

Meeting: CHE Meeting  
Meeting Date: June 6, 2024  
Agenda Item: 5.02A.6

## New Program Proposal

### Master of Science in Criminology & Criminal Justice [CIP Code: 43.0103]

Lander University [Site Code: 50401 (Lander University – Main campus); 85750 (Online Degree Programs), 85500 (Blended Distance Education); 70034 (University Center of Greenville – UCG)]

#### A. SUMMARY

Lander University proposes a M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice to provide courses in crisis communication; crisis leadership; mental health; first responders; and policy; not just the “standard bearer” courses of research methods and theory. The distinctive core courses would give graduates greater preparation to serve in leadership roles within law enforcement, government, and non-profits and have knowledge and analytical capacity about legal and social problems that plague South Carolina such as addiction, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

All courses in the proposed degree program have application for law enforcement careers with (1) police and sheriffs’ departments; (2) S.C. Departments of Probation, Pardon, and Parole; Corrections; and Juvenile Justice; (3) State Law Enforcement Division; (4) victims’ advocates in every S.C. county; (5) non-profit organizations who work with criminal justice clients; and (6) the many federal agencies who partner with our state under the U.S. Department of Justice (FBI; ATF; DEA; Bureau of Prisons; Probation Service, Marshals) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Customs and Border Protection; Transportation Security Administration; and Coast Guard). Two core courses will always be offered each term so that students can continue to make progress. After the third semester of the program, CRIM 695: Capstone Experience will be offered each academic term in order to all students to complete the degree.

The M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice degree is a total of 30 credit hours: 18 credit hours with 12 elective hours. The programs modality will be immediately offered fully online, yet also prepared to launch this program through hybrid courses at the University Center of Greenville (UCG) and on the main campus in Greenwood if demand necessitated those delivery modes. The proposed program will begin August 2024.

Target Audiences: Lander’s proposed program would most readily serve two audiences:

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(1) law enforcement officers and professionals in government or non-profits who are connected to criminal justice, social services, homeland security, and public safety; and

(2) students at Lander or other universities who are completing an undergraduate degree in criminology, criminal justice, political science, psychology, sociology, or other social sciences and wish to pursue a graduate degree that would enable them to have greater knowledge and skills to begin their career.

### B. UNIVERSITY STUDENT AND PROGRAM DATA, Semester Year

Graduate in-state (92%)/out-of-State (8%) Enrollment, Fall 2023
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\*Source: Provisional Fall 2023 Data

### C. INSTITUTIONAL APPROVALS AND DATES OF APPROVAL (include department through Provost/Chief Academic Officer, President, and Board of Trustees approval):

Internal Institutional Unit	Approval Date	Internal Institutional Unit	Approval Date
Department of Government, Criminology, & Sociology	November 7, 2023	Dean, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences	November 8, 2023
Faculty Curriculum Committee	November 9, 2023	Faculty Senate	November 14, 2023
Deans' Council	November 27, 2023	Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs	November 27, 2023
President	December 12, 2023	Board of Trustees	December 12, 2023

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D. SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN SOUTH CAROLINA – PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

Program Name and Designation	Total Credit Hours	Institution	Similarities	Differences
M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice	30 hrs.	University of South Carolina – Columbia (USC)	Similar number of required hours; required courses in methods and theory; courses that address law and policy within the criminal justice system.	USC has no required courses in communication, mental health, or leadership. There is less overt attention to policy and leadership in the curriculum and more attention to theory and research methods. The application-oriented framing of courses is less clear than with Lander curriculum. The curriculum seems less tied to social services (government and non-profits) than at Lander. Total number of courses is larger than at Lander. USC’s program must be completed in person and requires a comprehensive exam for graduation.
M.A. in Criminal Justice	30 hrs.	Columbia College (CC)	Similar number of required hours; required courses in theory, methods, leadership, and a capstone seminar; offered fully online.	CC’s has no required courses in communication or mental health. The CC program has 10 required courses (including courses in law; diversity, standard operating procedures, and police intelligence). Therefore, students have no choice for

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				course electives based upon their interests or career goals. The CC courses are offered in 7-week blocks for a cohort. CC's curriculum is focused exclusively on policing and is not focused on policy and does not seem as linked to government or non-profit careers, only traditional law enforcement.
Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.)	36 hrs.	Anderson University (AU)	AU has a required course in leadership, theory, and research methods; Offered fully online	AU's program requires 6 more hrs. and students must have 5 years of law enforcement experience. The program is focused on policing, not others in government or non-profits related to careers in policy, planning, or social services. AU's program requires twice a month in-person meetings on the AU campus. Faculty listing shows many part-time and few full-time faculty. Research publications of full-time faculty cannot be found.
M.S. in Criminal Justice	33 to 36 hrs.	Charleston Southern University (CSU)	Required courses in research methods, theory; a course on administrative management	CSU has no required courses in communication or mental health but requires courses in both law and ethics.

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			(required at CSU, elective at Lander)	Leadership course is more about administrative management, not crisis leadership. CSU focuses on policing, courts, and corrections, but does not offer coursework or focus on policy areas, policy application, or cover policy areas, such as human trafficking. With the thesis option, CSU says that its target audience includes those who may wish to pursue law school or a doctorate.
M.S. in Criminal Justice	48 hrs.	South University	Required courses in research methods, theory, and leadership (albeit the standard organizational leadership focus, not crisis leadership; offered fully online	No required course in mental health or communication. Required course in ethics as well as planning and innovation. All graduate courses are 4 hrs., so the degree is for 12 courses, not 10. The courses are more focused on and corrections administration (including a course on juvenile justice, not on policy and social problems.

E. ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

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Projected Enrollment			
Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
	Headcount	Headcount	Headcount
	Total	Total	Total
2024-2025	10	12	16
2025-2026	18	20	24
2026-2027	26	28	32
2027-2028	32	32	36
2028-2029	36	36	36

The table is based on enrollment beginning summer 2025 with 15 new students each summer, 15 new students each fall, and 15 new students each spring. Years one through four total headcounts are based on 95% returning summer to fall, 95% returning fall to spring, and 95% returning spring to fall. Year three headcount is additionally based on 80% graduation rate of returning students.

F. INDUSTRY-RELATED OCCUPATIONAL WAGES AND PROJECTIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Occupation	State		National		Data Type and Source
	Expected Number of Jobs	Employment Projection	Expected Number of Jobs	Employment Projection	

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Police Officers	12,390	13.8%	710,000	3.3%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
First-Line Supervisors of Law Enforcement Workers	1,950	15.4%	199,100	1.4%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	1,620	11%	116,100	1.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Social and Community Service Managers	1,700	16.4%	194,600	9.1%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Arbitrators, Mediators, and Conciliators	60	10%	9,600	5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	430	4.9%	96,200	2.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>



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Correctional Officers and Jailers	5580	-0.9%	349,900	1.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
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On November 8, 2023, the South Carolina Careers employment database contained 479 job openings in the following categories: Community Services, Community and Social Services, Corrections, Criminology, Forensics, Investigative, Law Enforcement, Probation, Public Safety, Social Sciences, Social Services.

