LETTER OF NOTIFICATION – 13

EXISTING CERTIFICATE or DEGREE OFFERED via DISTANCE TECHNOLOGY

Institutions with at least one certificate or degree program approved for distance technology by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board must submit Letter of Notification-13 to request approval to offer additional existing (on-campus) certificates or degrees via distance technology. The institution must submit to ADHE a copy of the e-mail notification to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) about the proposed distance technology program. If HLC requires a focused visit for the proposed distance technology program, please submit the scheduled review date.

**Definitions**

Distance technology (e-learning) – When technology is the primary mode of instruction for the course (50% of the course content is delivered electronically).

Distance instruction – When a course does not have any significant site attendance, but less than 50% of the course is delivered electronically, e.g., correspondence courses.

Distance program – When at least 50% of the major courses are delivered via distance technology.

1. Institution submitting request: University of Arkansas Fayetteville
2. Contact person/title: Dr. Terry Martin, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
3. Phone number/e-mail address: (479) 575-2151/tmartin@uark.edu
4. Name of Existing Certificate or Degree: B.A. in Criminal Justice
5. Proposed Effective Date for distance technology delivery: Fall 2017
6. CIP Code: 43.0104
7. Degree Code: 1360

# PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Program summary/justification for offering program by distance technology:

Criminal justice is a growing field, with justice-related jobs in high demand (Education Advisory Board Research Brief, 2014). Education and credentials in the social science-based study of crime and justice issues enhance marketability and enable students to tailor degrees to their specific needs and career goals. The on-campus CMJS major currently delivered by the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville provides CMJS majors with a broader sociological knowledge base, skill set, and theoretical orientation, offering our students more versatility in the pursuit of criminal justice as well as other-related occupations (including nonprofit work, substance use education, community outreach, human resources, health services, family planning, etc.). Drawing upon a strong base in sociology, our unique on-campus curriculum is designed to prepare individuals to contribute to the development and implementation of effective, fair, ethical and humane criminal justice systems. We understand criminal justice as an interdisciplinary field defined by the intersection of sociology and criminal justice. Hence, with emphases in research methods, data analyses with statistical software, and criminological theory, our existing interdisciplinary (SOCI/CMJS) curriculum enables students to critically examine 1) the strengths, challenges and issues relating to deviance and criminal behavior, society’s responses to crime, its perpetrators and victims, and 2) the social research based theories of criminal behavior and its patterns as well as crime prevention and public safety strategies. Hence, our on campus degree that we seek to extend to online delivery provides a broader knowledge base, skill set, and theoretical orientation, with a particular emphasis on how to conduct, understand, and apply research.

To our knowledge, no other institution makes this particular blend of interdisciplinary, criminal justice/sociology-based, approaches available to Arkansas citizens. Yet many non-traditional students, those in rural locations, and working professionals find it difficult to attend classes on our campus. The proposed online B.A. in Criminal Justice will meet this need by extending our on-campus curriculum to provide an alternative that delivers the same high quality of content and interaction afforded through traditional course delivery. As such, we will contribute to the growing success of the University of Arkansas System’s mission to make high quality education more accessible, particularly to Arkansans unable to pursue degrees on campus.

Currently, there are three online criminal justice degree programs available in the University of Arkansas System. One is available at UAFS (B.S. in Criminal Justice), the second available through UALR (B.A. in Criminal Justice), the third is available through eVersity (B.S. in Criminal Justice). All three degree programs are primarily oriented toward justice professions, with the specific focus on “students pursuing careers in law enforcement, corrections, and juvenile and adult courts” (see <http://ualr.edu/online/> [programs/ b-a-in-criminal-justice](http://ualr.edu/online/programs/%20b-a-in-criminal-justice) ), and rely heavily M.A.-level instructors and adjunct faculty. Two of these programs (UAFS and UALR) operate within stand-alone criminal justice departments, and thus do not provide a sociologically-informed curriculum. The eVersity draws on criminal justice faculty from across the system but it still does do not provide a sociologically-informed curriculum. None of the three online programs offers advanced social science electives or requires many standard/advanced social science courses (e.g., Research Methods for social sciences, Social Data Analysis). Next. our current curriculum is not only offered in a unique institutional context of an interdisciplinary SOCI/CMJS department, it is also primarily taught by faculty with PhDs degrees in sociology. And, our online program will be the ONLY online CMJS degree primarily administered by tenured and tenure-track faculty, who also teach the same courses on-campus and in both criminal justice and sociology.

Importantly, there is clear evidence of student interest in the interdisciplinary criminal justice online education offered by our department. The Director of Online Education (DOE) has been monitoring and responding to program inquiries from potential students. In FY16, the department had over 320 visits to our online CMJS minor website, 26 inquiries about CMJS online programs from potential students directly to the DOE, and 30 inquiries through Global Campus. In FY16, our minor was the second-most requested minor area of inquiry (with 30 student information requests, just behind Spanish with 33). Further, out of the total 58 students pursuing the interdisciplinary online major in the College of Arts and Sciences, 30 have declared CMJS minor.

