

Bachelor of Criminology

Burwood (Melbourne)
Waurm Ponds (Geelong)
Online



Are you interested in addressing the problem of crime at a more meaningful and lasting level? Do you want to help improve the criminal justice system? Study a Bachelor of Criminology and gain a deeper insight into how harm, power and justice correlate.

Course essentials

Deakin code: A329

Location: Burwood (Melbourne), Waurm Ponds (Geelong), Online

Duration: 3 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Intakes: T1 (March), T2 (July), T3 (November)

Address crime at a higher level

Criminology engages with the complex realities of crime. It enables you to better understand why crime occurs, how crime is conceived and perceived, and empowers you to address crime in more effective and lasting ways.

Deakin delivers the most established and forward-looking criminology course in Australia. Developed and designed in conjunction with professional bodies including Victoria Police, the Department of Justice and Community Safety Victoria and the Australian Institute of Professional Intelligence Officers, the course covers a variety of criminological issues and provides a solid foundation in the principles of criminological thought and research.

Our criminology experts will help you develop effective responses to harmful behaviours, whether in relation to environmental crime or terrorism, and teach you how to translate your suggestions into impactful criminal justice policy. Study topics that are crucial to addressing emerging crime, such as cyber security, surveillance, anti-terrorism and policing; and learn about the historical repercussions, technological developments and media representations of crime and the desirable outcomes of criminal justice processes.

You'll also have multiple opportunities to put your theory into practice, whether in optional national criminological placements (as part of work integrated learning units), in study abroad opportunities, in building your portfolio for your future career, or in getting a glimpse behind the thinking of experts or critically analysing the research surrounding a breadth of criminological topics.

Course structure

To be awarded a Bachelor of Criminology a student must successfully complete 24 credit points comprising:



Students are encouraged to consider completing a second major and therefore may wish to select elective units in accordance with that major. View the complete course structure at deakin.edu.au

Why should you study criminology?

1. You're passionate about social change

If you want to ensure fairer criminal justice outcomes, criminology hands you the tools to make a difference. You'll develop the knowledge to understand how and why our current criminal justice policies have been formulated, and the skills to help reform our systems.

2. You want a more complete understanding of why crime occurs

For all its coverage on the news, little is reported on why crime occurs. As a criminology student you'll get a truer picture of the complex socioeconomic and psychological factors that influence crime, and in turn understand how to better address them.

3. You're interested in developing practical skills with actionable outcomes

The skills you'll develop in your degree, such as in research and policy analysis, have the potential to enact actionable and actual change. They're also transferable across a wide range of adjacent fields.

Career opportunities

The critical thinking and insight you'll develop in a Bachelor of Criminology provides grounding for careers across a range of areas, including in community and paralegal work, intelligence and security services, justice policy development and analysis, social science research, state and federal police and other law enforcement agencies including anti-corruption agencies, or courts and corrections.



'We place emphasis on developing our students' ability to identify and understand contemporary crime problems, and how best to respond to them. Our assessment tasks are designed to develop students' ability to work practically within this field and simulate real-world work, such as preparing policy reports and briefs.'

Dr Mary Illiadis
Senior Lecturer in Criminology

Give yourself a competitive edge in the job market by combining your interests through a criminology double degree.

Bachelor of Criminology/ Bachelor of Laws

Deakin code: D335

Location: Burwood (Melbourne), Waterfront (Geelong), Online

Duration: 5 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Develop a broad understanding of all major legal areas while gaining the insight to address criminal behaviour in effective and lasting ways. Graduate with two in-demand degrees that complement each other, and use your dual expertise to see crime and law from a unique perspective. This degree satisfies the university requirements to become an Australian Lawyer, as set by the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (VLAB).

Bachelor of Forensic Science/ Bachelor of Criminology

Deakin code: D329

Location: Waurm Ponds (Geelong)

Duration: 4 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Explore the nature of crime and the science behind the collection, examination and presentation of evidence with this combined degree. You'll also discover the factors driving criminal behaviour, develop valuable courtroom skills and get hands-on experience examining evidence in simulated crime scenes. This combined degree draws from both the arts and science disciplines.