**G. CHE STAFF STAGES OF CONSIDERATION**

Considerations	Date	Comments
Program proposal received	1.23.2024	Original Proposal received via email. Assigned lead reviewer and second reader
Summary of staff comments, responses, and versions	2.12.2024	One revision request included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supportive documentation</li> <li>• Course approval</li> </ul>
ACAP Considerations	3/28/2024	ACAP questions: None Lander noted that new faculty was hired as of the ACAP meeting date to support the program. Responses: None Vote: Approved

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CAAL Considerations (See attached commissioner questions and responses)		CAAL questions: None Responses: NA Vote: Approved
CHE Considerations		CHE questions Responses Vote
Submission to IT for addition to inventory		Date completed

H. STAFF, ACAP, CAAL AND CHE RECOMMENDATIONS

a. STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommended

b. ACAP RECOMMENDATION

Approved

c. CAAL RECOMMENDATION

Approved

d. CHE RECOMMENDATION

Choose an item.

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Additional Comments:

**NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM**

Name of Institution: Lander University

Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, or tracks):  
Master of Science in Criminology & Criminal Justice

Program Designation:

- Associate’s Degree
- Master’s Degree
- Bachelor’s Degree: 4 Year
- Specialist
- Bachelor’s Degree: 5 Year
- Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA)
- Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.)

Consider the program for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
- No

Proposed Date of Implementation: August 2024

CIP Code: 43.0103

Delivery Site(s): (assigned by CHE): 50401 (Lander University – Main campus); 85750 (Online Degree Programs), 85500 (Blended Distance Education); 70034 (University Center of Greenville – UCG)

Delivery Mode:

- Traditional/face-to-face  
\*select if less than 25% online
- Distance Education
  - 100% online
  - Blended/hybrid (50% or more online)
  - Blended/hybrid (25-49% online)
  - Other distance education (explain if selected)

Program Contact Information (name, title, telephone number, and email address):

Lucas McMillan, Dean, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences  
864-388-8275 [smcmillan@lander.edu](mailto:smcmillan@lander.edu)  
Lloyd Willis, Dean, College of Graduate & Online Studies  
864-388-8424 [lwillis@lander.edu](mailto:lwillis@lander.edu)

Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval (include department through Provost/Chief Academic Officer, President, and Board of Trustees approval):

Department of Government, Criminology, & Sociology	November 7, 2023
Dean, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences	November 8, 2023
Faculty Curriculum Committee	November 9, 2023
Faculty Senate	November 14, 2023
Deans’ Council	November 27, 2023

Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs  
President  
Board of Trustees

November 27, 2023  
December 12, 2023  
December 12, 2023

## Background Information

State the nature and purpose of the proposed program, including target audience, centrality to institutional mission, and relation to the strategic plan.

**Background Information:** Lander University began offering a B.S. in Criminology in 2016. Before this time, Lander offered an Emphasis in Criminal Justice within our B.S. in Sociology. Lander alumni proudly serve in law enforcement at the local, state, and national levels; in government agencies related to homeland security; with government agencies and non-profit organizations focused upon social services that serve a wide variety of populations and/or address specific social problems; and in the law. Lander's undergraduate Criminology major has attracted students to this exciting discipline, and the Fall 2023 headcount is 136 majors and 24 minors. Importantly, the undergraduate program is tied to the Lakelands region of South Carolina through both internships and undergraduate research projects. In addition, professionals often serve as guest speakers in courses and participate in special events and programming offered to students.

Lander alumni as well as law enforcement professionals, non-profit leaders, and policy-oriented analysts who wish to pursue leadership roles find themselves in need of a master's degree in criminology and criminal justice. This want is echoed by Lander's partners in local government, law enforcement, corrections, and social services. Prospective students have often relayed their wish to increase their skills in communication, leadership, and critical thinking to advance their careers. Lander created an M.S. in Emergency Management ten years ago, and its application-focused design in partnership with FEMA continued education has created sustainable enrollments and enabled its alumni to further their careers. In that spirit, we believe that the M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice proposed here will be successful and beneficial to our state's needs.

The proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Lander University is an application-oriented degree with required courses in crisis communication; crisis leadership; mental health and first responders;<sup>1</sup> and policy; not just the "standard bearer" courses of research methods and theory. The distinctive core courses would give graduates greater preparation to serve in leadership roles within law enforcement, government, and non-profits and have knowledge and analytical capacity about legal and social problems that plague South Carolina such as addiction, domestic violence, and human trafficking. All courses would be within an ethical framework and informed by best practices based upon research. With this application-oriented, ethical framework, and distinctive core courses, this master's degree aims to assist retention efforts of law enforcement officers and help to recruit high-quality officers and specialists into the state's law enforcement agencies, public safety departments, and correctional institutions.

All courses in the proposed degree program have application for law enforcement careers with (1) police and sheriffs' departments; (2) S.C. departments of Probation, Pardon, and Parole; Corrections;

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<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (2023) *Recruitment and Retention for the Modern Law Enforcement Agency*. Washington, DC: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. Available at <https://bja.ojp.gov/doc/recruitment-retention-modern-le-agency.pdf>.

Morison, Kevin P. (2017) "Mental Health Issues in the Hiring Process and on the Job," *Hiring for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Law Enforcement Officer: Challenges, Opportunities, and Strategies for Success*. Washington, DC: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. Pages 56-58. Available at <https://portal.cops.usdoj.gov/resourcecenter/ric/Publications/cops-w0831-pub.pdf>.

and Juvenile Justice; (3) State Law Enforcement Division; (4) victims' advocates in every S.C. county; (5) non-profit organizations who work with criminal justice clients; and (6) the many federal agencies who partner with our state under the U.S. Department of Justice (FBI; ATF; DEA; Bureau of Prisons; Probation Service, Marshals) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Customs and Border Protection; Transportation Security Administration; and Coast Guard).

Many state and federal agencies prefer applicants with a master's degree, and many departments use a points system for promotion, so a master's degree assists greatly in career advancement.<sup>2</sup>

The degree would also heighten skills for leaders in social service organizations (whether government, non-profit, or private)—in advocating for and assisting victims and persons from vulnerable populations—as well as working collaboratively to combat social problems and mental health needs. Mental illness now affects 21% of U.S. adults, but for incarcerated persons the rates are 64% of jail inmates, 54% of state prisoners, and 45% of federal prisoners.<sup>3</sup>

To assess need for this program only through projected job openings in specific fields is to misunderstand the nature of the fields in question. Law enforcement and other criminology/ criminal justice related fields routinely require a high school education with some post-secondary education, either in an academy, at technical colleges, or at the bachelor's level. Career advancement routinely involves higher levels of education. One realm that showcases the increased need for education is with police chiefs. A 2017 study found that 35.1% of law enforcement CEOs have earned a master's degree,<sup>4</sup> whereas a 2021 survey of police chiefs “found that 4 out of 5 survey respondents possesses an advanced degree.”<sup>5</sup>

For the profession overall, continuing education and pay increases tied to education levels are critical to employee retention.<sup>6</sup> For most law enforcement agencies in South Carolina, pay increases are routinely tied to each subsequent level of education. This is true in every major population center in the state (Columbia, Charleston, Greenville, Myrtle Beach, Rock Hill), it is true of the smaller agencies