In all, while criminal justice education is very popular among students and criminal justice degrees are in high and growing employer demand (see Education Advisory Board Research Brief, Employer Demand for UGRD Criminal Justice Programs), students majoring in criminal justice from the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences will be able pursue these professions as well as a wide range of other career options. Our proposed online degree will enable these options by providing a unique sociologically-driven criminal justice degree that goes beyond the focus on the justice system processes and procedures, and exposes students to social science research and theories examining correlations and consequences of victimization, principles of community-oriented policing, or successful rehabilitation strategies. The proposed online degree in Criminal Justice will extend the on-campus instruction to meet the needs of Arkansans unable to pursue our unique campus-based interdisciplinary CMJS major that has already been recognized as an outstanding program by Best Value Schools.

1. Provide the current certificate/degree plan. Mark\* courses that will be taught by adjunct faculty.

In addition to the university/state core requirements and the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences Graduation Requirements, the following course requirements must be met for the CMJSBA degree:

Select one of the following Mathematics or statistics courses:

MATH 2033 Mathematical Thought

MATH 2043 Survey of Calculus

MATH 2053 Finite Mathematics

MATH 2183 Mathematical Reasoning in a Quantitative World

MATH 2554 Calculus I

ENGL 2003 Advanced Composition

Completion of three hours of a world language at the 1013 Elementary II level or higher

A minimum of 37 additional semester hours to include:

* CMJS 2003: Introduction to Criminal Justice Systems\*
* SOCI 2013: General Sociology\*
* CMJS 2043: Criminal Law and Society\*
* CMJS/SOCI 3023: Criminology
* CMJS 3043: The Police and Society
* CMJS/SOCI 3203: Corrections
* SOCI 3303/3301L: Social Data and Analysis/Laboratory
* SOCI 3313: Social Research
* 12 hours of 3000+ CMJS/SOCI courses

Writing Requirement: To fulfill the Fulbright College writing requirement, each criminal justice major will submit, prior to graduation, a substantial research or analytical paper, with a grade of “A” or “B” from an upper-division criminal justice course (3000-, 4000-, or 5000-level) to their departmental adviser. Satisfactory completion of an honors project or a senior thesis may fulfill this requirement.

1. Provide the list of courses, include course number/title, for the certificate/degree program currently offered by distance technology.

The following required courses are currently offered via distance technology:

SOCI 2003: General Sociology

CMJS 2003: Introduction to Criminal Justice Systems

CMJS/SOCI 3023: Criminology

CMJS 3043: The Police and Society

CMJS/SOCI 3203: Corrections

SOCI 3313: Social Research

The following electives are currently offered via distance technology:

CMJS/SOCI 3723: Deviant Behavior

CMJS/SOCI 3513: Criminal Evidence

1. If 100% of the program will not be offered by distance technology, list courses that **will not** be offered by distance technology. 100% will be offered via distance technology.
2. For existing courses that **will** be offered by distance technology (for the first time), provide the course syllabus for each of these courses for the certificate/degree program and indicate the maximum class size for each distance course.

The following courses will be adapted from on-campus to on-line delivery format:

CMJS 2043: Criminal Law and Society (enrollment cap: 50)

CMJS/SOCI 3063: Victimology (enrollment cap: 30)

CMJS 3503: Criminal Procedures (enrollment cap: 30)

CMJS 4043: Juvenile Justice (enrollment cap: 30)

SOCI 3303/3301L: Social Data and Analysis/Laboratory (enrollment cap: 30)

See attached syllabi

1. If new courses will be added, provide the list of new courses (proposed course number/title) and the new course descriptions for the certificate/degree.

N/A

1. Provide the course syllabus for each distance technology course for the program listed above and indicate the maximum class size for each distance course. Indicate the course delivery mode(s) and class interaction mode(s) for each distance technology course.

All courses will be offered via online distance technology delivery using Blackboard Learn as the instructor-student interface.

Course delivery mode (check all that apply):

Online **X**

Compressed-video (CIV)

Audio Conference

Video Conference

Web Conference

Blended delivery (identify components)

Class interaction mode (check all that apply):

Electronic bulletin boards

E-mail **X**

Telephone

Fax

Chat

Blog **X**

Other (specify) **X:** Blackboard Collaborate

1. Provide the percentage of the program that is offered via distance (50%, 75%, etc.).

100%

1. Discuss the provisions for instructor-student and student-student interaction that are included in the program design and the course syllabus.

Course management and delivery will be provided with the Blackboard Learn infrastructure available at the university. Instructor-student interaction will involve email communication, recorded lectures, discussion posts, feedback on assignments, and Blackboard Collaborate rooms. Student-student interactions will be facilitated by discussion posts, blogs, and Blackboard Collaborate sessions (which allows for student facilitation, break-out groups, and student-student chat). Faculty will work with Global Campus’ instructional design team to review and/or revise course interaction strategies regularly.

1. Provide a semester-by-semester degree plan/course schedule for student access to all courses necessary to complete the program.   
     
   The 8-semester plan for the online CMJSBA program would be the same as the on-campus version.

