



Department of Behavioral Sciences
Description and Learning Outcomes for the Justice Denied: Wrongful Convictions Certificate

One of the greatest tragedies in the criminal justice system is the conviction of individuals for a crime they did not commit. The themed certificate in Wrongful Convictions will provide the opportunity for students to gain an in-depth understanding of the legal process used to process criminal cases, evaluate the ways in which ethics and social justice issues impact conviction rates, and critically analyze real-life examples of wrongful conviction, as well as state and federal post-conviction remedies.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how cases are processed through the criminal justice system and how factors like the media, court decisions, and discretion impact the decisions made by judges, police officers, attorneys, and other key criminal justice professionals.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of theories of free will, the standard challenges to them, and the ways in which free will can (and cannot) be deployed to provide a foundation for theories of responsibility and criminal justice.
3. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and the ways in which the Supreme Court has attempted to resolve the tension between individual rights and crime control needs.
4. Describe the primary factors that lead to wrongful conviction in criminal cases and describe strengths and weaknesses of post-conviction remedies available to defendants wrongfully convicted of crimes.

Learning Outcomes Assessed in Each Course:

Course	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4
CRIM 102	X		X	
PHIL 214		X		
FUSE 300			X	
CRIM 345	X		X	X