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<sup>2</sup> The U.S. government requires a “master’s or equivalent graduate degree or 2 full years of progressively higher level graduate education” for anyone in a position at the level of GS-9. See Internal Revenue Service (2024) “GS Schedules.” Available at <https://www.jobs.irs.gov/resources/understanding-gs> The FBI reports that it typically hires police officers in at the GS-7 or GS-8 level. FBI (2023) Understanding the Process: Police Officer Selection System. Available at [https://fbijobs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/Guide\\_Police.pdf](https://fbijobs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/Guide_Police.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Taylor, Ebonyque (2022) “Mental Health and Reentry: How Court Services Offender Agency Meets the Challenge of Mental Health Community Supervision.” *Dispatch* (newsletter of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice), Vol. 15, Issue 5 (May). Available at [https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/05-2022/mental\\_health\\_reentry.html](https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/05-2022/mental_health_reentry.html)

<sup>4</sup> Gardiner, Christie (2017), *Policing Around the Nation: Education, Philosophy, and Practice*. National Policing Institute and California State University, Fullerton. Page 5. Available at <https://www.policinginstitute.org/publication/policing-around-the-nation-education-philosophy-and-practice/>.

<sup>5</sup> Police Executive Research Forum (2022), *Police Chiefs Compensation and Career Pathways: PERF’s 2021 Survey*. Washington, DC: PERF. Page 9. Available at <https://www.policeforum.org/assets/ChiefsCompensation.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Terra, Mark J (2009) “Increasing Officer Retention Through Educational Incentives.” *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin* 78(2) 11-15. Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (2023) *Recruitment and Retention for the Modern Law Enforcement Agency*. Pages 40-42. Available at <https://bjaojp.gov/doc/recruitment-retention-modern-le-agency.pdf>.

in the cities and counties surrounding Lander University, and it is true in state law enforcement agencies, and it is a longstanding principle of the broad law enforcement field.<sup>7</sup>

**Target Audiences:** Lander’s proposed program would most readily serve two audiences:

(1) law enforcement officers and professionals in government or non-profits who are connected to criminal justice, social services, homeland security, and public safety; and

(2) students at Lander or other universities who are completing an undergraduate degree in criminology, criminal justice, political science, psychology, sociology, or other social sciences and wish to pursue a graduate degree that would enable them to have greater knowledge and skills to begin their career.

With a proposed graduate program of 30 hrs. and bachelor’s degree program at Lander being 120 hrs., the total is 150 hrs. Lander’s current plans do not allow for senior undergraduate students in graduate courses early.

The Capstone Experience course would push students to write a professional paper that is more akin to a policy report or training manual than a journal article. In other words, the application-oriented focus and benefit to practitioners is to have social science research skills and data analysis that can be applied in the field and not simply lead to a traditional academic publication. Thus, the high-quality result is still there, but the aim of this M.S. program is not intended to lead toward a Ph.D. If that is a student’s goal, then they will be mentored by faculty for that route through more advanced research methods and mentorship toward the requirements of academic research. Given the scholarly achievements of faculty, this is certainly possible, yet we believe most students for this program will be practitioners and benefit from application. Thus, the structure of this degree is 30 hours of coursework culminating in a Capstone Experience, not necessarily a master’s thesis.

**Connection to University Mission and Strategic Plan:** Lander’s vision is for its graduates to be “broadly educated, well-informed, equipped for responsible participation in the civic lives of their communities, and prepared to continue their education or launch their careers.” The University’s mission is to offer “high-demand and market-driven programs to ambitious and talented students in South Carolina and beyond.” The first pillar of Lander University’s strategic plan involves “continued evaluation and introduction of new programs.” We are proposing this program specifically to meet the demand of our stakeholders, specifically those in South Carolina closest to our main campus in Greenwood.

We believe that this M.S. program aligns strongly with the university’s mission, vision, and strategic plan because of its applied-focus, attention to legal and social problems that plague South Carolina’s population, and goal of building analytical skills to greatly assist the existing and future workforce within law enforcement, government, non-profits, and social service agencies.

### Assessment of Need

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<sup>7</sup> Wilson, Jeremy M., et al. (2010). *Police Recruitment and Retention for the New Millennium: The State of Knowledge*. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, page 50. Available at <https://portal.cops.usdoj.gov/resourcecenter/RIC/Publications/cops-p199-pub.pdf>.



Provide an assessment of the need for the program for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable.

[The United States Department of Labor's Projections Central](#) projects that South Carolina will experience 13.8% growth in the need for Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers between 2020 and 2030 with an average of 1,030 annual job openings, which represents the sixth greatest percentage increase among U.S. states. Moreover, Projections Central projects that South Carolina will experience 15.4% growth in the need for First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives, with an average annual increase of 140 job openings, which represents the second greatest percentage increase among US states. Leaders in law enforcement need strong communication, leadership, and analytical skills to be able to prepare for and respond to crises, utilize data, keep up with best practices, and collaborate with law enforcement colleagues at the local, state, and national levels.

In addition, South Carolina will increasingly need highly qualified social and community service managers (see 16.4% state employment projection in the Employment Opportunities table below). While several of Lander's undergraduate programs seek to assist this workforce need, this proposed M.S. program would greatly enhance the skillset of persons to work as supervisors or leaders in criminal justice and social service settings—whether within business, government, or non-profit—and in a variety of settings that focus upon reducing crime, analyzing crime, enhancing public safety, and supporting victims and their families.

While workforce data demonstrates employment demand to support this proposed program, ample data also exists to support its online delivery. Demand for online educational opportunities in South Carolina is extremely high. The most recent data provided by the [National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements Data Dashboards](#) (Figure 1) shows that in the most recent reporting term, Fall 2022, 37,902 individuals in South Carolina were enrolled in Exclusively Distance Education programs in other states, representing an increase of nearly 3,000 students the previous year and the largest number ever (excluding the Covid-skewed year of 2020).<sup>8</sup> To put this in perspective, the number of South Carolinians being educated outside of the state is greater than the number enrolled at the University of South Carolina. Our workforce is being educated by Southern New Hampshire University, Liberty University, Western Governors University, Strayer University, and the University of Phoenix, along with numerous other institutions across the country.

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<sup>8</sup> NC-SARA data for Fall 2022 shows that 31,192 students were enrolled in exclusively distance in the state of South Carolina. See <https://nc-sara.org/data-dashboards>.

