Crime and criminal justice are the focus of much public concern in Canada today.

There is strong demand for specialists in areas such as law enforcement, the criminal courts system, correctional services, public policy and law reform.

Carleton University offers a multidisciplinary approach to this complex field. The Bachelor of Arts (Honours) program in Criminology and Criminal Justice incorporates elements of law, psychology and sociology to provide students with a comprehensive and relevant approach to the field and the opportunity for work experience through a wide range of placements.

As a student of Criminology and Criminal Justice, you will acquire an in-depth understanding of the causes and definitions of crime, criminal behaviour, criminal law and its administration, and social and institutional responses to crime.

Carleton’s unique multidisciplinary approach not only provides the broad background needed to master this complex field, but also offers you the opportunity to specialize in one of the three disciplines—law, psychology and sociology—that are part of the program. This specialization is reflected as a concentration on your diploma.

A Carleton degree will prepare you for a diverse range of future employment opportunities in criminal justice and provides a superb basis for further professional and graduate studies.

The capital advantage
Carleton’s location in the nation’s capital provides many unique advantages to you as a student of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

The Supreme Court of Canada, the Department of Justice, Correctional Services Canada, and the National Headquarters of the RCMP are all located in Ottawa, providing unparalleled research and learning opportunities.

The Carleton advantage
Hands-on learning
A distinctive feature of our program is the opportunity to complete a field placement.

This hands-on work experience allows you to develop your professional skills, as well as integrate your theoretical knowledge, in a practical setting. You will have a range of placement possibilities to choose from, including front line work with offenders and
victims, police, Crown attorneys and lawyers, and with researchers and policy analysts in criminal justice and crime prevention.

**Expert faculty**

At Carleton, you will be taught by distinguished professors who are well recognized as national or international experts in their field.

Faculty members participating in the program from the departments of law, psychology and sociology are specialists in the area of criminology and criminal justice.

**Choosing the right program**

**Bachelor of Arts (General)**

**Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice is offered through Carleton’s Faculty of Public Affairs primarily as a four-year Honours program. The Honours program provides a strong emphasis on research methodology, establishing a solid foundation for further studies. If you choose the concentration in sociology, you are required to complete 13.5 of your 20.0 credits across the three disciplines of the program (law, psychology and sociology). For those who pursue a concentration in either law or psychology, you will be required to complete 14.0 of your 20.0 credits across the three areas of study. The remaining credits needed for your degree are considered free electives, allowing you to choose from a wide variety of courses available at the university.

A three-year General program is available for community college students whose programs are covered by an articulation agreement with the university and for students in the Honours program who later wish to apply and transfer to the three-year General degree program.

**Core courses**

All students must complete a concentration in one of the three disciplines of law, psychology and sociology. Course selection can be matched to your specific interests and career goals in the discipline you choose. The remainder of your courses can be chosen from other areas of study offered at the university.

Your first year will include required introductory courses in criminology, sociology, psychology and law.

In second year, you will be introduced to the topics of Canadian criminal law, forensic psychology,
theories of criminal and deviant behaviour and the relationship between crime and social structures.

In your third year, you will take courses that deal with more specialized or specific areas of criminology and criminal justice.

Criminology offers research methods courses in the areas not covered by the concentration requirements.

Sociology offers a choice of courses that focus on Canadian criminal justice administration and policy or on selected issues within the criminal justice system.

Psychology offers a course on theories of assessment and treatment of offenders.

Law offers a choice of courses in historical perspectives on the administration of criminal law, analysis of the criminal law process or an examination of the practices of punishment and social control in Canada.

Students in the Honours program will also have the opportunity to develop in-depth knowledge of research methods in third year.

**Field placement**

The field placement is offered at the third-year level to 80 third- and fourth-year applicants who have the highest grade point average in their first- and second-year required courses.

The placement is supplemented by a seminar course, which allows opportunities to share field placement experiences, discuss current criminal justice issues and learn from guest speakers with expertise in various areas of the criminal justice system.

