

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Criminal Justice

Lewis University provides adult students an opportunity to complete a college degree with a learner-centered, accelerated delivery format compatible with their needs and lifestyles. Most three-semester credit hour courses are completed in eight-week sessions, and meet one night per week.

The undergraduate degree in Criminal/Social Justice is a program for adult learners interested in law enforcement, social services, and the judicial system. The program is designed to allow study and discussion of those relevant issues of most current concern affecting components of the criminal justice system. Such issues as hiring practices, community relations, court decisions, ethics and professionalism, and the impact of the mass media may be explored in relationship to the administration of justice in America. Students will also become familiar with research techniques necessary to analyze criminal justice data for systematic analysis of the criminal justice system, offender behavior, crime trends, and program effectiveness. The curriculum also examines the workings of the courts and prisons in providing justice and satisfying the needs of society. This degree will provide officers with an opportunity for advancement and promotion. Sworn officers working in the field may receive a maximum of nine credit hours toward their degree.

Program Entrance Requirements

To be admitted, adult students should have earned a minimum of 30 semester hours of transferable credit, which includes College Writing 1 or equivalent, at a regionally-accredited, post-secondary institution; have earned a minimum of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) cumulative transfer grade point average based upon all transferable courses; demonstrate evidence of significant work experience or military training; and write a personal statement outlining a plan for achieving success in an adult accelerated program at Lewis University. Credits earned through Prior Learning Assessment cannot be used for satisfying the transfer credit hour requirement for admission into an accelerated degree program.

Degree Requirements

- Successful completion of a minimum of 128 semester credit hours.
- Completion of final 32 semester graded credit hours at Lewis University including four upper division foundation courses and/or major courses (12 semester credit hours).
- Achievement of an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 ("C") for all courses taken at Lewis University and a 2.20 average for the foundation and major area courses.

Fast Track Option:

With permission of the Justice Law and Public Safety Studies Department Chair, a Fast Track option can be pursued in which 1 to 3 graduate courses may be applied to the undergraduate curriculum that also will apply to the Masters in Criminal/Social Justice. Students can apply for admission to the Fast Track when they complete 90 credit hours and have achieved an overall GPA 3.0. Details about how to apply are available from your academic advisor.

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CURRICULUM

General Education (36 credit hours)

- College Writing I (3)

- College Writing II (3)

- Introduction to Human Communications (3)

- Mathematics (satisfied by Statistics for the Social Sciences) (3)

- Natural Science (3)

- Natural Science (3)

- Social Science (3)

- Social Science (3)

- Social Science (3)

- Fine Arts/Humanities(3)

- Fine Arts/Humanities (3)

- Fine Arts/Humanities (3)

Mission-Based Courses (9 credit hours)

- Christian Action and Values* (3)
OR Ethics (3)

- Cultural Diversity and Intergroup Relations* (3)

- Theology* (3)

Two of the above Mission-based courses must be taken at Lewis

Degree Requirements I. Core Courses (39)

- Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)

- Court Systems and Probation (3)

- Criminology (3)

- Introduction to Corrections (3)

- Juvenile Justice System (3)

- Law Enforcement (3)

- Domestic Violence (3)

- Professionalism and Ethics (3)

- Elements of Criminal Law (3)

- Social Policy and Social Justice (3)

- Criminal Procedure/Rules of Evidence (3)

- Research Methods (3)

- Rights and Civil Liability (3)

II. The Advanced Writing requirement is fulfilled by successful completion of the following courses:

- Professionalism and Ethics (3)

- Research Methods (3)

- Rights and Civil Liability (3)

General Electives (44 credit hours)

Any college-level course taken at Lewis University or meeting transfer requirements.

Minors are also available in:

- Accountancy
- Computer Information Systems
- Information Security and Risk Management
- Psychology
- Theology

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

I. Core Courses

Introduction to Criminal Justice (3):

This course provides a study of the function and jurisdiction of various law enforcement agencies, as well as their historical development, significant court decisions and relationships with other agencies. Citizen groups and political administrations, technologies, personnel stratification and affirmative action are also considered.

Court Systems and Probation (3):

This course examines the historical and contemporary impact of the judicial process as the forefathers envisioned. The United States court system and its relationship to the criminal justice system are explored, along with the current system of probation in the United States. The organization and jurisdictions of the federal and state court systems are studied. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Criminology (3): This course provides historical and current analyses and a critique of foremost theories and “schools” of crime. The approach is multidimensional - psychological, sociological, genetic, geographic and political. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Introduction to Corrections (3):