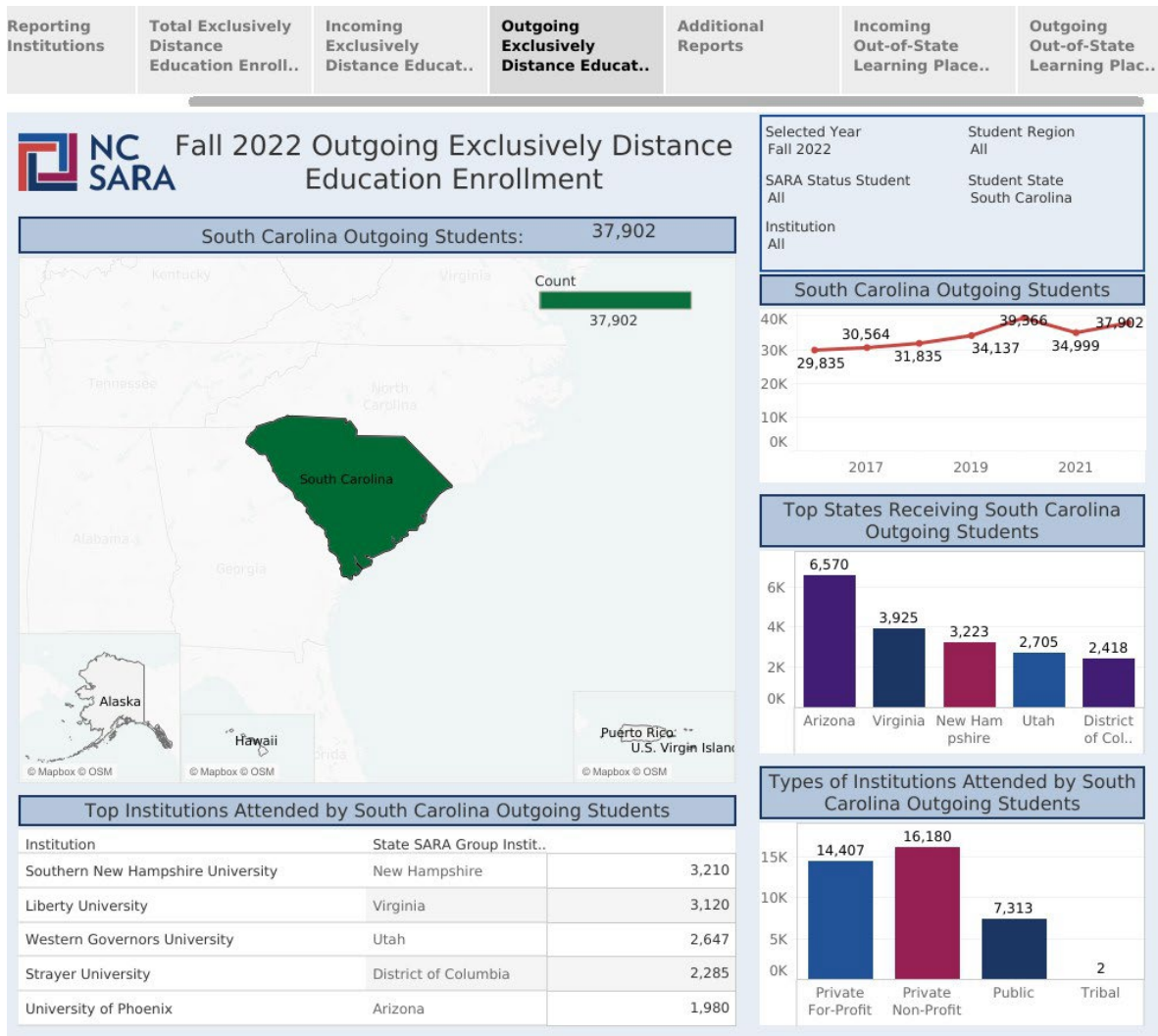


Figure 1: Data provided by the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements Data Dashboards.

While we know South Carolinians are choosing to pursue out-of-state online educational opportunities, national studies such as the [2023 Graduate Student Recruitment Report by Ruffalo Noel Levitz](#), routinely find that students strongly prefer to enroll in online programs offered by institutions with physical presences close to home.

To serve our local population by providing this program in an online format is squarely within the mission of Lander University. We would immediately offer this M.S. program fully online, yet also prepared to launch this program through hybrid courses at the University Center of Greenville (UCG) and on the main campus in Greenwood if demand necessitated those delivery modes. Lander University's B.S. in Human Services offers an example of a program offered in multiple delivery modes—online, hybrid at the UCG, and face-to-face on the main campus and has been successful, with enrollment growth to 68 majors (Fall 2023) since it was approved by CHE in spring 2020, likely due in part to successful marketing efforts and as well as welcoming students' feedback about preferences for delivery mode and scheduling.

**4) Online graduate students are more likely than classroom graduate students to apply to programs close to home (within 25 miles).**

How far from where you reside (or resided at the time) was the furthest school/program you considered?



**Distance from home by format**

DISTANCE	ALL ONLINE	PARTIALLY ONLINE	ALL CLASSROOM
Within 25 miles	40%	37%	34%
25-50 miles	25%	31%	26%
51-75 miles	11%	14%	8%
75-100 miles	6%	6%	6%
More than 100 miles	19%	12%	25%

Figure 2: Data from the 2023 Graduate Student Recruitment Report by Ruffalo Noel Levitz

Lander University has received letters of support for the proposed program from the following (see the letters attached at the end of this proposal):

- Clarke A. Stearns, Sheriff, McCormick County
- Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam, S.C. House District No. 42, Laurens and Union counties
- Greg Allen, Lander University Chief of Police
- Leon Lott, Sheriff, Richland County
- Dennis D. Kelly, Sheriff, Greenwood County
- James Lee Foster, Sheriff, Newberry County
- David M. Stumbo, 8th Circuit Solicitor (Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens, and Newberry counties)
- Mark N. Willis, S.C. House District No. 16, Greenville and Laurens counties
- TJ Chaudoin, Chief, Greenwood Police Department
- William D. Willis, Chief, McCormick Police Department

**Transfer and Articulation**

Identify any special articulation agreements for the proposed program. Provide the articulation agreement or Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding.

Lander University is willing to accept up to 9 hrs. in 3 graduate courses from students who bring equivalent master’s level coursework from another regionally accredited institution. This is in line with policies for other graduate programs at Lander University.

### Employment Opportunities

Occupation	State		National		Data Type and Source
	Expected Number of Jobs	Employment Projection	Expected Number of Jobs	Employment Projection	
Police Officers	12,390	13.8%	710,000	3.3%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
First-Line Supervisors of Law Enforcement Workers	1,950	15.4%	199,100	1.4%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	1,620	11%	116,100	1.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Social and Community Service Managers	1,700	16.4%	194,600	9.1%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Arbitrators, Mediators, and Conciliators	60	10%	9,600	5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	430	4.9%	96,200	2.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>
Correctional Officers and Jailers	5580	-0.9%	349,900	1.5%	<a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm">https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/emp-by-detailed-occupation.htm</a> ; <a href="https://www.projectionscentral.org/">https://www.projectionscentral.org/</a>

#### Supporting Evidence of Anticipated Employment Opportunities

Provide supporting evidence of anticipated employment opportunities for graduates.

On November 8, 2023, the [South Carolina Careers employment database](#) contained 479 job openings in the following categories: Community Services, Community and Social Services, Corrections, Criminology, Forensics, Investigative, Law Enforcement, Probation, Public Safety, Social Sciences, Social Services. This website provides a list of 11 positions in Greenwood County alone (on February 20, 2024).

