

# **Doctor of Criminal Justice DCJ**

The Doctor of Criminal Justice at Saint Leo University prepares students to make important contributions within an increasingly dynamic and complex domain. In this program, doctorate students learn the skills necessary to critically assess theoretical concepts, intervention modalities, public policy, social order issues, as well as a broad range of criminal justice practices that impact law enforcement, corrections, and the courts. The curriculum prepares learners for a career in teaching, homeland security, and criminal justice while allowing them to achieve proficiency in research, leadership, and ethical application of processes so they can have the greatest influence on this profession.

## **Degree Requirements**

### **DCJ 705 - Transformational Leadership 3 credit hours**

This course is one of four required core courses in the Doctor of Criminal Justice major. It examines leadership models and theories as they pertain specifically to the specialized disciplines in the criminal justice system. The course focuses on the personal leadership development of the individual student, and also helps the student to define his/her path of future study in one of the five areas of specialization within the criminal justice system.

### **DCJ 710 - Critical Issues in Criminal Justice 3 credit hours**

This course examines critical incident planning from a comprehensive “systems” approach that takes into consideration the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of management. A wide array of critical incident management issues are examined, including preventative strategies, operational response, and consequence management.

### **DCJ 715 - International Perspectives in Criminal Justice 3 credit hours**

This course of study will address broad criminal justice issues from an international perspective and provide insight into the globalization of crime and criminal justice and the growing transnational law enforcement challenges. The international perspective will be addressed by identifying and appraising key international crime and criminal justice concerns, examining diverse jurisdictional perspectives, disclosing lessons learned and best practices, and synthesizing tactical, strategic, operational, administrative, legal, and research approaches.

## **DCJ 720 - Qualitative Research Methods**

### **3 credit hours**

The course examines and explores the essential concepts that are required for completing doctoral-level qualitative research in criminal justice. This course will expose the student to qualitative methods and techniques including ethics, interviewing, field research, focus groups, content analysis, and coding. Student researchers are engaged in research techniques, applications, and design that are essential in qualitative research methodology through a practical and applied skills approach culminating in the design of a research proposal.

## **DCJ 725 - Criminological Theories**

### **3 credit hours**

This course is an advanced study the theories of crime causation. The course examines both classical and contemporary criminological theory as well as integrated theories, feminist theories, critical race theory, Asian critical race theory, Latino critical theory, and Black feminist criminological thought. This course will provide students with an understanding of crime typology, crime trends, and crime measurement as a means of understanding the correlation between crime and crime theory.

## **DCJ 730 - Managing Human Resources in Criminal Justice**

### **3 credit hours**

The human resource function of modern Criminal Justice organizations is critical, as people are our most important resource. The course is a graduate level survey of principles, practices, theory, and current issues facing organizations as related to attracting, selecting, and maintaining a productive workforce in today's competitive operating environment. This course helps students to better understand the complexities of managing people in organizations, with primary focus on human resource management strategy, organizational staffing, human resource development, total rewards, employee and labor relations, and risk management. By focusing on the strategic, operational and administrative roles of human resource management, students acquire critical knowledge of the changing nature of issues facing their most important organizational asset: human resources. In addition to the functional topics listed above, attention is also given to developing human resource system support competencies, such as job analysis and design, human resources law, ethics, economics and theory application in Criminal Justice.

## **DCJ 735 - Quantitative Research Methods**

### **3 credit hours**

The course examines and explores the essential concepts that are required for completing doctoral-level quantitative research in criminal justice. This course will expose the student to quantitative methods and techniques including sampling, validity,

reliability, conceptualization, measurement, research design, surveys, and evaluation research. Student researchers are engaged in research techniques, applications, and design that are essential in quantitative research methodology through a practical and applied skills approach culminating in the design of a research proposal.

### **DCJ 740 - Juvenile Justice**

**3 credit hours**

This course serves as an introduction to the juvenile justice system, and examines issues and trends associated with the entry, processing, adjudication, and release of youth through the system at a graduate student level. The course reviews the historical development of a separate juvenile justice system in the United States, and explores the foundation of the separate system. Additional topics include defining delinquency, processing of youth through the system, juvenile justice administration, juvenile justice policy considerations, and critical issues in juvenile justice (e.g., race, gender, poverty, sentencing).

### **DCJ 745 - Societal Trends in Policing**

**3 credit hours**

This course of study will identify current trends, emerging issues, and concerns of policing communities. The social trends in policing will be addressed by identifying and explaining key concepts, integrating different perspectives, querying assumptions, marshaling evidence, examining lessons learned, and drawing logical conclusions relative to the current and future policing policies and practices impacted by social trends.

### **DCJ 750 - Data Analytics**

**3 credit hours**

This course focuses on the statistical tools and techniques necessary to analyze complex quantitative data in order to answer questions about crime. This course will begin with an overview of basic statistics, research methodology, and criminological theory. Using IBM SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) as the analytic software, students will learn the methods of data collection, data analysis, and interpretation. This course will also cover a variety of statistical techniques, analytic strategies, and data mining.

