

FORM 1

**COVER SHEET
NEW DEGREE PROGRAM PLANNING NOTIFICATION OF INTENT
(PLANNING NOI)**

Program Information

Program Name: BA in Criminal Justice

Institution Name: University of Washington Tacoma

Degree Granting Unit: University of Washington Tacoma Social Work Program
(e.g., College of Arts and Science)

Degree: B.A. Criminal Justice Level: Bachelor Type: (of) Arts
(e.g. B.S. Chemistry) *(e.g. Bachelor)* *(e.g. Science)*

Major: Criminal Justice CIP Code: 45.0401
(e.g. Chemistry)

Minor: (if applicable) Concentration(s): if applicable

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2010

Projected Enrollment (FTE) in Year One: 21 At Full Enrollment by Year: 2015: 54
(# FTE) *(# FTE)*

Proposed New Funding: \$169,092.00

Funding Source: State FTE Self Support Other

Mode of Delivery

Single Campus Delivery Tacoma

Off-site Delivery _____

Distance Delivery Some hybrid courses that combine classroom and internet

Substantive Statement of Need

See Attach Sheet

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 7/22/05
Endorsement by Chief Academic Officer Date

SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENT OF NEED

I. Degree Program Description

A. Background

The Social Work Program at University of Washington Tacoma, under the accreditation of the School of Social Work at UW Seattle, opened its doors for enrollment to graduate students offering a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree in 1998 and added a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Social Welfare in 2002. As of June, 2009, we have graduated 281 MSW students and 209 undergraduate social welfare majors. Our early discussions on offering this major in criminal justice began with an assessment of new social work program options. This needs assessment, conducted in Summer, 2007, included a series of individual interviews with key informants in the community and with students and alumni of our social work program¹. One of the areas identified was criminal justice. Other areas of expertise identified as needed in the community were mental health training including mental health assessment and diagnosis, chemical dependency training, and domestic violence training. All of these are areas that intersect with working in the criminal justice system; it therefore became clear that the development of increased education in criminal justice would become a critical component within the social work program. As a result of these findings, a minor in criminal justice, approved in 2008, began during Winter Quarter, 2009. Building on the offering of this minor, a major in criminal justice is being proposed.

This major will prepare students to work in a variety of primary criminal justice settings, as well as secondary settings that intersect with criminal justice. The major will cultivate an appreciation for the complexities of justice, crime and corrections. This program will focus on a multidisciplinary understanding of crime and justice within the framework of broader social processes within our society. It will look at all major aspects of the justice system from an ecological systems approach rather than a specialization in one narrow content area. The curriculum will provide a theoretical understanding of the discipline, combined with an understanding of the scientific method as it applies to criminal justice.

B. Specific Program Goals

The intent of the Criminal Justice program is to produce graduates who are able to achieve the following:

- (a) Using an interdisciplinary approach, gain an understanding of the origins of criminal behavior, society's responses to crime and delinquency and the consequences of crime for our society through a critical and in-depth analysis;
- (b) Will become sensitized to the human impacts of criminal justice policies including differential impacts of race/ethnicity, class, age, gender, religious creed, sexual orientation, and physical and developmental disabilities;
- (c) Will be grounded in theoretical and empirical knowledge, values, and skills related to criminal justice as they develop into competent professionals;

¹ Martinez, R. (2007, September). New Social Work Program Options.

- (d) Will gain an understanding of the consequences of incarceration for the families of the incarcerated, especially as it relates to parent-child relationships;
- (e) Will recognize the multiple needs of the victims of criminal behavior, including crisis and trauma interventions;
- (f) Will become knowledgeable about special populations in the criminal justice system including sex offenders, domestic violence offenders, the chemically dependent, and individuals with mental illness;
- (g) Will be exposed to the moral and ethical dimensions of the various careers within the discipline and learn the guidelines for appropriate professional conduct;
- (h) Will gain understanding of criminal justice as an applied science where there is an integration of theory, scientific method, and practical application.
- (i) Will develop beginning practice skills to understand and work with the multiple needs of clients in the criminal justice system and their families.

II. Relationship to Institutional Role, Mission

The proposed Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Criminal Justice fits well with the UW Tacoma mission and institutional role in that the major is designed to utilize an interdisciplinary approach and include mutually beneficial partnerships. This new initiative will offer the opportunity for strengthening some partnerships already established and development of new partnerships in the criminal justice community as well as the community at large.