#### Description of the Program

Projected Enrollment			
Year	Fall Headcount	Spring Headcount	Summer Headcount
2024-2025	10	12	16
2025-2026	18	20	24

2026-2027	26	28	32
2027-2028	32	32	36
2028-2029	36	36	36

Explain how the enrollment projections were calculated.

With targeted marketing efforts, partnerships and communication with professional associations and law enforcement groups, and efforts to advertise this new M.S. program to Lander students, we are confident that we would begin the program in Fall 2024 with 10 students. We believe that the program will continue to slowly grow, on average, by an increase of 8 students per Fall semester, until slowly to 36 in Year 5. We further predict that an increase will increase in the Summer semester, primarily reflected upon those persons who move directly from an undergraduate program to begin this master’s program.

Graduate students are considered as full-time if enrolled in 6 hrs. of courses. The chart above reflects the number of full-time equivalent students per term across the year.

Tuition is \$545 per credit hour for a total of \$3270 per full-time student per semester.

The budget details provided later use this projected enrollment, and the later schedule course plans showcase that Lander University is prepared to offer this program in one year, one and a half year, and two-year timeframes for students because the target audiences have different needs in terms of how much coursework can and will be taken per term. Projected enrollment and course planning assume that, as with Lander University’s M.S. in Emergency Management, the majority of students (a) will remain full-time in summer terms and; (b) some students will start the program in the summer term. Therefore, the “traditional assumptions” in graduate education of (1) a fall semester start; (2) full-time effort on graduate school combined with a teaching or research assistantship; and (3) few if any courses taken over the summer do not apply to this program. These projected enrollments provided above are also shaped by Lander University’s experience with the graduate programs in recent years, most of which are aimed at working adults, but some of which enroll students immediately after earning an undergraduate degree.

The University will consistently market this program to all target audiences. While we wish to continue growing this program, we plan a plateau of 36 students to be conservative in terms of what can be accomplished and want to carefully assess what institutional resources (including faculty) can support. As always, program assessment efforts will be used to measure needs and are used in determining University investment.

Besides the general institutional admission requirements, are there any separate or additional admission requirements for the proposed program? If yes, explain.

Yes

No

### Curriculum

**New Courses** (all approved through Lander University processes)

List and provide course descriptions for new courses.

**Required Courses (18 hrs.)**

CRIM 620. CRISIS COMMUNICATION

CRIM 625. CRISIS LEADERSHIP

CRIM 635. MENTAL HEALTH AND FIRST RESPONDERS

CRIM 650. CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY & POLICY

CRIM 660. RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIM 695. CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

**Elective Courses (12 hrs.)**

CRIM 640. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CRIM 645. ADVANCED CRIMINAL LAW

CRIM 665. ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIM 670. VICTIMOLOGY

CRIM 675. ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIM 680. SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Course Descriptions**

**CRIM 620. CRISIS COMMUNICATION**

This course examines communication strategies, theories, and methods needed to convey essential information during diverse crisis situations to all relevant actors and the public. Students will learn the process of developing a crisis communication plan. Case studies will be used throughout the course to analyze successes and failures of crisis communication in past events. Specific emphasis will be placed on the role of the Public Information Officer (PIO) during times of crisis. Cross-listed with EMGT 620. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 625. CRISIS LEADERSHIP**

This course analyzes leadership theories and approaches appropriate for a wide range of crisis management activities. Leadership during a crisis requires strong critical thinking skills, a large reservoir of intellectual creativity, an ability to remain calm in a chaotic environment, a keen sense of cultural sensitivity toward the many publics affected by a crisis, and other skill sets different from those required to be successful under routine non-critical conditions. This course will examine leadership before and during a crisis at the administrative level as well as for first responders on-scene using the Incident Command System (ICS). Cross-listed with EMGT 625. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 635. MENTAL HEALTH AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

This course is designed to explore the impact of a crisis or the aftermath of a violent event on a community and individuals from a mental health perspective. Students will learn to identify the range of psychological responses exhibited by survivors and first responders. Students will develop an understanding of the risk and protective factors for both survivors and first responders and to appreciate the impact and effects of a crisis, violence, and/or trauma on these two intersecting populations. Cross-listed with EMGT 635. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 640. HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

This course explores the problem of human trafficking in South Carolina in the context of the overall global phenomenon. The history of human exploitation and the social factors which contribute to this phenomenon (especially on vulnerable populations) are presented. The major forms of human trafficking are defined and discussed along with legal, law enforcement, legislative, executive, and non-profits' efforts to address the issue. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 645. ADVANCED CRIMINAL LAW**

This course addresses criminal law as understood through an analysis of legal processes, court systems, and correctional institutions. It details differences across populations (e.g., juveniles vs. adults), the history of law in civil rights and civil liberties at state and federal levels, and teaches students about controversies and challenges related to types of evidence, collection of evidence, chain of custody, and judicial proceedings. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 650. CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY & POLICY**

This course examines contemporary criminology theory as it contributes to the current criminal justice policies. Special attention is paid to the application of theory in the policy-making process involving executive branch implementation and the diverse effects of policies on different social groups. Current topics such as addictions, cybersecurity, domestic violence, terrorism, alternatives to incarceration to include specialty courts, juvenile justice, and re-entry programs may be covered. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 660. RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

This course provides an overview of the rules of scientific methodology and teaches students about research design, data collection, and analysis. It covers a mix of relevant qualitative and quantitative research methodologies such as interviews, content analysis, participant observation, surveys, program evaluation, and the use of statistical analysis. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 665. ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

This course covers advanced qualitative and quantitative research methodologies including, but not limited to statistical methods, survey design, and use of criminal justice databases. Special attention is paid to the policy implications of research projects. Students will present findings from their original research. Prerequisite: CRIM 660 or permission of course instructor. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 670. VICTIMOLOGY**

This course examines criminal victimization in conjunction with theory and research. It also covers the patterns related to specific types of victimization and analyzes resources (government and non-profit) for victims of crime and violence with particular attention on the role of Victims' Advocates and leaders within the S.C. Department of Probation, Pardon, and Parole. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 675. ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

This course examines and analyzes leadership in terms of administration of law enforcement, public safety, and/or social service agencies. It focuses upon the theory and practice of budgeting, decision-making, human resources management, and public relations. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 680. SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

This course covers special topics and allows for special and contemporary topics to be addressed such as those related to commerce, emergency management, homeland security, intergovernmental

relations, international affairs, public administration, public safety, social control and deviance, and technology. May be taken for additional credit as the topic changes. Three credit hours.

**CRIM 695. CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE**

This course provides synthesis to the graduate program. Students will reflect upon their cumulative knowledge gleaned from their coursework. They will examine the role of law enforcement and/or criminologists in society today. And, with guidance by faculty, they will produce a professional paper on an issue which will contribute to knowledge in the field. Prerequisite: A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater in 15 hours of graduate CRIM courses. Three credit hours.



