examine global trafficking, smuggling, and exploitation, while comparing justice systems across nations. Emphasis is placed on international law and cooperative strategies used to combat global threats.
<b>CJ 435 Understanding Group and Extreme Crime</b>	This course provides an in-depth examination of group violence and extremist organizations, both domestic and international. Students will explore the major theories behind group formation, structure, behavior, and pathways to radicalization and recruitment. Emphasis is placed on understanding how ideology, propaganda, and social media influence extremist actions and collective violence. Through case studies and evidence-based frameworks, students will evaluate prevention, intervention, and disengagement strategies and propose solutions that balance public safety, civil liberties, and community trust.
<b>CJ 440 Substance Use and Criminal Behavior</b>	This advanced course examines the complex relationship between substance use and criminal activity through theoretical and practical perspectives. Students will analyze the drug-crime nexus, co-occurring mental health conditions, and emerging drug trends to inform prevention and treatment strategies. The course emphasizes evidence-based approaches to rehabilitation, policy reform, and ethical considerations, preparing students to propose humane and effective responses to drug-related crime.

#### Updated Course Descriptions

<b>CJ 105 Introduction to Criminal Justice</b>	This foundational course introduces students to the American criminal justice system and the interconnected roles of law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. Students explore the justice process, and how agencies balance public safety, individual rights, and ethical responsibilities. By the end of the course, students gain a clear understanding of how the justice system operates, the emerging technologies and societal and psychological factors that shape crime and responses to it.
<b>CJ 115 Criminal Law</b>	This course introduces the foundations of criminal law, including its constitutional principles and the structure of criminal statutes. Students will learn to classify offenses, apply due process protections, and analyze legal defenses using statutes and case law. The course also covers key stages of criminal procedure and examines ethical and constitutional issues in sentencing and post-conviction practices.
<b>CJ 200 Introduction to Corrections</b>	This course explores the foundations and practices of the correctional system within criminal justice. Students will examine correctional philosophies, sentencing options, and offender classification, as well as operations and programs in correctional facilities. The course also covers probation, parole, community-based supervision, rehabilitation, reintegration strategies, and key policy issues shaping modern corrections.
<b>CJ 250 Juvenile Justice</b>	This course explores the juvenile justice system, focusing on the unique developmental, social, and legal factors that shape youth behavior and system responses. Students examine major theories that explain juvenile delinquency, compare the juvenile and adult justice processes, and analyze how social, environmental, and systemic influences contribute to youth vulnerability and exploitation. By the end of the course, students gain a multifaceted understanding of juvenile justice and vulnerabilities.
<b>CJ 311 Criminal Investigation</b>	This course introduces the principles and practices of criminal investigation, emphasizing crime scene management and evidence collection. Students will learn the Seven S's of crime scene investigation, differentiate types of evidence and collection methods, and examine interview and interrogation techniques. The course also explores due process protections, the distinctions between major and routine investigations, and the role of trauma-informed care when working with victims, survivors, and witnesses.

<p><b>CJ 360 Victimology</b></p>	<p>This advanced course examines theories of victimization and resilience, the psychological and trauma-related impacts of crime, and systemic responses to victims. Students will explore the influence of digital technologies on victim experiences, apply intersectional frameworks for culturally competent services, and evaluate prevention strategies, policy initiatives, and restorative approaches that promote justice and recovery.</p>
<p><b>CJ 490 Criminal Justice Capstone Project</b></p>	<p>This course serves as the culminating experience integrating the knowledge, theories, and skills acquired throughout the program into a comprehensive project or research paper that demonstrates mastery of the discipline. Students will critically analyze contemporary issues in criminal justice and criminology, apply evidence-based practices, and synthesize interdisciplinary perspectives to address real-world challenges.</p>
<p><b>CJ 494 Internship</b></p>	<p>This course provides students with supervised, practical experience in a criminal justice or criminology setting. Through hands-on engagement with professionals, students apply theoretical knowledge to real-world practices, develop professional skills, and gain insight into organizational operations and ethical responsibilities. The internship emphasizes reflective learning, career readiness, and the integration of academic concepts with field-based problem-solving.</p>