A recently revised Strategic Plan for UW Tacoma identifies four core values that will shape the goals and methods of UW Tacoma from 2007-2017². The first of these is Excellence which incorporates a commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship, research, and service and a curriculum that is responsive to student and community need. As with all programs at UW Tacoma, a criminal justice major will place a high value on quality teaching and rigorous learning in a setting that supports the needs and diversity of its students. Based on the report commissioned summer 2007 by the UW Tacoma Social Work Program and response to the development of a minor in criminal justice, we believe offering this major will fulfill a student and community need.

The second value, Community, includes contributions to knowledge that serves diverse communities and partners with communities to improve the human condition. Students who major in criminal justice will develop theoretical understandings and analytical skills that they can bring to their careers to provide knowledge and skill in evidence-based programs that work with perpetrators and victims of crime.

The strategic plan also notes the importance of cultivating mutually supportive relationships with educational partners. Since most of the community colleges in this area offer associate degrees in criminal justice or closely related fields, it provides a pathway for some of these students to continue their studies for a four-year degree. We have already begun to forge partnerships with community colleges that will expand four-year degrees to diverse students groups—which will insure that this program supports the next core value congruent with this proposed program.

² Strategic Plan, 2007-2017 of the University of Washington, Tacoma.
<http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/chancellor/mission.html>

The third core value of Diversity would be fulfilled by this major in two ways. As the criminal justice system is disproportionately filled with members from historically disadvantaged populations, our students and graduates would almost certainly be working with a diverse population of clientele and students would gain knowledge of methods to achieve justice and fairness in this system. Recruitment of a diverse group of students to enroll in this major would also be a high priority. Placing the program within the auspices of the social work program would additionally assist in furthering this value, as our current programs place great emphasis in providing training in culturally sensitive education and practices.

The fourth core value is Innovation and would be a keystone of our academic program. We will be offering classes that place an increased emphasis on rehabilitation, alternatives to standard incarceration, evidenced-based options to prevent recidivism, and other community-based options. These state-of-the-art, evidence-based approaches represent new innovations in the profession. One example is the Sequential Intercept Model, a conceptual framework for communities to respond to the interface between the criminal justice and mental health systems.³ This model helps communities develop targeted strategies to divert people with mental illness from the criminal justice system and link them with community treatment. Another example of an evidence-based model is “Reclaiming Futures”, a six-step model that promotes standards of care for juvenile justice and substance abuse treatment.⁴ Other classes will include working for and with law enforcement and understanding of the law and justice system. We would also provide knowledge and training on working with the families of incarcerated individuals and with victims of crime and their families.

UW Tacoma is expected to accommodate sustained enrollment growth, with an annual growth rate currently proposed at over 8%. We believe this major will help to bring that growth through the FTEs that are projected to accompany the start of this degree plan.

III. Documentation for Need and Demand

A. Student Demand

As UW Tacoma recruits students primarily from community colleges, a criminal justice major at UW Tacoma would provide opportunities for these students to continue a career path in this field. Generally students interested in UW Tacoma find it difficult to access UW Seattle or other Seattle-based universities and are looking for a program in the south Puget Sound area. Community colleges within the region (Tacoma Community College, Pierce College, Green River Community College, Highline Community College, South Puget Sound Community College, Olympic College and others) offer classes and Associates in Science and Associates in Applied Science degrees in at least one track of criminal justice, as well as associate degrees in related human services fields. It is difficult to predict how many of the students enrolled in criminal justice or related fields

³ Munetz, M. R. & Griffin, P.A. (2006). Use of the sequential intercept model as an approach to decriminalization of people with serious mental illness. *Psychiatric Services*, 57 (4), 544-549.