### **DCJ 755 - Correctional Philosophy and Administration**

**3 credit hours**

This course provides a foundational overview of crime and incarceration in the United States. Correctional agencies in the United States have played a vital role in the punishment and rehabilitation of convicted and diverted offenders. Learners will

analyze and work towards a greater understating and assessment of correctional interventions and effective programing to reduce future recidivism.

### **DCJ 760 - Global Extremism and Mass Movements** **3 credit hours**

This course examines global extremism and mass movements from myriad perspectives, and identifies several pathways that students can consider for future studies in this topic. Special emphasis is placed on the scrutiny of “trace evidence” resulting from the flow of money, human migrations, the use of the Internet, nation-state relationships, the use of iconography, and links to universities, schools, and madrassas. This course helps the students to build a Chapter 2 literature review for their dissertation study.

### **DCJ 765 - Law, Policy and Social Order** **3 credit hours**

The aim of this course is to provide policy researchers with a set of conceptual frameworks for analyzing the political environment of public policy and policy research, and to practice forming effective strategies for policy analysis, program evaluation, policy design, and advocacy. The concepts, skills, and analytical tools students learn in the course rest upon a foundation of economic principles, institutional analysis and, to a lesser extent, political and social psychology. They identify patterns of behavior and outcomes, ways of thinking about those patterns and outcomes, and methods of analysis that facilitate understanding and prediction, and, ultimately, the shaping of strategies to improve the success of policy researchers in their professional life.

### **DCJ 780 - 783 - Directed Research** **12 credit hours**

The content of Directed Research focuses on developing a preliminary literature review, Problem Statement, Purpose, Research Questions, Draft of Design and Dissertation Proposal. The concept paper represents the first stage in the dissertation process that ultimately will allow the student to demonstrate mastery of a chosen field of study and make an original contribution to that field. The concept paper consists of the following three chapters: Chapter 1 (e.g., introduction, problem statement, purpose and definition), Chapter 2 (preliminary literature review and research questions), Chapter 3 (Methodology, Draft of Design and Dissertation Proposal).

### **781/782 –**

The course will enable students to design a Dissertation Proposal that builds on the previously submitted Concept Paper. During the course, students will further develop and submit an Institutional Review Board (IRB) Proposal. The IRB proposal must receive approval before students can proceed to the Dissertation 3: Research component of their doctoral studies. Throughout the course, students will continue to

conduct dissertation related research in preparation for the Dissertation 3: Data Collection and Analysis course. The student will conduct the research for the dissertation in keeping with guidance prescribed by the Institutional Review Board and University policy.

### **783**

This course is a continuance of the Dissertation process. During this time, students will have three (3) major milestones: Writing of the Dissertation, Submission of the manuscript and the Oral Defense of the research. Students will submit the work to the Chair, Committee Member and 2nd Reader. All data collected and analyzed along with the independent research must continue to conform to University and Institutional Review Board Policy and the standards of ethics set forth by Saint Leo University.

## **Homeland Security track**

### **DCJ 707 - Systems Approach to Homeland Security 3 credit hours**

This course is an examination of the systematic approach to homeland security and interactive process of strategic planning and financial operation of terrorist organizations. An emphasis will be placed on a system to eliminate terrorist organizations with strategies for protecting the border, infrastructures, and communities. Topics will include identifying, and developing, ways to secure the U.S border; terrorist groups, United States vulnerabilities to terrorism, DHS organization, constitutional issues, anti-terrorism methods, research and findings on past and present incidents of terrorist, and efforts to protect the public.

### **DCJ 712 - Terrorism, Domestic Radicalization 3 credit hours**

This course covers the origins of domestic radicalization and the creation of modern jihad. Topics covered include the nature and origins of the modern terrorist mindset: Training, tactics, targets and technologies.

### **DCJ 722 Organizational and Community Resilience 3 credit hours**

This course is one of three courses in the Homeland Security Specialization within the Doctorate in Criminal Justice degree program, and is designed to be taken last. The course examines the nature of organizational and community resilience within the context of homeland security. Special emphasis is on managing the risks of disruptive events in an increasingly complex and dynamic global environment. Students will be exposed to a management systems approach that is designed to enable resilience to strengthen risk, crisis, and disaster management.

## **Education track**

### **EDU 706 - Instructional Technology 3 credit hours**

Technology plays an ever-increasing role in education. This course helps teacher leaders and school administrators understand the role technology plays in improving teaching, learning, and school operations. Throughout this course, educators will explore, plan, and develop methods for integrating technology in the K-12 setting for instruction, assessment, and evaluation.

### **EDU 709 - Technology Innovation and Diffusion 3 credit hours**

Candidates will explore various types of educational technology and how they can be integrated into K-12 classroom instruction at different levels using the SAMR process. Candidates will identify and use educational tools in K-12 instruction to increase student achievement, support students with disabilities, increase parent involvement, and to provide professional development.

### **EDU 723 - Power of Teacher Leader Innovation 3 credit hours**

Candidates will develop an understanding of how the brain learns so that they can more effectively coach teachers to help create quality instruction. Topics will include brain construction, information processing, memory, transfer, organization, and thinking skills. In collaboration with teachers and administrators through data analysis, curriculum and standards analysis, and professional development facilitation, candidates will work to improve instructional practice and student achievement. Special attention will be given to mastering the complexities of observing and modeling in classrooms and providing feedback.