

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Full Board

AGENDA ITEM: 12 – C

DATE: August 12, 2015

SUBJECT: New Certificate Request: BHSU Certificate in Criminal Justice

Black Hills State University (BHSU) requests authorization to offer a certificate in Criminal Justice. The certificate originated with discussions with South Dakota government officials about the need for professional development opportunities for law enforcement personnel.

Students in the certificate program would study issues related to the criminal justice system, including sociological aspects. The certificate requires 12 credit hours and no new courses.

BHSU is requesting authorization to offer the certificate through distance education (on-line delivery).

BHSU does not intend to seek an associate degree or baccalaureate major in criminal justice at a later date.

RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Approve BHSU’s new certificate request for a Criminal Justice Certificate as described in Attachment I.

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Certificate Request

This form is to be used to request approval for a new certificate program that includes currently offered courses. A certificate program is not a major or minor. Refer to BOR policy 2:23 Certificate Programs.

BHSU **Sociology/Behavioral**
Institution **Sciences**
Division/Department


Institutional Approval Signature 4/28/15
Date

1. Name of Program: Certificate in Criminal Justice - online delivery

2. Provide a justification for the program.

There are two strong reasons to implement this certificate. At a meeting with BHSU Provost Rod Custer, Behavioral Sciences School Chair Jim Hess, and Kevin J. Krull, the States Attorney for Meade County they discussed the need for professional development programs like certificate programs for law enforcement professionals. In addition, in 2013 Governor Dugaard identified the increase in SD prison populations as a problem and developed a prison reform proposal (see SB 70 http://legis.sd.gov/Legislative_Session/Bills/Bill.aspx?File=SB70ENR.htm&Session=2013) with the intention of reducing prison populations, costs, and to provide alternatives to incarceration. This certificate responds to the new situation with training for existing and future individuals who work with the CJS. In particular courses such as Community Corrections and Prisons and Penology directly address these issues.

3. Who is the audience for the program?

This certificate is designed for professional development for individuals already working in the CJS or Juvenile Justice System who do not hold a completed undergraduate degree. It can also provide professional development for those with degrees. It can also be earned by students at BHSU who are interested. For those already employed in the profession, this gives them an opportunity to earn increased compensation and promotions based on additional knowledge.

The courses provide BHSU students planning to enter the profession with certification in an area that can make them more employable.

This program is delivered online, so it is more easily accessible to individuals already working in the profession.

4. List the courses to be completed, the credit hours of each course, and the total number of credit hours required for the program.

Prefix & #	Title	Credit Hrs
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
SOC 351	Criminology	3
SOC 452	Prisons and Penology	3
	OR	
SOC 456	Community Corrections	3
Total Credit Hours Required		12

5. Proposed CIP code _____ 45.1101 _____

6. Effective Date of Certificate Program _____ Fall 2015 _____