⁴ www.reclaimingfutures.org

will choose to transfer to a bachelor's criminal justice degree program. Data on the number of students enrolled in criminal justice courses as well as the number of graduates in criminal justice at these schools are currently being collected. In a recent meeting with the Director of the UW Tacoma Social Work Program, the Tacoma Community College Dean of Health, Justice and Human Services, noted that her justice students have frequently remarked of the need for a four-year justice program in Tacoma. She expressed her strong belief that a criminal justice program at UW Tacoma would be well attended by her students. And, as noted by the UW Tacoma Outreach and Recruitment staff, "Criminal Justice is still among the most frequently requested degree choices among both freshman and transfer students." (Personal communication, March 10, 2008). Recently the Office of Institutional Research and Planning at UW Tacoma conducted a 2009 Winter Assessment of the Student Experience which had 310 respondents. In response to questions about potential new programs, a BA in Criminal Justice received the highest number of votes as the first choice of a proposed new program, with a total of 43 students identifying this field as the one they would major in, if offered (n=11) or have interest in (n=21) or some interest in (n=11) as a major.⁵ We believe that were a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Criminal Justice available at UW Tacoma, with marketing in the South Puget Sound area, there would be more than sufficient interest. Another indicator of interest in criminal justice is the enrollment figures for the first few quarters that a criminal justice minor has been offered at the UW Tacoma campus. For Winter quarter, 2009, there was full enrollment (total of 80 students) for the two lower division core courses, Introduction to Criminal Justice and Introduction to the Sociology of Social Deviance and Social Control. Again during Spring quarter 2009, there was also strong enrollment (total of 66 students) in the additional two core courses (both at the 300 level), Youth and Juvenile Justice Systems and Addictions and Mental Illness in Criminal Justice. These courses had student enrollments from a diverse set of majors and disciplines, an indication that this major will draw students from diverse backgrounds and interests.

Student demand can also be viewed from a national perspective. Criminal justice programs are often some of the largest programs within universities. In fact, *Inside Higher Ed*⁶ recently reported that between 2001 and 2006, criminal justice overtook sociology in the number of bachelor's degrees completed, with a 14.5% increase of sociology degrees compared to a 35.7% increase of criminology degrees. This is particularly true of urban universities with high community needs, which shall be addressed shortly. Given this national trend of popularity of criminal justice degrees, and projection from the State and Regional Needs Assessment Report from the HECB⁷ demand degrees of 31,468 by 2010 and 33,511 by 2020, it is reasonable to assume that some of this demand for degrees would be met by offering a degree in criminal justice.

⁵ UW Tacoma Office of Institutional Research and Planning, (2009, Winter). 2009 Winter Assessment of the Student Experience.
http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/irp/research/surveys/2009_winter/2009_WinterNeedsSurvey.cfm#11

⁶ Inside Higher Ed (2008, August 4). Sociology's Crime Problem.
www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/08/04/asa

⁷ Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2007, February). *State and Regional Needs Assessment Report February 2006 (Revised)*. www.hecb.wa.gov

B. Community Need

Demand for skills in evidence-based programming and re-entry into the community can be expected to rise over the next decade according to data from the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC). Students of UW Tacoma most frequently live in Pierce, King, Thurston, Kitsap, Lewis and Mason counties. In the field of corrections, there are five prison facilities located in these counties, 16 field offices of Department of Corrections, four work release facilities and one community justice center. In addition, there are police departments, sheriffs' departments, county jails, probation departments, and other law enforcement agencies and court systems, including drug courts, mental health courts, domestic violence courts and youth courts. In Pierce County there is also the Fort Lewis Regional Correctional Facility and Western State Hospital, as well as the Northwest Detention Center. There are numerous social service agencies that work with the children and families that have significant others involved with the criminal justice system, including Children's Administration of Department of Social and Health Services, Catholic Community Services, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Girl Scouts Beyond Bars, Pioneer Human Services, and Metropolitan Development Council, among others. The need for professionals in criminal justice in all areas would be similar in all parts of Washington, as there are correctional facilities, community justice centers and community corrections field offices throughout the state.

In June, 2008, a meeting was held with community representatives from different fields of the criminal justice system, as well as community college faculty who teach in their respective criminal justice programs. There were 21 individuals present to provide feedback on a criminal justice major, including representatives from four of the community colleges in south Puget Sound. These community representatives indicated a demand for jobs in criminal justice, particularly for those who are trained in mental health assessments and substance abuse, as well as other addictions. The number and diversity of community partners and their willingness to commit to future involvement, is indicative of the strong community support for this program.

A visible and tangible link to community organizations and institutions will be internship opportunities that would be an option for all criminal justice majors. This would involve placement of students in an internship of one track of the criminal justice field. This could include Department of Corrections' facilities, community agencies who work with ex-offenders, law enforcement agencies, private non-profit centers like the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center, and social services agencies. The social work program already has existing field placement relationships with all of these agencies.

