

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## PROTECTING SOCIETY IS MORE THAN A CAREER—IT'S A CALLING

From homeland security to the security of your local neighborhoods, schools, and businesses, public safety is a top concern in today's society. As the very nature of criminology in the 21st century evolves, our communities depend on dedicated professionals skilled in the latest techniques to serve and protect them. Purdue University Global's bachelor's in criminal justice prepares graduates to launch or advance careers in law enforcement, corrections, fraud investigation, and other critical public safety fields.<sup>1</sup>

Additional academy training and education not provided by Purdue University Global may be required for law enforcement positions.

## WHY STUDY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT PURDUE GLOBAL?

### ONLINE FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKING ADULTS

Earn your degree 100% online, on your schedule. You can also visit one of our regional locations to take advantage of local, onsite support and services.

### PERSONALIZED LEARNING OPTIONS

In addition to our traditional online program, we offer ExcelTrack™, which helps you earn your degree faster and more affordably.<sup>2</sup> With ExcelTrack™ you can work at your own pace and take as many classes as you want each term.

### TRANSFER CREDITS AND WAYS TO SAVE

Up to 75% of your degree credits can come from coursework, military training, or work experience.<sup>3</sup> Lower your costs with military tuition reductions, employer reimbursements, transfer credit, and more. Our average bachelor's graduate saves 45% on tuition with credit for prior learning.<sup>4</sup>

### FACULTY WHO ARE ACTIVE IN THE FIELD

Learn from experienced professionals with a variety of backgrounds in the Criminal Justice field. All faculty possess an advanced degree and relevant industry credentials.

### ONE-ON-ONE MENTORING

Work directly with faculty during online discussion boards and 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.

### INTRODUCTORY TRIAL PERIOD

Make sure online learning at Purdue Global is right for you. Enroll in the University and try our classes for 3 weeks before you owe any tuition. That's the Purdue Global Commitment.<sup>5</sup>

### 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*.<sup>6</sup>

**Purdue Global is one of the largest providers of public safety programs in the United States.<sup>7</sup>**

## TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR CAREER AND YOUR EDUCATION

### Prepare for a Diverse Range of Career Opportunities

The program combines professional skills training with courses designed to help you develop a solid foundation of criminal justice knowledge. In addition, you can choose from a wide pool of open electives to gain specialized knowledge in subjects such as legal studies, public administration, and information technology.

### Accelerated Master's Degree Option

Our flexible degree pathways allow you to work toward a Purdue Global master's degree in public administration, educational psychology, human services, legal studies, or psychology while you earn your bachelor's degree.<sup>8</sup>

### Choose a Concentration to Develop Specialized Skills and Knowledge

- **Crime Scene Investigation:** Learn to locate, collect, and analyze crime scene evidence.
- **Forensic Psychology:** Study psychology within the context of the criminal justice system.
- **Homeland Security:** Examine the origins of terrorism, response methods to weapons of mass destruction and other disaster incidents, crisis negotiation, and conflict resolution.
- **Juvenile Justice:** Study sentencing, risk and needs assessment, psychology, intervention/diversion/prevention programs, communication and relationship building, and case management for juvenile offenders.
- **Law Enforcement:** Examine contemporary law enforcement organizations, community policing, policing in selected foreign countries, civil liability, and public expectations.

## CURRICULUM

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:

- An overview of the U.S. criminal justice system, its agencies, and the issues and challenges facing the system
- In-depth knowledge of criminology theory, including causes of crime and discipline-specific evaluation of human behavior
- Analytical skills such as the ability to use scientific methods of inquiry to arrive at reasoned decisions
- Knowledge of criminal justice leadership practices, including the role of organizational culture, behavioral theory, planning, and community relations
- An understanding of how new technology is used in criminal investigation, criminal enterprise, and the operations of criminal justice agencies

### CORE COURSEWORK TOPICS INCLUDE:

- **Criminology**
- **Crime prevention and investigation**
- **Forensic psychology**
- **Criminal justice technologies**
- **Ethics, criminal law, and criminal procedures**
- **Supervisory and management practices in criminal justice organizations**
- **Research methods in criminal justice**

### CAPSTONE COURSE

Demonstrate your ability to apply the critical thinking skills and concepts you study online to real-world criminal justice scenarios.