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**Total Credit Hours Required: 30 hrs (1-year preferred timeline – sample curriculum)**

Curriculum by Year					
Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours
<b>Year 1</b>					
<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>		<b>Summer</b>	
CRIM 620	3	CRIM 625	3	CRIM 635	3
CRIM 645	3	CRIM 640	3	CRIM 695	3
CRIM 650	3	CRIM 660	3		
CRIM 670	3	CRIM 675	3		
Total Semester Hours	12	Total Semester Hours	12	Total Semester Hours	6

**Total Credit Hours Required: 30 hrs (1.5 year preferred timeline – sample curriculum)**

Curriculum by Year					
Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours
<b>Year 1</b>					
<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>		<b>Summer</b>	
CRIM 620	3	CRIM 625	3	CRIM 635	3
CRIM 645	3	CRIM 640	3	CRIM 680	3
CRIM 650	3	CRIM 660	3		
Total Semester Hours	9	Total Semester Hours	9	Total Semester Hours	6
<b>Year 2</b>					
<b>Fall</b>					
CRIM 670	3				
CRIM 695	3				
Total Semester Hours	6				

**Total Credit Hours Required: 30 hrs (2 year preferred timeline – sample curriculum)**

Curriculum by Year					
Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours
<b>Year 1</b>					
<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>		<b>Summer</b>	

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Curriculum by Year					
Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours	Course Name	Credit Hours
CRIM 620	3	CRIM 625	3	CRIM 635	3
CRIM 650	3	CRIM 660	3	CRIM 680	3
Total Semester Hours	6	Total Semester Hours	6	Total Semester Hours	6
Year 2					
Fall		Spring			
CRIM 645	3	CRIM 640	3		
CRIM 675	3	CRIM 695	3		
Total Semester Hours	6	Total Semester Hours	6		

**NOTES:**

Lander University plans to offer four graduate CRIM courses each academic term to best serve its target audiences.

The above schedule plans acknowledge that today’s students coming out of undergraduate study as well as professionals working in the field are more likely to wish to take coursework across the year and not have a lighter load or no courses in summer terms. It also acknowledges that students’ coursework and plans may be interrupted.

Two core courses will always be offered each term so that students can continue to make progress. After the third semester of the program, CRIM 695: Capstone Experience will be offered each academic term in order to all students to complete the degree.

The above plans should be flexible and accommodating for the target audiences identified. Upon admission to the program, students will be asked to convey their preferences and will be advised accordingly. Students can certainly change their preferences and then be re-advised in order to make progress toward earning the degree.

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**Similar Programs in South Carolina offered by Public and Independent Institutions**

Identify the similar programs offered and describe the similarities and differences for each program.

Program Name and Designation	Total Credit Hours	Institution	Similarities	Differences
M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice	30 hrs.	University of South Carolina – Columbia (USC)	Similar number of required hours; required courses in methods and theory; courses that address law and policy within the criminal justice system.	USC has no required courses in communication, mental health, or leadership. There is less overt attention to policy and leadership in the curriculum and more attention to theory and research methods. The application-oriented framing of courses is less clear than with Lander curriculum. The curriculum seems less tied to social services (government and non-profits) than at Lander. Total number of courses is larger than at Lander. USC’s program must be completed in person and requires a comprehensive exam for graduation.
M.A. in Criminal Justice	30 hrs.	Columbia College (CC)	Similar number of required hours; required courses in theory, methods, leadership, and a capstone seminar; offered fully online.	CC’s has no required courses in communication or mental health. The CC program has 10 required courses (including courses in law; diversity, standard operating procedures, and police intelligence). Therefore, students have no choice for course electives based upon their interests or career goals. The CC courses are offered in 7 week blocks for a cohort. CC’s curriculum is focused exclusively on policing and is not focused on policy and does not seem as linked to government or non-profit careers, only traditional law enforcement.
Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.)	36 hrs.	Anderson University (AU)	AU has a required course in leadership, theory, and research methods; Offered fully online	AU’s program requires 6 more hrs. and students must have 5 years of law enforcement experience. The program is focused on policing, not others in government or non-profits related to careers in policy, planning, or

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				social services. AU’s program requires twice a month in-person meetings on the AU campus. Faculty listing shows many part-time and few full-time faculty. Research publications of full-time faculty cannot be found.
M.S. in Criminal Justice	33 to 36 hrs.	Charleston Southern University (CSU)	Required courses in research methods, theory; a course on administrative management (required at CSU, elective at Lander)	CSU has no required courses in communication or mental health, but requires courses in both law and ethics. Leadership course is more about administrative management, not crisis leadership. CSU focuses on policing, courts, and corrections, but does not offer coursework or focus on policy areas, policy application, or cover policy areas, such as human trafficking. With the thesis option, CSU says that its target audience includes those who may wish to pursue law school or a doctorate.
M.S. in Criminal Justice	48 hrs.	South University	Required courses in research methods, theory, and leadership (albeit the standard organizational leadership focus, not crisis leadership; offered fully online)	No required course in mental health or communication. Required course in ethics as well as planning and innovation. All graduate courses are 4 hrs., so the degree is for 12 courses, not 10. The courses are more focused on and corrections administration (including a course on juvenile justice, not on policy and social problems.
M.S. in Criminal Justice	36 hrs.	Clafin University	Required courses in theory and research methods. There is a Public Policy Portfolio course that may have some overlap to some Lander courses, but its focus is unclear from the course description provided in Clafin’s Graduate Catalog.	A core course is “Criminal Justice System” and a key goal is familiarity with the “design, structure, and functions of the criminal justice system.” A thesis option is provided with 6 hrs. of coursework as well as a non-thesis option. Optional courses are offered in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), terrorism, and juvenile delinquency. There is no course on victimology, human trafficking, or mental health.

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**Faculty**

<b>Rank and Full- or Part-time</b>	<b>Courses Taught for the Program</b>	<b>Academic Degrees and Coursework Relevant to Courses Taught, Including Institution and Major</b>	<b>Other Qualifications and Relevant Professional Experience (e.g., licensures, certifications, years in industry, etc.)</b>
Associate Professor of Criminology and Sociology	CRIM 635 CRIM 650 CRIM 695	ABD in Human Services with Criminal Justice Emphasis, Walden University; MSW, University of Houston	20 years working full-time in corrections for State of Texas and State of South Carolina; Licensed Master of Social Work #4338, State of South Carolina; experience working with non-profit orgs; peer-reviewed publications in criminology and sociology
Assistant Professor of Criminology	CRIM 660 CRIM 680 CRIM 695	PhD in Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of South Carolina	Peer-reviewed publications in criminology
Assistant Professor of Criminology <i>(new person hired; begins Aug. 2024)</i>	CRIM 640 CRIM 645 CRIM 670 CRIM 680	PhD in Criminology and/or Criminal Justice, University of South Carolina	Peer-reviewed publications in criminology; experience as Project Manager for grant from National Institute of Justice
Assistant Professor of Criminology <i>(new hire needed)</i>	CRIM 665 CRIM 675 CRIM 680	PhD in Criminology and/or Criminal Justice (preference for strong training in research methods and some policy areas)	Preference for applied research agenda, publications, and/or relevant professional experience
Associate Professor of Political Science and Homeland Security	CRIM 620 CRIM 625	PhD in Public Administration and Public Policy, Auburn University	Experience working for Alabama Emergency Management Agency; certified as Professional Continuity Practitioner/ Emergency Manager by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); peer-reviewed publications in emergency management and political science

Total FTE needed to support the proposed program:

Faculty: 5.0

Staff: 1.0

Administration: 1.0

**Faculty, Staff, and Administrative Personnel**

Discuss the Faculty, Staff, and Administrative Personnel needs of the program.

