

# Criminal Justice

## Department Overview

Established more than 30 years ago by a former police officer, [Langara's Department of Criminal Justice](#) offers two diplomas. The [Diploma in Criminal Justice](#) is highly regarded by those who recruit police officers, corrections staff, and court service employees such as sheriffs. The [Diploma in Criminology](#) is intended for students wishing to complete two years of university-transferable credits before transferring to a Bachelor's program at SFU, UBC or other institutions.

## Self-Study

Criminal Justice launched its program review in academic year 2020/21 with a Self-Study. Melissa Roberts was the primary Self-Study writer on behalf of the rest of the department's faculty. Additional support was provided by:

- Jim Bowers (Division Chair, Community Programs)
- Elizabeth Barbeau (Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Community Programs)
- Pennie Poon (Manager, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Sunita Wiebe (Director, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Institutional Research analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Institutional Research-compiled student administrative data (*e.g.*, headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Alumni survey
- Faculty survey

The Self-Study was completed in June 2022.

## External Review

Criminal Justice's external review took place on July 6, 2022. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Colin Mills, Geography and Geology, Langara (External Review Chair)
- Constable Binita Cieslar, RCMP
- Sheri Fabian, PhD, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University

## Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, Criminal Justice created an Action Plan with these goals:

- Goal 1: Improve student experience into, through, and beyond our programs.
- Goal 2: Engage in a comprehensive review of the curriculum.
- Goal 3: Revitalize the program advisory committee.

## Examples of Post-Review Successes

### **2023/24**

A new course for the Criminology Diploma was created titled: Sociological Explanations of Criminal and Deviant Behaviour. The department worked with Domestic Recruiting to better promote their programs, including

material for Lower Mainland school counsellors/ administrators, and info sessions.