Bachelor of Criminology/ Bachelor of Cyber Security

Deakin code: D380

Location: Burwood (Melbourne), Waurm Ponds (Geelong), Online

Duration: 4 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Gain skills in securing data and data communications, as well as in investigating, analysing and providing solutions to computer crime. This course assists you to attain the knowledge required to become a certified information systems security professional.

Bachelor of Criminology/ Bachelor of Psychological Science

Deakin code: D390

Location: Burwood (Melbourne), Waurm Ponds (Geelong), Online

Duration: 4 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Develop a new understanding of crime and how it intertwines with social justice and rehabilitation in this double degree, which brings together two independent schools of thought and combines them in an attractive four-year combined course. This course provides an accredited undergraduate sequence in psychology and includes complementary studies in individual and group counselling, health, and behavioural change.

Bachelor of Criminology/ Bachelor of Business

Deakin code: D332

Location: Burwood (Melbourne), Waurm Ponds (Geelong), Online

Duration: 4 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Analyse and address real-world problems where criminology and business issues intersect. By combining criminology core units with a choice of electives and business majors, this course allows you the flexibility and opportunity to personalise your degree to your interests. You'll develop an entrepreneurial mindset and career enhancing critical thinking skills, integral for decision making for organisations from government to private business. The employability sequence and work integrated learning opportunities means you'll get real-world experience and graduate job ready.

Want to learn more about our criminology double degrees — or where they could take you? Visit deakin.edu.au/criminology

Who could you become?

Trent Jansz first joined Deakin in 2014 with dreams of changing of the world for the better. Now he works as a post-release case manager, where he helps former prisoners reintegrate into society. We spoke to him about his studies and the path they've led him down.

Why did you choose to study criminology?

I chose criminology due to my interest in social justice and criminality, which have been interests of mine since I was younger and just exiting high school. This course stood out as an option that would set me up for a career moving forward.

What's one thing you learnt as a criminology student that you didn't expect? Has it changed your professional outlook?

I remember exploring the ideas of protected communities and rights, which led me to conducting a lot of research at the time and helped shape my current political outlook. I think being shown that the world is simultaneously huge and small is something I have tried to remember: small changes can lead to big impacts.

How would you describe how your studies have changed you, overall?

When I started at Deakin I was a kid who had lofty ideals of changing the world but had no idea or where or how to start. I hoped to become a professional who is compassionate and knowledgeable, someone who people came to for advice or assistance.

Deakin helped ground these ideals without making me feel silly for having them in the first place.

My current role has those ideals baked into the job as I case manage people released from prison and am now a part of a pilot program to address previously unmet need for men released from prison. I am unsure where my career will go from here but I am excited for the journey.

Can you tell us a little about how you secured your current role and how your studies helped?

I acquired my current role through sending an essay I had written for a unit at Deakin in regard to over-incarceration. This was connected to my resume and cover letter, and I believe was instrumental in helping me get the role.

