

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

DESIGNATION CODE: 2011-12 CAPR 10
DATE SUBMITTED: February 2, 2012

TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning and Review (CAPR)
SUBJECT: Approval of a new Certificate in Criminal Justice
PURPOSE: For action by the Academic Senate

ACTION

REQUESTED: Acceptance of CAPR's recommendation that the Academic Senate approve a proposed Certificate in Criminal Justice in the Department of Criminal Justice Administration, College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2012

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on February 2nd, 2012, CAPR discussed a request by the Department of Criminal Justice Administration to establish a Hybrid-Saturday Criminal Justice Certificate Program that provides an opportunity for students interested in criminal justice to gain a broad overview of the field by incorporating a basic introduction to the criminal justice system, criminal law, policing, crime prevention, corrections, and victimology. According to Department Chair Prof. Silvina Ituarte, the certificate program is intended to provide professional development for those interested in the field of Criminal Justice Administration. It will be piloted through outreach to military veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan through the Veteran's Administration (VA). This is the target population that it is believed can be best served by the program. The proposed certificate will be offered through DCIE with classes on alternating Saturdays and will be delivered by adjunct faculty and, to some degree by full-time faculty on overload. There are no resource implications since the courses are already approved and part of the general curriculum. It is proposed that a convenient off-site location such as a VA institution could be used for classroom sessions for a cohort of students. Completion of the certificate will give potential criminal justice professionals a more rounded view of the field; it is designed to get people thinking about going back in to a full-time program and is thus an important recruitment tool. When questioned on what impact the certificate program would have on current majors enrolled in full-time program, CAPR was informed that there would be none; this is a self-support program. According to Chair Ituarte, it is unlikely that stateside-enrolled students will be affected by the unavailability of the certificate; they will continue to choose the minor in Criminal Justice Administration, which is more valuable than a certificate. The program is slated to begin Summer 2012. CAPR was unanimous, with one abstention, in its vote to recommend to the Academic Senate that the Certificate in Criminal Justice be approved.