



Every day, citizens need the aid and protection from public safety administrators.

Whether dealing with natural disasters or those of a man-made kind, these professionals are called upon to foster local, regional and national collaboration through their knowledge of emergency management systems.

## At Ottawa University

The Public Safety Administration (PSA) degree stimulates the aptitudes necessary to become a new member or continuing professional within the Public Safety fields of emergency management, fire protection, emergency medical response, Public Safety, or environmental health and safety. In addition, students in the PSA major become proficient in improving the application of social justice, sheltering individual rights, meeting public expectations, and safeguarding the principles and legal foundations of the Public Safety professions. Students will analyze community expectations from the response, engagement and aftermath phases of fluid and static national, state and local incidents, touching all aspects of the Public Safety profession. Students will examine leadership aspects of the theoretical, societal, judicial, and practical issues related to the operations and responsibilities of complex Public Safety organizations. Within the contexts of current life-changing episodes such as poverty, racial and religious tensions, ethnicity, human relations, urban expansion, and ever changing public policy, students will analyze the causes of deviant behavior in public safety encounters. In addition to examining critical thinking techniques, best practice problem-solving models, and listening and communication skills, students develop increased empathy and a greater understanding of community dynamics and diversity. They evaluate scientific advances and new technologies that support effective crime detection, intervention and prevention.

## Careers

As society becomes more conscious of personal and public safety, careers in law enforcement, Homeland Security, cyber-security, and investigation will continue to increase. Across the board, public safety employment opportunities are expected to grow to keep pace with the increase in global population.

## Education and Qualifications

Management positions in law enforcement and public safety organizations typically require a bachelor's degree.

# Undergraduate Public Safety

## Foundation Courses

### PSA 30100 Servant Leadership in Public Safety

Provides public safety leaders with the knowledge, skills, and tools for effective leadership within their chosen fields, with a focus on the Servant Leadership model and demonstrating how serving first and leading second, evolves seamlessly.

### PSA 30200 Ethics, Liabilities and Rights in Public Safety

Examines ethics from a public safety profession perspective, including the application of ethical theories to those professions. Academic themes include public safety prudence, recuperative and restorative justice, legal applications and procedures, sentencing, research, community crime control policies.

### PSA 30300 Individual Rights: Practices and Systems in Public Safety

Examines legal theory behind individual rights and their practices and systems application as connected to the public safety profession. Examines the U.S. constitution as it relates to the public safety function, including statutory law and judicial decisions governing the areas of arrest, search and seizure, interrogations and confessions, self-incrimination, and other constitutional guarantees.

### PSA 40000 Race, Crime, & Social Policy

Examines prejudice, discrimination, systems and structures of oppression and effects on public safety in a changing society. Analyzes significance of race, class, and ethnicity to crime perpetration and criminal justice processing, role of racism in treatment of minorities by various components of criminal justice system, evolving public policy resulting from increases in immigration and impact on public safety professions. Examines hate crimes, laws enacted to combat, and multi-disciplinary approaches to community relations.

### PSA 40100 Communication Skills for Public Safety Professionals

Examines the importance of acquiring proficient knowledge of and utilization of effective communication skills while working within the public safety profession. Includes a combination of instructional and interactive learning techniques designed to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of the importance of communication. Students will learn active listening methods as well as diverse measures of effective communication.

### PSA 40300 Victimology Understanding for Public Safety

Examines the concept of Victimology and provides information on the fears, emotional distress, physical suffering, and financial loss suffered by victims and witnesses of crime. Explores victimization, including relations between victims and offenders, interactions between victims and the criminal justice system, that is, the Public Safety profession, courts, and corrections officials, and the connections between victims and other social groups and institutions, such as the media, businesses, and social movements.

### PSA 49000 Seminar in Applied Public Safety

Capstone course that guides student in the integration of functional content areas in the field of public safety. Addresses public safety issues and applying public safety theories and techniques to problems and cases through a process of decision-making that demonstrates achievement of the learning outcomes. Prerequisite: Completion of all required courses in the major or permission of advisor.

## Tracks

### Law Enforcement

#### PSA 30000 Examination of Criminal Justice

Designed to reinforce officer's knowledge and understanding of all facets of criminal justice system, sub-systems and how they interrelate (police, defense and prosecuting attorneys, courts, institutional corrections, community-based corrections, and the juvenile justice system.) Emphasis on criminal justice system as a whole and necessity that its elements be integrated. Roles and interrelationships of local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies also examined.

#### PSA 30500 Mental Illness Responses and Strategies

Develops an understanding of the observable symptoms in common types of mental illness and associated criminal behavior. Explores proper techniques for handling and transporting people who are mentally disturbed and the legal procedures for both emergency and routine mental illness related cases. Examines the risk factors and warning signs to effectively respond to individuals experiencing mental illness trauma events.

### PSA 40200 Policing in Today's Communities

Focuses particularly on police response to the community, recognizing that delivery of police services is much more than law enforcement. Stresses the skills of communication, intervention, negotiation and mediation. Ties directly to the expectation that police maintain order and engage in conflict resolution. Includes dynamics of human relationships and understanding various cultural differences that affect policing. Provides overview of origins, meaning and development of community policing programs. Used role-playing and case studies to enhance learning experience.

### Public Safety Leadership

#### PSA 30600 Public Safety Administration

Examines public safety administration and organizational problem solving, including the concept that leaders must become skilled in navigating the "change process" which drives organizational vision and assists in its ability to be implemented within the culture of an organization. Explores topics of employee engagement, resistance to change, and strategies for effective leadership.

#### PSA 30700 Leadership Issues and the First-line Supervisor

Examines first-line supervision, with a progression to mid-level and executive-level leadership, focusing on leadership principles and theories. Applies popular governance and leadership theories to current issues in the public safety field, such as homeland security, crisis leadership, implementing technology innovations, police ethics, and integrity.

#### PSA 40600 Human Resources for Public Safety

Examines the larger human resources functions of recruitment, hiring, retention, and training for the public safety agency sector, including the intersection of planning, budgeting, personnel, external and internal pressures, and performance expectations of a public safety agency. Focuses on larger human relations planning processes within the context of the general movement to "reform" public safety agencies and improve performance in an effort to serve communities more effectively and enhance the public good.