## PROGRAM DETAIL

**Credit Hours:** 180

**Completion Time:** 2–4 years (With transfer credit and other prior experience, the average completion time for Purdue Global bachelor's degree graduates in 2019–2020 was 2 years.)<sup>9</sup>

**Course Load:** 2–3 courses per term

**Terms:** 10 weeks long

**Start Dates:** Throughout the year

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Management
- Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice
- Master of Science in Homeland Security and Emergency Management



## CAREER AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

### INDUSTRY OUTLOOK<sup>10</sup>

- Employment in the protective service field is projected to grow from 2019 through 2029, creating about 95,200 new jobs.
- New opportunities for private detectives and investigators are expected to result from heightened security concerns and the increased need to protect confidential information and property.
- Continued demand for public safety is likely to contribute to the demand for police services.
- As the field becomes more competitive, employers may increasingly look for educated, qualified individuals.

## CAREER PATHWAYS AND OUTCOMES<sup>1</sup>

### Roles

- **Police and sheriff's patrol officer** (additional academy training usually required)—Pursue and apprehend individuals who break the law, and issue citations and warnings or make arrests; work to keep the peace and protect the public.
- **First-line supervisor of police officers and detectives** (additional academy training usually required)—Supervise and coordinate activities of members of a police force.
- **Transit and railroad police officer**—Maintain order; protect and police railroad and transit property, employees, or passengers.
- **First-line supervisor of correctional officers**—Supervise and coordinate activities of correctional officers and jailers.
- **Probation officer**—Gather information about offenders' backgrounds by talking to offenders, their families and friends, and other people who have relevant information.

### Settings/Industries

- Cybercrime
- Counterterrorism
- Crime scene investigation
- Detention
- Fraud investigation
- Homeland security
- Juvenile justice and detention
- Law enforcement
- Parole and probation
- Prisons
- Private investigations
- Public safety

## CENTER FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT

Our Career Specialists connect you with job and networking opportunities and offer 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

The HLC (HLCommission.org) is an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

### Military Friendly

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

**Contact an Admissions Advisor at 844-PURDUE-G or visit [PurdueGlobal.edu](https://PurdueGlobal.edu).**

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit [Info.PurdueGlobal.edu](https://Info.PurdueGlobal.edu).

- <sup>1</sup> Purdue Global's programs are designed to prepare graduates to pursue the stated positions, which have varying responsibilities. However, the University cannot guarantee employment or career advancement. 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. Graduates of Purdue Global criminal justice programs are not eligible to attend police academies in Minnesota.
- <sup>2</sup> ExcelTrack™ is designed to advance your progress based on existing knowledge; however, degree pace and time and cost savings will vary by individual. Students must enroll in a minimum number of credits per term to remain eligible for financial aid. Refer to the Financial Information section of the University Catalog for additional information.
- <sup>3</sup> Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See University Catalog for the Prior Learning Assessment policy.
- <sup>4</sup> Purdue Global online bachelor's degree students who graduated in 2019–2020 and applied eligible prior learning (transfer, experiential, or credit by exam) credits saved an average of \$30,000 toward the total degree. Campus tuition and prior learning savings vary by location. Savings based on overall cost of completion without prior learning credit. Calculation based on total prior learning credit times standard cost per credit in student's program of study. Individual savings will vary. Calculation includes campus and military students. Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See University Catalog for the Prior Learning Assessment policy. Source: Office of Reporting and Analysis, October 2020. 2019–2020 academic year.
- <sup>5</sup> No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period (3 weeks for new qualifying undergraduate students), which begins day one of the first term. Students who choose to continue their studies at Purdue Global will need to meet specific requirements. Graduate programs not included. Additional terms may apply to international and non-U.S. citizen students. For further information, see the University Catalog.
- <sup>6</sup> Source: [www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/best-public-universities-united-states](https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/best-public-universities-united-states). Rankings apply to Purdue University West Lafayette and not to Purdue Global.
- <sup>7</sup> Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2018–2019 Total Degrees and Certificates Conferred, First Major, Criminology; Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Related Protective Services, [nces.ed.gov/ipeds](https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds). Based on total number of degrees and certificates granted by Purdue Global compared to other Title IV institutions.
- <sup>8</sup> The University cannot guarantee that students will be granted admission to any future programs. Speak to an Advisor about admissions requirements and transfer credit opportunities and see the University Catalog for the Prior Learning Assessment policy.
- <sup>9</sup> The average completion time for Purdue Global online bachelor's degree students who graduated in the 2019–2020 academic year was 2.1 years. Source: Purdue Global Office of Reporting and Analysis, July 2020.
- <sup>10</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Protective Service Occupations, Private Detectives and Investigators, Police and Detectives. National long-term projections may not reflect local and/or short-term economic or job conditions, and do not guarantee actual job growth.
- <sup>11</sup> 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.