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The Dean, College of Behavioral & Social Sciences and Dean, College of Graduate & Online Studies, share oversight and administration of this program.

Lander University will utilize 3 continuing faculty members: 2 in Criminology and 1 in Emergency Management (EMGT), but the latter faculty member can currently teach one graduate course in fall and spring because of undergraduates' course needs. With 3 courses (CRIM 620, 625, 635) in the proposed program also utilized in the EMGT program, demand for these courses will increase. In addition, the CRIM faculty must continue to serve undergraduate CRIM students (currently 160), a number that is likely to grow. Current plans are to offer four CRIM courses (two core courses) each academic term.

For all these reasons, the proposed program comes with the need to hire 2 new faculty members. One new Assistant Professor of Criminology has already been hired and will start in August 2024. Another hire is needed, as indicated on the previous table. Both faculty positions bring added expertise to the CRIM program and enable continuing faculty members to teach in the M.S. program while replacing their courses for undergraduates.

Existing staff in the College of Graduate & Online Studies will be assigned to complete most administrative functions. By Year 3, the Department of Government, Criminology, & Sociology will need more staff support since this department already supports a many undergraduate majors and minors as well as the existing M.S. in Emergency Management. Therefore, half of a new staff line is included in Years 3-5 and is seen as a new cost with this program.

## Resources

### Library and Learning Resources

Explain how current library/learning collections, databases, resources, and services specific to the discipline, including those provided by PASCAL, can support the proposed program. Identify additional library resources needed.

Lander University Library Services subscribes to a variety of online and print resources that would support a Master of Science in Criminology & Criminal Justice. As previously noted, Lander has had a Bachelor of Science in Criminology since 2016 and an Emphasis in Criminal Justice for many years before this, so many resources have been place in Lander's Jackson Library.

In addition to core resources, such as *Academic Search Complete*, library holdings include:

***Criminal Justice Abstracts with full text:*** *This online database of bibliographic records and full-text peer reviewed articles focuses on content in criminology, criminal justice, corrections and prisons, criminal investigations, forensic sciences and investigation, substance abuse and addiction, probation, and parole. Complete full-text journal coverage from over 320 journals and magazines is included in the resource.*

**[Gale Primary Sources: Crime, Punishment, and Popular Culture, 1790–1920:](#)** Raw data about crime, its solutions, and the popular response, focusing on the most rapid period of evolution for crime and its associated legal/penal systems: the long nineteenth century. This archive comprises more than 2 million pages of manuscripts, books, broadsheets, and periodicals.

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**Gale Primary Sources: Political Extremism and Radicalism:** Primary source materials on Far Right and fascist movements as well as radical left groups. Explore the origins and development of present-day issues, including the resurgence of right-wing politics, evolution of various civil rights movements and the nature of extreme or radical political thought.

**Gale Primary Sources: U.S. Declassified Documents Online :** A broad range of previously classified federal records spanning the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The most sensitive documents from all the presidential libraries and numerous executive agencies include intelligence studies, policy papers, diplomatic correspondence, cabinet meeting minutes, briefing materials, and domestic surveillance and military reports.

***Index to Legal Periodicals and Books Full Text:*** This database includes access to scholarly articles, symposia, jurisdictional surveys, court decisions, books, book reviews and more. Full text is available for almost 500 periodicals, many of them peer-reviewed, dating back to 1981.

***Westlaw Campus Research:*** *Students can access* the full text of all federal and state U.S. cases. The collection also includes other legal primary sources, such as the United States Code Annotated, Code of Federal Regulations, Federal Register, and European Union laws and regulations. It contains many secondary sources, including over 800 law reviews and journals, the legal encyclopedia *American Jurisprudence*, and the analytical series *American Law Reports*.

***SocINDEX with Full Text:*** Comprehensive coverage of sociology, encompassing all sub-disciplines and closely related areas of study through an online database of *900 full-text journals and magazines and more than 850 full-text books*. In addition to full-text journals, it contains informative abstracts for core coverage journals dating as far back as 1895. Subject areas include criminology, criminal justice, ethnic and racial studies, social psychology, sociological theory, violence, substance abuse, and other addictions.

***Social Sciences Full Text:*** Access to a wide assortment of the most important English-language social science journals. This database includes full text of articles from some 620 journals dating as far back as 1895. Subject coverage includes addiction studies, economics, ethics, family studies, gender studies, international relations, law, criminology, criminal justice, mass media, minority studies, political science, psychiatry, psychology, public welfare, urban studies, and much more.

***Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection:*** A broad range of subjects in psychology, behavioral sciences, and related fields. This database provides access to nearly 800 full-text journals. Content areas related to Psychology include mental processes, emotional and behavioral characteristics, observational and experimental methods, and psychiatry and psychology.

***International Security & Counter-Terrorism Reference Center (ISCTRC):*** This online database provides scholarly writings with expert commentary from a variety of organizations, agencies and publishers and timely reviews of developments across the international political, military, economic, social, and technical spectrum. Content includes nearly 3,000 full-text items from a variety of sources.

***The JSTOR Security Studies Collection:*** This collection gathers academic and open policy research on International and national security problems and foreign policy issues from a global perspective.

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Security Studies includes more than 70 scholarly, trade, and military journals in addition to 10 Open Access journals and [up to 20,000 open reports](#) from more than 100 institutes.

***Opposing Viewpoints in Context:*** 20,000 pro/con viewpoints essays on contemporary topics, approximately 19,000 reference articles, interactive maps, infographics, and more, students will be able to study any side of a chosen issue.

### **Book and Film Collections**

Our print resources include more than 2,000 books dealing with legal studies. Library services subscribes to two major eBook databases, *EBSCO eBook Collection* and *ProQuest Ebook Central*. The *EBSCO eBook Collection* contains nearly 20,000 books on legal studies. *ProQuest Ebook Central* contains over 8,000 books on sociology and its subfields. In addition, PASCAL provides perpetual access to more than 300 psychology eBooks in University Press Scholarship Online (UPSO), available through Oxford Academic. The library subscribes to a database of documentary films called *Films on Demand*, which contains over 1,300 films on legal studies.

### **Newspaper Resources**

*Newspaper Source Plus* gives access to more than 1,200 full-text newspapers, news from 160 newswires, more than 83 million full-text articles, and nearly 2 million television and radio news transcripts. The library provides campus-wide access to *The New York Times* as well as full-text digital collections of newspapers through *Newspapers.com: South Carolina Collection*.

### **Government resources**

Library services at Lander University is a selective government documents depository. Our holdings contain publications of the United States Department of Justice and the underlying units.

