MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

PROTECTING SOCIETY IS MORE THAN A CAREER—IT’S A CALLING
The criminal justice industry needs qualified leaders, public servants, and change agents dedicated to protecting our communities, our nation, and our world. Heightened security concerns and technological advances have created a need for high-level professionals equipped with theoretical, strategic, and practical expertise. Our master’s degree can help you gain the knowledge and credentials needed for supervisory and administrative positions, and prepare you to take on new challenges in a rapidly changing field.
WHY STUDY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL?

ONLINE FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKING ADULTS
Earn your degree 100% online, while meeting the demands of your career. You can also visit one of our regional locations to take advantage of local, onsite support and services.

FACULTY EXPERTISE
Learn from experienced professionals with a variety of backgrounds in public safety, public administration, law, and emergency services. All professors possess a doctorate degree and relevant industry credentials.

ONE-ON-ONE MENTORING
Work directly with faculty through online discussion boards and faculty office hours, and enjoy no-cost individual tutoring. In addition, academic and career advisors are dedicated to helping you balance school with your career and life responsibilities.

DISTINGUISHED. EXPERIENCED. COMMITTED.
As one of the largest providers of public safety programs in the United States, we’ve supported the career and educational advancement of many dedicated criminal justice professionals like yourself. You’ll join a wide network of students, alumni, faculty, and employers.

NATIONALLY RANKED AND RESPECTED
Purdue Global is part of the respected Purdue University system. One of the most prestigious research universities in the world, Purdue University is ranked in the top 10 best public universities in the U.S. by The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education.

“Critical Issues in Juvenile Justice and Community-Based Corrections prepared me the most because it is important for one who wants to be in this field to know about the issues plaguing the system.”

David Green
MS in Criminal Justice Graduate

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Our comprehensive curriculum is reviewed and revised continually by industry experts to ensure it reflects the most recent developments in the field. It focuses on:

- The causes of criminal behavior in various cultures around the world, with an emphasis on the causes of social deviance
- Organizational behavior; management and leadership of human resources; and design and structural processes in criminal justice organizations
- Various research methods and the skills needed to design and conduct applied research and evaluate data
- Recent legislation and case law at the state and federal levels in areas such as law enforcement, criminal procedure, civil and criminal liability, civil rights, employment law, and substance abuse

**Core Courses Include:**
- Criminological Theory
- Organizational Behavior
- Critical Issues in Criminal Justice
- Applied Research in Criminal Justice
- Academic and Professional Communications in Public Safety

**Choose From Electives in Areas Such As:**
- Corrections
- Advanced legal studies in criminal justice
- Homeland security and terrorism
- Leadership and management

**Applied Research Project**
A hands-on final project enables you to put your learning to work by analyzing real-world criminal justice issues and challenges.

**PROGRAM DETAIL**

**Credit Hours:** 55

**Program Length:** Less than 18 months of full-time study

**Course Load:** 1 course per term (2 with dean's approval)

**Terms:** 6 weeks long

**Start Dates:** Throughout the year

**Delivery:** 100% online

**ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS**
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Science in Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Master of Science in Legal Studies
- Juris Doctor—Concord Law School
- Executive Juris Doctor—Concord Law School
CAREER AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

• Employment in the protective service field is projected to grow through 2026.
• Rising concern over homeland security and increasing emphasis on education within law enforcement agencies have led to a greater demand for qualified criminal justice administrators.

CAREER PATHWAYS AND OUTCOMES

Roles

• Chief of police
• Police captain
• Shift supervisor
• Detective
• Criminal investigator/profiler
• Special agent
• Criminologist

Settings

• Federal, state, and local government agencies
• Courtrooms
• Fieldwork
• Vehicle patrol
• Police departments
• Regional loss prevention departments

TASKS THAT GRADUATES MAY PERFORM

• Formulate policies and provide overall direction of criminal justice agency activities
• Plan, direct, and coordinate operational activities with the help of subordinate managers
• Supervise training and continuing education for officers and staff
• Oversee and coordinate activities of law enforcement or corrections officers
• Monitor and evaluate the job performance of subordinates, recommending promotions and transfers
• Teach criminal justice courses in institutions of higher learning

CAREER SERVICES

Our team of Career Specialists helps connect graduates with job and networking opportunities and offers the following assistance:

• Career assessment/exploration
• Resume and cover letter review
• Interview preparation/mock interviews
• Portfolio development to showcase your skills
• Assistance in building an online presence
• Job search and networking support
• Virtual career fairs
• 24/7 online access to job openings and career development tools

Purdue Global Is Accredited by The Higher Learning Commission

This accreditation covers all academic programs, all regional locations, and all programs provided via distance education. Contact the HLC at HLCommission.org or call 800-621-7440.

Military Friendly

We offer reduced tuition rates for servicemembers, veterans, and spouses.

Contact an Admissions Advisor at 844-PURDUE-G or visit www.PurdueGlobal.edu.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit Info.PurdueGlobal.edu.

1 Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2016-2017 Total Degrees and Certificates Conferred, First Major, Legal Professions and Studies, nces.ed.gov/IPEDS. Based on total number of degrees and certificates granted by Kaplan University compared to other Title IV institutions. Note: these data were reported prior to the March 2018 purchase of Kaplan University by Purdue University and subsequent creation of Purdue University Global.


3 This testimonial was obtained by Kaplan University. Purdue University acquired Kaplan University in March 2018 and created Purdue University Global, which is following the same curriculum format and instructional delivery methods as developed and used by Kaplan University. The views and opinions expressed are those of the individual; student experiences may vary.


5 Purdue Global cannot guarantee employment or career advancement. Prior experience may be necessary for leadership positions.

6 Local, state, and federal law enforcement jobs may require additional training or education including additional state-approved higher education beyond the Purdue Global degree. This program was not designed to meet any specific state’s requirements, and Purdue Global makes no representations or warranties as to whether the degree or any individual courses meet such requirements. Refer to the University Catalog for additional information.