



Corrections Officer (CO)

BACJ- related courses:

- CRJU 2041 - Criminological Theory (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3280 - Trauma Among Correctional Populations (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3310 - Contemporary Issues in Law Enforcement (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3540 - Crime and Delinquency Prevention (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3575 - Offenders with Mental Health Disorders (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4042 - Correction (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4252 - Criminal Offenders: Evidence-Based Decision-Making (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4430 - Law and Society (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4520 - Gangs and Criminal Organizations (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3410 - Probation and Parole (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3290 - Capital Punishment (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3252 - Violent Offenders (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3250 - Violence in Society (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4100 - Administration of Criminal Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4120 - Race, Class, and Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4121 - Ethics in Criminal Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4190 - Gender and Crime (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4200 - Wrongful Convictions (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4210 - Prisoner Reentry (3 Credits)

Complementary/recommended minors: Spanish, Psychology, Sociology, Human Development & Family Relations, English Writing, Communication, Law Studies

Recommended extracurricular activities and experiences: Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society, study abroad, other community involvement, and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) experiences such as a student association or club, volunteering in the community, or other experiences that expose you to communities and cultivate a service-minded perspective.

Internship: Internships at Sheriff's Offices, within community corrections, parole, youth detention centers, nonprofits that focus on reentry or similar would be beneficial.

Duties and Responsibilities: Corrections officers guard correctional facilities, enforce rules and policies within jails or prisons, keep order, prevent assaults and other violent or unallowed activities, supervise those in custody, inspect the facility to ensure safety and security standards are met, conduct searches on inmate,

visitors, cells, etc., report on activities outside of normal facility activities, report rule violations, escort and transport those in custody between facility, courtrooms, or others.

Work Environment: Corrections Officers assume some level of risk in this position, and injury or illness is possible. Often this career can be stressful. Shifts may be indoors or outdoors during all seasons.

Work Schedule: Shift work covers all hours of the day and night.

Career Path/Promotion: Advancement to lead, supervisory or administrative roles are possible depending on education and experience.

Education, Training and Certification: State agencies often require at least a High-school diploma at base level, plus on-the-job training after assignment to a facility. Bachelor's degree yields greater opportunity for advancement and administrative roles and is required for federal facilities.

Special Considerations: Many states have an age requirement, and on-the-job training or a similar training program to a police academy may be required depending on the state or federal facility.

Skills and Competencies: Communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, observation, conflict resolution, interpersonal communication, active listening, physical capability to some extent.

Colorado Salary Averages:

Bottom 10%: \$39,411

Top 10%: \$60,291

Median: \$49,842

*many facilities are offering hiring or retention bonuses to attract employees

Median Salary in U.S. as of 2021: \$47,920

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Police and Detectives, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/protective-service/police-and-detectives.htm> (visited May 31, 2023).