C. Workforce

As reported by the Pew Research Center, *One in 100: Behind Bars in America 2008*⁸, the United States incarcerates more people than any country in the world. In 2007 the U.S. saw a 12% jump in the incarcerated population from the previous year. The Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) Strategic Plan 2007-2013⁹ notes that between FY 1996 and 2006, the incarcerated offender population increased by 48%. Between FY 2006 and 2017, the incarcerated offender population is forecast to increase about 31%.

⁸ The Pew Charitable Trusts (2008). *One in 100: Behind Bars in America 2008*. www.pewtrusts.org

⁹ State of Washington (2007). *Department of Corrections Strategic Plan 2007-2013*. www.doc.wa.gov

The Pew Research Center report notes that policy makers are becoming “increasingly aware of research-backed strategies for community corrections.” Akin to this, a study commissioned by the state legislature, was conducted by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) titled “Evidence-Based Public Policy Options to Reduce Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs, and Crime Rates”¹⁰. This legislatively directed study, issued in October, 2006, concluded that there are economically attractive evidence-based options in three areas: adult corrections programs, juvenile corrections programs, and prevention. This conclusion was drawn from WSIPP’s analysis of programs that have been successful in reducing crime. The results indicated that Washington could achieve favorable outcomes if it were to substantially increase its use of evidence-based options. This report noted that Washington’s state and local governments would have to expand significantly current evidence-based programs and develop ways to ensure competent delivery of programs.

Further, this study found that prevention and intervention programs in the field of child welfare to reduce child abuse could have the potential to make long-term contributions to reductions in crime, prison construction and criminal justice costs. Similarly, a recent briefing of a report prepared by the Washington State Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS) (2008)¹¹ for the Children and Families of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee supports this connection between the field of child welfare and criminal justice. A key finding of this report is that children of DOC-incarcerated parents use DSHS services at very high rates. The 35,344 children of ever-DOC-incarcerated parents served by DSHS in FY 2006 were more likely than the average DSHS client of the same age to use services for family and personal problems including mental health services, child-protective services, alcohol/drug treatment services and juvenile rehabilitation services. The preliminary analysis confirmed that children of parents who have been incarcerated are likely to experience trauma and to need intervention to reduce their likelihood of becoming incarcerated themselves.

This data indicates a need for more competently trained workers in the criminal justice field and for leaders with the skills, knowledge and values to advocate for such programs. As noted by the DOC Strategic Plan, the agency is always seeking to recruit and retain a qualified workforce. This report also notes that DOC is facing “increasingly complex, changing and high performance expectations” (p. 8). Washington State has also recently made a commitment to place more emphasis on assistance to offenders reentering the community. Approximately 8,500 offenders return to the community from Washington prisons each year after completing their sentences and over 25,900 offenders are currently on active supervision in the community. The WSIPP analysis concludes that approximately 54% of these offenders will commit a new felony within 13 years.

Building on this data, a legislative-directed Task Force was created to review offender programs, sentencing and supervision of offenders upon reentry into the community with the goals of increasing public safety, maximizing rehabilitation of

¹⁰ Washington State Institute for Public Policy (2006, October). *Evidence-based public policy options to reduce future prison construction, criminal justice costs, and crime rates*. www.wsipp.wa.gov

¹¹ Washington State Department of Social & Health Services (2008, August 20). *Child of DOC incarcerated parents use DSHS services at very high rates. Series I Children and Families of Incarcerated Parents*. www.dshs.wa.gov/rda/research/11/138.shtm

offenders and lowering recidivism. The Final Bill Report, ESSB 6157¹² mandated DOC to review its policies to transform its work release facilities into effective residential reentry centers. Another mandate is for DOC to continue to establish community justice centers throughout the state. These new directions for DOC and communities to work with ex-felons when they move back into the community, provides another need for more well-trained workers in the field of criminal justice.

In addition, data from the HECB State and Regional Needs Assessment Report¹³ notes that current degree production is sufficient to meet only 75% of the need in protective service occupations (p. 28), thus indicating demand is not being met by the current supply. Further noted in this report is that “growth in human and protective service occupations rely most heavily on graduates of social science programs” (p. 29) and that these programs have not grown substantially. They report that growth may be warranted to meet employer needs, especially in social work and protective service professions.

Career paths for graduates of Criminal Justice majors are numerous and diverse. The U.S. Department of Labor has predicted that by 2010 there will be more than a 29% increase in the demand for FBI agents, police officers, private detectives, and many other positions in the criminal justice field. The growing emphasis on homeland security has created an unprecedented demand for criminal justice and security professionals.