Students consider adult corrections and parole with a concentration on historical trends, administration, reception/diagnosis, incarceration, furlough work-release, parole, authority, recidivism. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Juvenile Justice System (3): The juvenile justice system is viewed from both a historical and contemporary perspective with an emphasis on delinquency theories and prevention. Major topics include delinquency and community, arrest, pre-trial detention, court procedures and personnel, probation, training schools and camps, community-based networks, parole, release and recidivism. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Law Enforcement (3): A study of the history and philosophy of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. with emphasis on the interdependence of law enforcement and other components of the criminal justice system. The course

also examines the roles of the police in the administration of justice and the critical issues that affect law enforcement in contemporary society. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Domestic Violence (3): This class takes a broad look at domestic problems, including juvenile status offenders, runaways, child abuse, incest and social isolation. It also considers suicide-homicide, depression, sexual dysfunction, drug-abuse/alcoholism, rape, and institutional solutions like shelters, counseling and protective services. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Professionalism and Ethics (3): This course explores professional ethics applied to Criminal Justice. Students examine the philosophical origins of ethics and the relationship of ethics to law and the concept of justice. General ethical propositions are established and applied to specific issues in criminal justice to educate students about ethical decision making and to assist students in becoming personally responsible in their professional careers. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Elements of Criminal Law (3): This course is a basic study of laws, codes and jurisdictions relating to crime. Special attention is given to landmark court decisions, Illinois’ criminal codes, relationships of social climate to enforcement of laws, historical trends and future directions. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Court Systems and Probation.*

Social Policy and Social Justice (3): This course will introduce, examine, and provide students the skills with which to analyze social justice policies. This course will emphasize a conceptual approach rather than a statistical focus to studying the creation, implementation, and evaluation of social justice policies. Although this will focus more on the steps involved in the evaluation of social justice policies, it will also address the existence of social justice policies and their relevance to the success of the social institution known as the social justice system (acknowledging the operations of each social justice component - law enforcement, courts, and corrections). *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Criminal Procedure/Rules of Evidence (3):

This course covers the aspect of the evidence being material, competent, and admissible. The rules of evidence governing the admissibility and legality in court are explored. The rules of evidence are designed for the courts to allow or disallow the viewing of evidence which may or may not be relevant to the case at hand. Exploration of court precedence will occur. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

Research Methods (3): Students learn the mechanics of applying and interpreting fundamental statistics to Criminal Justice projects and data. They also determine which set of measures are most appropriate for a given case and the precise meaning of the results. Examples of data include arrest records, offender demographics, prison population, parole distributions and foster home locations. This course meets the advanced writing proficiency requirement. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice. Two upper-level Criminal/Social Justice courses.*

Rights and Civil Liability (3): The purposes of this course is to understand the liabilities that may attach to the police and their respective departments when officers engage in improper conduct, and to understand various lawsuits that may be filed against a police officer for misconduct. These suits include actions of officers that are intentional, as well as those that are negligent. Students learn why proper training, supervision and department rules and regulations are so important. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Criminal Justice.*

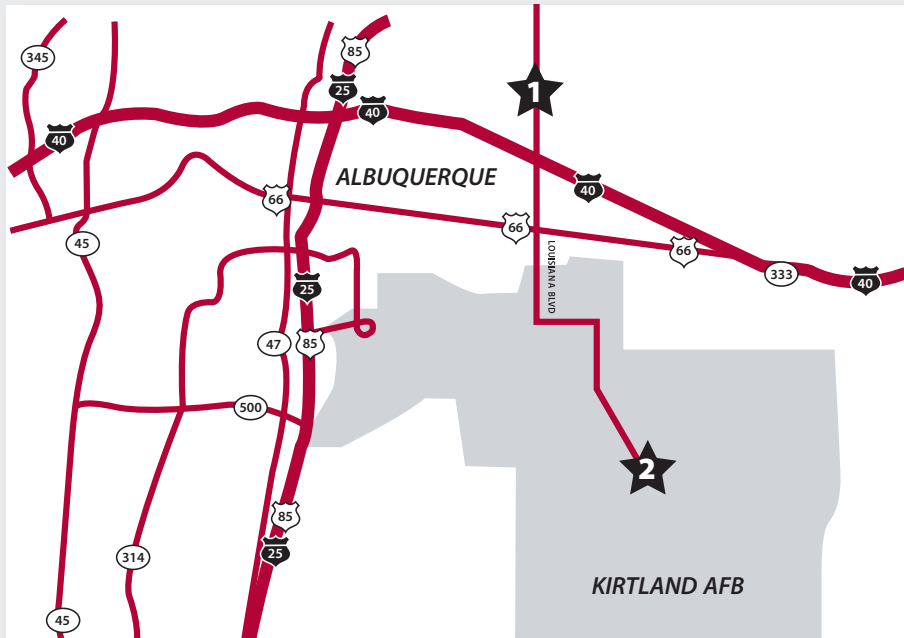
LEWIS UNIVERSITY ALBUQUERQUE

Sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers

Lewis University-Albuquerque is a private, non-profit, Catholic university where the traditions of liberal learning and preparation for professional life give the university its educational identity and mission focus.

The Lewis main campus is located in Romeoville, Ill., 30 minutes southwest of Chicago. For seven consecutive years, Lewis has been named one of the “Best Colleges” by *U.S. News & World Report* and received recognition from *The Princeton Review*.

Sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, Lewis University has a long and successful history in providing adult students an opportunity to complete a college degree with a learner-centered accelerated delivery format compatible with their needs and lifestyles. The Christian Brothers have been teaching in New Mexico since 1859 and Lewis continues that educational mission in the Albuquerque region.



1 2440 Louisiana Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-4383
(505) 25-LEWIS

2 Kirtland Education Center
1900 Wyoming Blvd. SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5604
(505) 26-LEWIS

www.lewisu.edu/albuquerque

