

Criminal Justice Department Goals and Objectives:

The goals of the criminal justice department are several. The primary goal of the department is to provide a comprehensive, current, and intellectually challenging education in the discipline of criminal justice to our students. This is an education that blends professional and academic course work with the social sciences and liberal arts. Through learning and the dissemination of knowledge, the broadly defined role of the department's multi-disciplinary faculty is:

1. to instruct in the operations of the individual and collective components of the criminal justice system
2. to adopt relevant theoretical constructs and empirical analysis from social science and other disciplines;
3. to explore the area of criminal justice and jurisprudence;
4. to examine the etiology of crime and the manifestation of criminal conduct;
5. to analyze the application of legal principles; and
6. to explore methods of improving crime control strategies, and administration of justice and the operations of criminal justice and crime control agencies in a democratic society.

A second goal consists of involvement in scholarly activities. This includes but is not limited to such activities as the conduct of basic and applied research; the publication of books and monographs and articles in refereed journals; and, the presentation of papers before learned and professional societies and at professional meetings.

A third goal of the criminal justice department is one of providing a broad-range of professional service activities to the college and community. The broad scope of this goal can include participation and leadership on departmental, school, and collegiate committees; technical and consultative activities with particular criminal justice agencies; assistance to citizen groups interested in crime-related issues or topics; and, speaking engagements and service germane to the profession of criminal justice.

To the extent that the faculty can accomplish these goals, they will provide students with a strong foundation to pursue careers in criminal justice or related areas, and for future graduate education.