IV. Relationship to Other Institutions

Presently in western Washington, there are several programs with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. The University of Washington, Seattle offers a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Law, Societies, and Justice. Data provided by the office of Law, Societies and Justice indicates that they have, on average, 150 majors and between 120-150 minors in their program. Slightly over half, about 80 students, graduate each year. Central Washington University in partnership with Pierce College and Highline Community College offers a BA in Law and Justice in the south Puget Sound area. Chapman University Lacey/Hawks Prairie Campus, a California-based program oriented to members of the military, offers a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. St. Martin’s University in Lacey, WA, a private institution, also offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Tacoma Community College, as well as other community colleges in the south Puget Sound area, generally have place-bound students who are unlikely to access University of Washington Seattle.

Our program will differ from these existing programs. Our focus will incorporate a social justice lens on each course, in addition to a law enforcement and/or legal perspective. This includes an emphasis on sensitization of students to the human impact of crime including differential impacts of race/ethnicity, social class, age, gender, and sexual orientation. Our program will also provide knowledge and skills to prepare for employment working with agencies that primarily provide services for the children and families of the incarcerated. At a recent Council on Social Work Education meeting, a

¹² State of Washington Senate (2007). *Final Bill Report ESSB 6157*. www1.leg.wa.gov/legislature

¹³ Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2007, February). *State and Regional Needs Assessment Report February 2006 (Revised)*. www.hecb.wa.gov

roundtable discussion of social work educators expressed a strong belief that social work schools need to offer criminal justice programs to prepare more students to enter the criminal justice field. The announcement that the UW Tacoma Social Work Program was starting a minor in criminal justice and proposing a major in criminal justice was met with enthusiasm.

This major, as presented at UW Tacoma, will not include technical courses dealing with police procedures or other occupational training. However it will offer those students who have already completed a program on police procedures or other occupational training the opportunity to expand their education by learning to evaluate the broader aspects of our criminal justice system and develop analytical and theoretical knowledge and skills. Our program will be positioned to have graduates continue on for advanced degrees, and implement the new state-of-the-art and evidence-based models previously mentioned.

V. Relationship to HECB Master Plan; State and Regional Needs Assessment

The 2008 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education in Washington¹⁴ noted unmet needs in high-demand fields. Two areas named were human and protective service occupations. This report also notes that “baccalaureate, graduate, and professional programs are a critical part of preparing people for the labor market and for meeting employers’ workforce needs” (p. 29).

The HECB’s State and Regional Needs Assessment¹⁵ notes that all fields are becoming more complex and require workers to have higher levels of education than previously. This report notes that social science programs may warrant growth in specific majors to meet employer needs, “especially in social work and protective service professions” (p. 29). The report also notes that the social sciences met the assessment for demand in two of the three measures of demand.

VI. Curriculum

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) offers guidelines for content areas in their certification standards for a baccalaureate degree. Using those guidelines, the curriculum of this new proposed Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice will offer courses in the content areas as described in the following table.

Content Area	Related Content Topics include but not limited to:
Administration of Justice	Contemporary criminal justice system, major systems of social control and their policies and practices; victimology; juvenile, comparative criminal justice

¹⁴ Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2007, December). *2008 Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education in Washington: Moving the blue arrow Pathways to educational opportunity*. www.hecb.wa.gov

¹⁵ Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. (2007, February). *State and Regional Needs Assessment Report February 2006 (Revised)*. www.hecb.wa.gov

Corrections	History, theory, practice and legal environment, development of correctional philosophy, incarceration, diversions, community-based corrections, treatment of offenders
Criminological Theory	The nature and causes of crime, typologies, offenders, and victims
Law Adjudication	Criminal law, criminal procedures, prosecution, defense, and court procedures and decision-making
Research and Analytic Methods	Quantitative—including statistics—and qualitative, methods for conducting and analyzing criminal justice research in a manner appropriate for undergraduate students

From Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) retrieved at www.acjs.org

In addition, the course content will offer a systematic examination of issues of diversity in criminal justice, ethical perspectives and judgments in applying knowledge to problems, a variety of criminal justice electives, and internship opportunities to students in their senior year, that integrate the academic components of the program.

Enrollment Targets

Undergraduate

No. of Students	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Headcount	25	35	45	55	65
SCH *	927.5	1298.5	1669.5	2040.5	2411.5
FTE	20.61	28.86	37.10	45.34	53.59

Program Graduates	-	10.00	20.00	33.00	50.00
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Headcount = .825 FTE