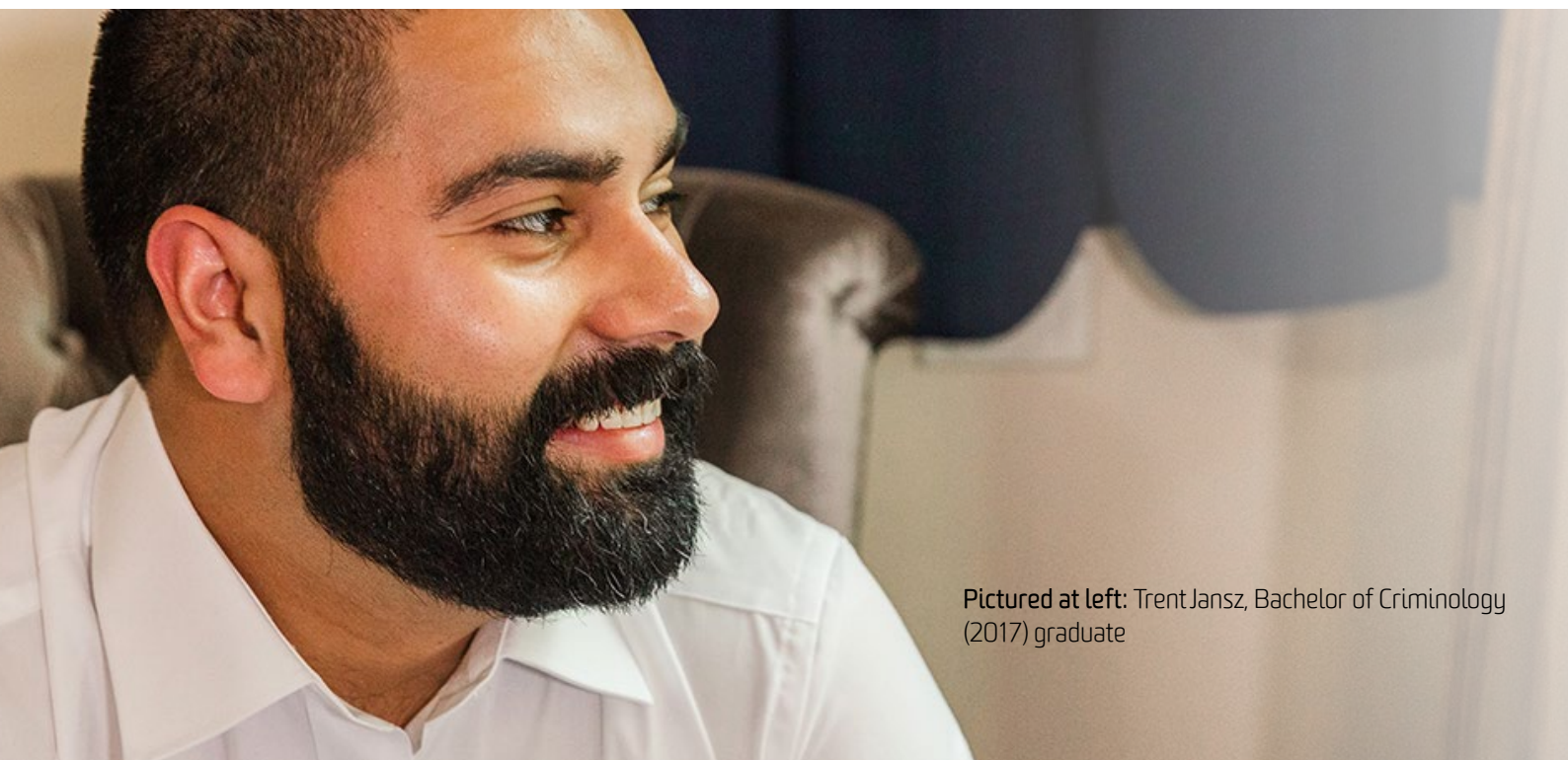
Many of the theoretical and research skills that I acquired through my degree are used every day. My ability to write reports and file notes as well as documents that are taken to the court or police have all been improved from what I've learned at Deakin.

What have you found most surprising about working in criminal justice?