First-Year Fall

ENGL 1013 Composition I

Select one of the following: 3-4

MATH 1203 College Algebra

MATH 2033 Mathematical Thought

MATH 2043 Survey of Calculus

MATH 2053 Finite Mathematics

MATH 2183 Mathematical Reasoning in a Quantitative World

MATH 2554 Calculus I

Select one of the following: 3

SOCI 2013 General Sociology

University/State Core Social Science requirement

1013 Elementary II World Language Course (or higher level, depending on placement)

University/State Core Fine Arts, Humanities or US History requirement

First-Year Spring

ENGL 1023 Composition II

Select one of the following MATH if needed, else General Elective: 3-4

MATH 2033 Mathematical Thought

MATH 2043 Survey of Calculus

MATH 2053 Finite Mathematics

MATH 2183 Mathematical Reasoning in a Quantitative World

MATH 2554 Calculus I

General Electives

Select one of the following: 3

SOCI 2013 General Sociology

University/State Core Social Science requirement

University/State Core Science requirement with Corequisite Lab

General Electives: 3

SECOND-YEAR FALL

ENGL 2003 Advanced Composition (as needed)

University/State Core Social Science requirement

University/State Core Humanities, U.S. History, or Fine Arts requirement (as needed)

CMJS 2003 Introduction to Criminal Justice

General Electives: 3

SECOND-YEAR SPRING

SOCI 3313 Social Research

CMJS 2023 Introduction to Criminology (or General Elective)

CMJS 2043 Criminal Law and Society

University/State Core U.S. History, Fine Arts, or Humanities requirement (as needed)

Science University/State Core Lecture with Corequisite Lab requirement

THIRD-YEAR FALL

SOCI 3303 Social Data and Analysis

& SOCI 3301L Social Data and Analysis Laboratory

CMJS/SOCI 3023 Criminology

CMJS/SOCI 3203 Corrections

Advanced Level Elective: 3

General Electives: 3

THIRD-YEAR SPRING

CMJS 3043 The Police and Society

CMJS 3000-4000 Elective

Advanced Level Electives: 6

General Electives: 3

FOURTH-YEAR FALL

CMJS/SOCI 3000-4000 electives: 3

3000-plus Advanced Level Elective (as needed) or Advanced Level Electives: 3

General Electives: 9

FOURTH-YEAR SPRING

CMJS/SOCI 3000-4000 Electives: 3

CMJS/SOCI 3000-4000 Electives: 3

General Electives: 6

1. Provide a list of services that will be supplied by consortia partners or outsourced to another organization (faculty/instructional support, course materials, course management and delivery, library-related services, bookstore services, services providing information to students, technical services, administrative services, online payment arrangements, student privacy consideration, services related to orientation, advising, counseling or tutoring, etc.) Include the draft contract/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each partner/organization offering faculty/instructional support for the program. Submit final contract/MOU signed by partner institutions or organizations upon completion of ADHE proposal review.

Instructional support for designing and maintaining all classes will be provided by the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville) Global Campus’ instructional design team as well as IT support from the University.  Course management and delivery will be provided with the Blackboard infrastructure available at the university.  Library related services and other services provided to ensure student success will likewise be provided by the appropriate units at the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville).

1. Estimate costs for the proposed distance technology program for the first 3 years. Include faculty release time costs for course/program planning and delivery.

The CMJSBA on-line degree will be fully developed between Fall 2017 and the end of Spring 2020.  We project that twenty students will enter the program in Fall 2017 followed by an additional five students each spring and ten students each fall until a maximum of 55 students are in the program (projected by fall 2019).  While some online courses will be taught in-load by tenured and tenure-track faculty, the tuition revenues will be needed to continue to support one Visiting Assistant Professor position that has been funded by Global Campus through Fall 2017 and to bring in additional instructional support (one fully online adjunct faculty teaching at 75%) in fall 2018, and a full time instructor (teaching 50% online and 50% on campus as in load replacement) in fall 2019.  As we develop the online offerings between F2017 and S2020, total projected instructional expenses will amount to $376,129.  Using the current formula, 40.8% of these costs will fall under the unmet teaching costs. Importantly, all these costs will be offset by 2017-2020 tuition revenues, which we project to be about $1,611,709; even if 100% of instructional expenses was charged as instructional costs before the online revenue is split, the CMJSBA would still generate $1,215,580. At this point, we have developed and/or have been approved to develop ten required and elective courses for the online major.  If the major is approved, we will develop two required courses ($4,000 each) and three elective courses ($4,000 each).

See the attached spreadsheet for revenues and expenses from Fall 2017 through spring 2020.

1. Provide institutional curriculum committee review/approval date for proposed distance technology program.

December 7, 2016

1. Provide documentation that proposed program has been reviewed/approved for distance technology delivery by licensure/certification board/agency, if required. [HLC review must follow ADHE review and AHECB program approval.]
2. Provide additional program information if requested by ADHE staff.

President/Chancellor Approval Date: January 30, 2017

Board of Trustees Notification Date: March 30, 2017

Chief Academic Officer: James Coleman Date: January 23, 2017