**Honours research projects**

In fourth year, there is also the opportunity to complete a research project conducted under the direct supervision of a faculty member from the Institute of Criminology or the departments of Law or Sociology.
Your first-year experience

First-year Seminars

First-year BA students are strongly encouraged to include a First-year Seminar (FYSM) in their first-year course load. Our First-year Seminars will get you away from the lecture hall and give you the chance, in a small class of no more than 30, to discuss and debate topics with your classmates and your professors. You will also get early and frequent feedback on class assignments and instruction in research, writing and study skills. Please note that an FYSM does not have to be in your major discipline.

Lesley Zannella, fourth-year student in Criminology

The atmosphere in the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice is friendly, welcoming and personable, while at the same time academically rigorous. The institute provides an environment that truly promotes student engagement and encourages both personal and academic growth. The institute’s administration has provided me with exceptional guidance and advice as well as valuable knowledge. The professors in the Institute of Criminology are remarkably accessible and approachable. My field placement gave me a unique view of the professional world of the criminal justice system in Canada that has been indispensable in helping me make important decisions regarding potential career pathways. My placement also gave me the opportunity to network within the field. My very positive experience over the past four years confirms that I made the right choice by choosing the Criminology program at Carleton University.
Future opportunities

The workplace
Employment possibilities in criminal justice are found traditionally in:

- law enforcement;
- probation, parole and correctional services;
- community social services;
- research and policy analysis; and
- law reform within the government sector.

Graduate studies
Graduates of any of our Honours programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice are well qualified to go on to graduate studies in a variety of fields including criminology, sociology and legal studies.

If you think that you may wish to pursue an advanced degree, you are encouraged to investigate graduate programs early in order to ensure that your Criminology program meets the relevant graduate-level requirements.

Professional programs
Many professional programs, including law and social work, encourage well-rounded applicants from a variety of backgrounds to apply. A Carleton degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice provides a strong background for such programs and you are encouraged to pursue interests you may have in these fields after completing an undergraduate degree.

A sample first year

- 0.5 credit in *Introduction to Criminology* (CRCJ 1000)
- 0.5 credit in *Introduction to Psychology I*
- 0.5 credit in *Introduction to Psychology II*
- 1.0 credit in *Introduction to Legal Studies*
- 1.0 credit in (*Introduction to Sociology I* and *Introduction to Sociology II*) or in *Introduction to Sociological Perspectives*
- 1.0 credit in a First-year Seminar
- 0.5 credit in electives
FAQs

Why would I choose an Honours program?
Honours programs have many advantages including offering more courses in your chosen field, as well as preparing you for graduate studies, professional programs and employment.

When do I have to declare a major?
You will need to choose a major by the end of your first year. Course registration is much easier for students who have declared a major so even if you are not 100 per cent certain, it is best to choose a major upfront and change it later if you need to. Students deciding to major in Criminology at the end of their first year must also declare a concentration in law, psychology or sociology at the same time.

Where can I go for academic advice?
In addition to academic advising within the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice, our Student Academic Success Centre offers a range of services including academic advising and free study-skill development workshops. Friendly academic advisors are available by appointment year-round to assist you with your educational planning needs. carleton.ca/sasc

Admission requirements
For admission to the Criminology and Criminal Justice program, you must have the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent, including a minimum of six 4U/M courses.

Your six 4 U/M courses must include 4U English (or Anglais).

It is Carleton University policy to consider your best performance in any eligible course in the admissions assessment.

Since the number of qualified applicants may be greater than the number of available spaces, cut-off averages and required marks may vary. Please refer to our website at admissions.carleton.ca/requirements for the current admission requirements.

For more information
...about the Criminology and Criminal Justice program, please visit our website at carleton.ca/criminology or consult the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar at calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad.
Do you want more information?
Please contact us at:

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Website: carleton.ca/criminology

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Website: carleton.ca/admissions

This document is available in a variety of accessible formats upon request. A request can be made on the Carleton University website at: carleton.ca/accessibility/request.