

Correctional Studies, Certificate

PPCRTSCERT

Do you have a passion for correctional reform? When you gain an in-depth education in the theories, practices and policies related to institutional and community corrections, you can use that knowledge to advance your career.

Description

The certificate program in correctional studies educates students about a variety of components that make up the corrections system.

It is designed to provide students with understanding and knowledge of the histories, philosophies and contemporary practices of both institutional and community corrections. The program emphasizes evidence-based best practices concerning the rehabilitation of correctional clients to reduce recidivism.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Watts College of Public Service & Community Solut](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Certificate Map](#)

[Certificate Map \(Archives\)](#)

Required Courses -- 15 credit hours

[CRJ 100: Introduction to Criminal Justice \(SOBE OR SB\)](#) (3)

[CRJ 240: Introduction to Corrections](#) (3)

[CRJ 443: Community Corrections](#) (3)

[CRJ 444: Institutional Corrections](#) (3)

[CRJ 445: Tools for Engaging Correctional Populations](#) (3)

Electives (choose one) -- 3 credit hours

CRJ 317: Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program (3)

CRJ 394: Special Topics (3)

Notes: Only approved corrections-related topics

CRJ 406: Sex Crimes (3)

CRJ 411: Legal Issues in Corrections (3)

CRJ 434: Drugs of Abuse (3)

CRJ 435: Crime and Forensic Mental Health (SOBE OR SB) (3)

CRJ 484: Internship (3)

CRJ 494: Special Topics (3)

Notes: Only approved corrections-related topics

Special Topics courses (CRJ 394 and CRJ 494) will be designated and approved by departments and schools. Students will need to work with an advisor in order to select appropriate special topics courses that are approved for credit in the correctional studies certificate program.

At least 15 credit hours must be taken in residence at ASU.

Lower-division courses such as CRJ 100 (Introduction to Criminal Justice) and CRJ 240 (Introduction to Corrections) may be used to satisfy the requirements of any major or a minor at ASU, as well as requirements for the certificate program in correctional studies. No upper-division courses in criminology and criminal justice, however, may be used to satisfy the requirements of the certificate program in correctional studies and either the major or minor in criminology and criminal justice. For example, students majoring or minoring in criminology and criminal justice may not use CRJ 394, CRJ 406, CRJ 411, CRJ 434, CRJ 435, CRJ 443, CRJ 444, CRJ 445, CRJ 484, or CRJ 494 to satisfy the requirements of the certificate in correctional studies and either the major or minor in criminology and criminal justice.

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

Enrollment requirements

CRJ 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice is a requirement for the bachelor's degree program and the minor in criminology and criminal justice, and its completion satisfies the requirements of the major or minor as well as the requirement for the certificate program in correctional studies.

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Analyze the historical and contemporary trends and operations of community and institutional corrections.
- Apply knowledge of effective strategies for engaging and implementing rehabilitative programming to a variety of correctional populations.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the correctional studies certificate program find a strong job market in the public and private sectors. Employment opportunities exist in supervisory and management positions in criminal justice agencies, including the National Institute of Corrections, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and local and state-level corrections departments.

Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

Contact information

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