

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE 500

## CURRICULUM MAP

### SEMESTER 1

#### **Unit 1: Introduction to Criminal Justice**

- Overview of the criminal justice system
- Role of law enforcement, courts, and corrections
- Key legal concepts and terminology
- Ethical considerations in criminal justice

#### **Unit 2: Law Enforcement**

- History and evolution of policing
- Roles and responsibilities of police officers
- Police organization and structure
- Community policing and relationship building
- Use of force and police accountability

#### **Unit 3: Criminal Law**

- Foundations of criminal law
- Elements of a crime
- Classification of crimes (e.g., misdemeanors, felonies)
- Defenses in criminal law
- Criminal procedure and due process rights

#### **Unit 4: Court Systems and Procedures**

- Structure and organization of the court system
- Trial process and courtroom participants
- Constitutional rights of the accused
- Pretrial procedures (e.g., arraignment, bail)
- Sentencing and alternatives to incarceration

## **SEMESTER 2**

### **Unit 5: Corrections and Rehabilitation**

- History and purpose of corrections
- Prisons, jails, and community-based corrections
- Incarceration and its impact on individuals and society
- Rehabilitation programs and their effectiveness
- Contemporary issues in corrections (e.g., overcrowding, privatization)

### **Unit 6: Juvenile Justice**

- Juvenile justice system and its philosophy
- Differences between juvenile and adult criminal justice systems
- Juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention
- Juvenile court procedures and diversion programs
- Rehabilitation and reintegration of juvenile offenders

### **Unit 7: Forensic Science**

- Introduction to forensic science and its role in criminal investigations
- Crime scene investigation techniques
- Types of evidence and their collection, preservation, and analysis
- Forensic techniques in DNA analysis, fingerprinting, ballistics, etc.
- Role of forensic science in criminal justice decision-making

### **Unit 8: Criminology and Criminal Behavior**

- Understanding criminal behavior and its causes
- Theories of crime and deviance (e.g., sociological, psychological)
- Criminal profiling and its limitations
- Victimology and the impact of crime on victims
- Crime prevention strategies and interventions

### **Unit 9: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice**

- Racial and social disparities in the criminal justice system
- Drug policy and the criminal justice response
- Terrorism and homeland security
- Technology and its impact on crime and law enforcement