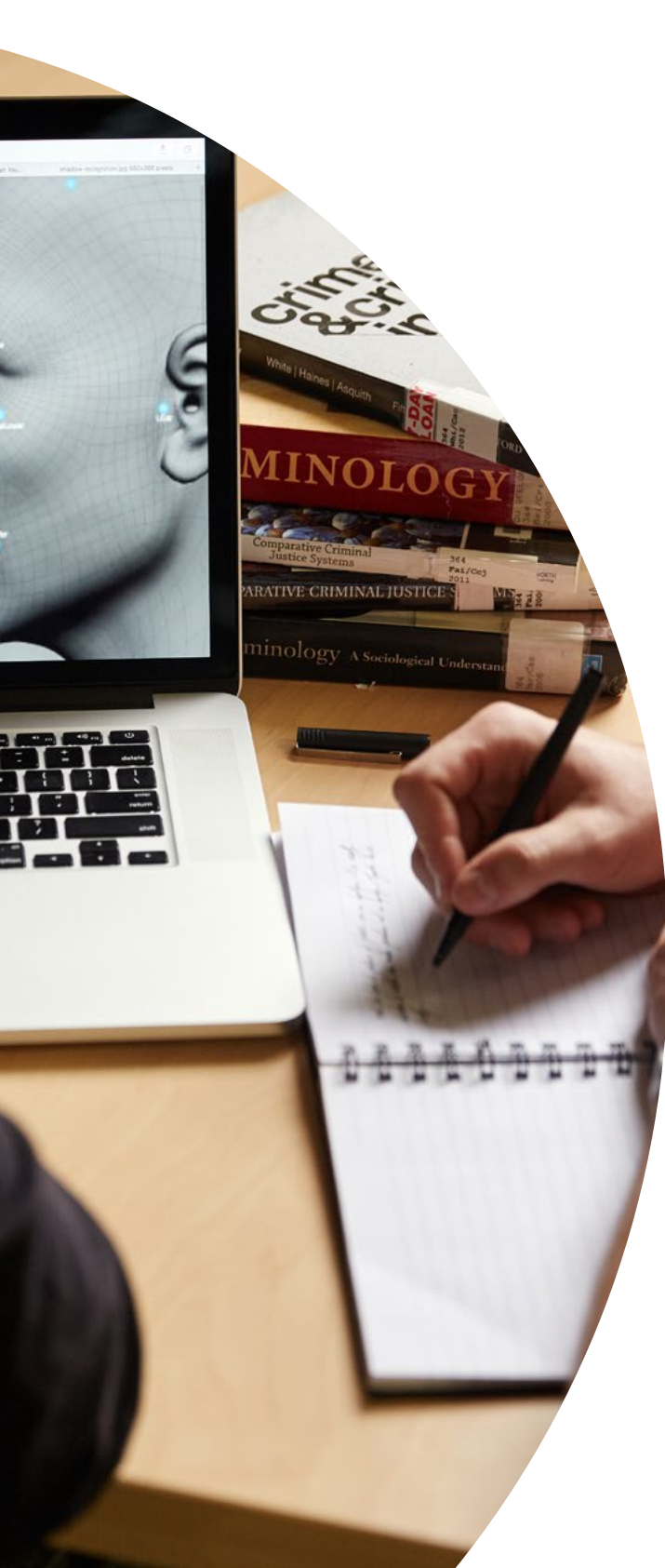
I have found myself surprised by the clients themselves and the amount that they had been failed by our systems in the past; their stories aren't represented truthfully on TV. Learning their actual stories and talking to them has been so valuable and it surprised me that such gaps existed in our system.

Where are you hoping to take your career from here?

I hope to stay in the criminal justice system as there is a lot of work that needs to be done and a lot of hands needed to do it, managing a program similar to the one I am in at the moment.



Pictured at left: Trent Jansz, Bachelor of Criminology (2017) graduate



Explore our stories

Are you curious about how other students have shaped their degrees to match their goals? Or are you intrigued by what kind of research opportunities you could explore in criminology?

We've gathered the best and the boldest of our student stories online. Simply go to deakin.edu.au/artsedstories and search 'criminology' to get inspired.

Get to know Deakin

We've built a reputation out of putting our students' wellbeing first — from the beginning of their journey through to the very end.

Find out about how Deakin can help you manage your finances, study habits, health and wellbeing and post-university career at deakin.edu.au/student-life-and-services

Dive deeper into Deakin criminology

Deakin's criminologists record their findings and chart their thought processes on a special, free-to-access forum. Learn more about their areas of research and the methodologies they use to investigate and address emerging forms of crime at blogs.deakin.edu.au/criminology

Find your way into the field

Whether you meet the entry requirements or you're re-entering university after time away there's a way into education for you. You can find out more about pathways into education and guaranteed entry requirements at deakin.edu.au/pathways

Or if you're confident the Bachelor of Criminology is for you, apply online and start your path towards your goals.

APPLY NOW

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deakin.edu.au/criminology

While the information provided here was correct at the time of publication in July 2023, Deakin University reserves the right to alter, amend or delete details of the course and unit offerings.