



Australian
National
University

BACHELOR
DEGREE

Bachelor of Criminology



CRICOS code: 078937F

Duration: 3 years

Prerequisites: none

2027 Selection Rank: 80



1st
in Australia

ANU is ranked #1 in Australia
(and in the top 30 in the world) for
7 disciplines across humanities,
arts and social sciences.

*QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026

The Bachelor of Criminology at ANU addresses the causes, politics and management of crime and justice from an interdisciplinary perspective. Grounded in rigorous empirical research and real-world impact, the program draws attention to the social dimensions of crime and deviance and critically assesses crime control policies and justice practices.

You will learn from leading researchers in crime and social justice and exposed to cutting-edge research that shapes public debate, policy reform and justice practice in Australia and internationally. Our teaching is research-led, interdisciplinary, and focused on the real challenges facing contemporary societies.

You will develop a strong understanding of contemporary criminological issues, including definitions and representations of crime; the complex social, political and individual factors underpinning criminal activity; the operation of

criminal justice institutions; policing, courts, prisons and punishment; organised and transnational crime; drugs and crime; young people and crime; gendered violence and justice reform; cyber and technology-facilitated harms; extremism and threats to social cohesion; and First Nations justice and Indigenous-led reform.

Career pathways

The ANU Bachelor of Criminology equips graduates to understand the drivers of crime and how societies respond to it. You will learn to critically assess justice policies and evaluate evidence-based solutions to complex social problems.

The breadth of knowledge that you learn can be applied to many different industries and institutions. Graduates pursue careers across government, intelligence and security agencies, criminal justice institutions, social work, the non-government sector, research, consultancy, journalism and policy making.

Criminology at ANU

The ANU has world-leading criminologists and prides itself on excellence in research-led teaching.

The Bachelor of Criminology draws upon a range of disciplines to offer the very best in contemporary criminological theory and understanding.

It will appeal to students looking for an engaging and stimulating program of study and wishing to immerse themselves in the exciting field of criminology.

Bachelor of Criminology students learn to:

- better understand the social conditions, forces and relations influencing crime and deviance, criminal justice system processes, and crime control interventions;
- develop analytical techniques and research skills for applied use in the fields of criminology and in social research;
- critically evaluate scholarly theories, concepts and methodological approaches relating to all aspects of contemporary criminological inquiry;
- critically evaluate criminal justice policies and practices from an informed interdisciplinary perspective; and
- express complex ideas and arguments across multiple modalities of communication when engaging with a range of relevant audiences in a clear, effective, appropriate and ethical manner.

Internships & study abroad opportunities

You can apply to do an internship through the Australian National Internships Program (ANIP). This program provides you with opportunities to undertake a research project in a workplace for which you will gain academic credit. Through ANIP you can be placed with the Australian Parliament, the Australian Public Service, or with non-government organisations. See anip.anu.edu.au

Criminology students often complete exchange semesters at partner universities overseas.

Flexible Double Degree

The Bachelor of Criminology can be combined with degrees in Arts, Social Sciences, Business, Science or Law as part of the ANU Flexible Double Degree program. For a full list of degree combinations see study.anu.edu.au/study-options/flexible-degree-options-anu

Honours

Students can undertake an honours year. There are also many opportunities for postgraduate study including coursework and research.



Adelaide

Bachelor of Criminology (Honours) and Doctoral Candidate in Criminology

As an emerging criminological researcher, it's important to have a strong foundation in theory and practice from which you can draw. The Bachelor of Criminology has been a crucial part of developing this; throughout my undergraduate degree, and into postgraduate studies, I've been guided by the wealth of experience of peers, tutors, and teachers. What stood out was how my degree allowed me to transform theoretical knowledge into practical experiences and the workforce. I was able to undertake courses focused on developing my own niche through independent research, engage in internships, and work collaboratively to solve modern challenges. Now, as a PhD candidate, I take these skills with me, and feel confident taking on opportunities at home and abroad.

Prizes and Scholarships

There are a number of scholarships for both international and domestic students. To find out if you are eligible, see study.anu.edu.au/scholarships

The Toni Makkai Prize for Excellence in Criminology is awarded annually to the best performing graduate of the program. See anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/prizes

Further information

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