In addition to Lander's on-site print collections, the university's membership in the PASCAL (Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries) provides rapid delivery of books from other member libraries across the state. Lander is also a member of EAST (Eastern Academic Scholar's Trust), which is a retention and resource sharing consortium of libraries. Membership in these two consortiums gives Lander faculty and students access to many thousands of high-quality titles.

### **Library Resources for University Center Greenville (UCG) in Greenville, SC**

No additional resources are needed to serve the University Center of Greenville (UCG) site because students taking courses at UCG would have full access to the online and print collections of Lander's Jackson Library.

UCG provides a Director of Library services who holds a Master of Library and Information Science and Library and Operations Specialists to assist students, faculty, staff and visitors. Students taking courses at the instructional site at the University Center of Greenville will have full remote access to the online and print collections of Lander's Jackson Library. Students at all UCG Member Universities share access to a 7000 sq.ft. library with Dell mid-range computers, large seating areas, numerous private student/group study rooms, and no-cost printing services that are available to all students enrolled in member institution courses. Member institutions also participate in an interlibrary loan program, where any enrolled student has access to any resource at any institution's library. They may



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order items that are delivered to UCG or may go to the main campus library of any consortium member and use the resources there.

UCG is open Monday – Thursday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, Friday – Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday (Library only) 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

### **Student Support Services**

Explain how current academic support services will support the proposed program. Identify new services needed and provide any estimated costs associated with these services.

Lander University provides a comprehensive array of coordinated student programs and services designed to maximize student success and enhance students' educational and co-curricular experiences outside of the classroom. A supportive learning environment is provided through the collaboration of numerous departments within the divisions of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Business and Administration.

Lander University has a Student Success Center (SSC) that offers tutoring and advising assistance to students, although full-time faculty advise all graduate students.

The Division of Student Affairs oversees all areas such as campus recreation, career services, dining services, housing and residence life, off-campus student services, student activities, and university police. The university's Wellness Center offers a variety of health care services, programs, and information resources to help students maintain optimal emotional and physical health in order to reduce or eliminate any barriers to their personal and professional growth.

### **Student Support Services for Online and UCG, Greenville, SC**

Consistent with this mission, Lander University provides a comprehensive array of coordinated student programs and services designed to maximize student success and enhance students' educational and co-curricular experiences outside of the classroom. A supportive learning environment is provided through the collaboration of numerous departments within the divisions of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Business and Administration.

Lander University has approximately 4,300 students enrolled with approximately 50% of those students living off-campus and commuting to classes each day. In addition, some students are enrolled exclusively in online classes. Therefore, Lander already provides access to a variety of student support services through online mechanisms. For online students and commuting students, Student Affairs has a designated Off-Campus Student Services website (<http://www.lander.edu/Student-Affairs/off-campus-student-services/overview>) offering health, safety, and community resources and information. The site also provides students with a link to a printable Campus Map. Lander students at the University Center of Greenville will be welcome to use any of the student support services and facilities located on the main campus in Greenwood, SC (50 miles away).

Lander University's Jackson Library is located on the main campus in Greenwood, SC, and offers a variety of remote and virtual access options. In addition, students at all University Center of Greenville Member Universities share access to an onsite 7000 sq. ft. library with Dell mid-range computers, large seating areas, numerous private student/group study rooms, and no-cost printing services that are available to all students enrolled in member institution courses. University Center of Greenville is

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open Monday – Thursday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, Friday – Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday (Library only) 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The University Center of Greenville provides a Director of Library Services who holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree and Library and Operations Specialists to assist students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

University Center of Greenville provides state of the art instructional and digital technology which includes wired and wireless internet access consisting of Clemson University's C-Light Internet2 Fiber Optic Research University Internet and Spirit Commercial Internet along with over 60 high capacity seamless Aerohive wireless access points/devices. Therefore, students and faculty members can access discipline-specific learning resources electronically using their own computers and Internet access or using any of the computing and Internet access resources provided on the main campus or at the University Center of Greenville. All Lander University students access the university's library-based resources through a single sign-in portal, MyLander. Once in the portal, students can access the library catalog, library databases, and online materials using their student identification number.

UCG Member institutions also participate in an interlibrary loan program, where any enrolled student has access to any resource at any institution's library. They may order items that are delivered to the University Center of Greenville or may go to the main campus library of any consortium member and use the resources there.

### **Physical Resources/Facilities**

Identify the physical facilities needed to support the program and the institution's plan for meeting the requirements.

Lander University will utilize existing spaces on the main campus or at the University Center of Greenville. The delivery of this program would not cause any existing facilities to be modified.

All classrooms on the Lander University main campus are "smart classrooms" with appropriate technology and wireless access for audio, video, and streaming activities necessary for modern instructional methodologies. Faculty have laptop computers that provide appropriate technology for online instruction. Lander University employs a Learning Management System (Blackboard) used by all faculty and all courses.

The Lander University instructional site at the University Center of Greenville (UCG) is a leased office and classroom suite consisting of 10 faculty/staff offices, two classrooms, a conference room, workroom, breakroom, reception area, lobby area, and two restrooms. As a member Institution, Lander University shares additional space including over 50 classrooms, auditorium, library, and common areas with eight other member institutions. UCG provides facility security through Greenville Technical College Safety Officer and Police and Greenville City Police. UCG Administrative staff for the facility includes the Executive Director, Operations Director, Director of Community Relations, and various support staff.

The Lander University instructional site at the University Center of Greenville (UCG) provides state of the art instructional and digital technology which includes wired and wireless internet access consisting of Clemson University's C-Light Internet2 Fiber Optic Research University Internet and Spirit Commercial Internet along with over 60 high capacity seamless Aerohive wireless access

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points/devices. Therefore, students can connect to online or Main Campus resources from any mobile device.

### **Equipment**

Identify new instructional equipment needed for the proposed program.

The university will need to purchase more licenses of statistical software, e.g. SPSS or STATA, in order to be able to teach the research methods courses and to continue to publish peer-reviewed research. Estimated annual cost = \$3,000 annually.

### **Impact on Existing Programs**

Will the proposed program impact existing degree programs or services at the institution (e.g., course offerings or enrollment)? If yes, explain.

Yes

No

With three cross-listed courses with the M.S. in Emergency Management (CRIM 620, 625, 635), we will need to change the existing course rotation and add instructors for these courses in order to meet demand and allow students to make progress toward graduation in both degree programs. Yet this cross-listing is a greater efficiency for the University in terms of offering these courses more often for the benefit of students.

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**Financial Support**

Sources of Financing for the Program by Year												
Category	1 <sup>st</sup>		2 <sup>nd</sup>		3 <sup>rd</sup>		4 <sup>th</sup>		5 <sup>th</sup>		Grand Total	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
Tuition Funding	\$124,260	\$124,260	\$202,740	\$327,000	\$274,680	\$601,680	\$327,000	\$928,680	\$353,160	\$1,281,840	\$1,281,840	\$1,281,840
Program-Specific Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special State Appropriation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reallocation of Existing Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal, Grant, or Other Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	\$124,260	\$124,260	\$202,740	\$327,000	\$274,680	\$601,680	\$327,000	\$928,680	\$353,160	\$1,281,840	\$1,281,840	\$1,281,840
Estimated Costs Associated with Implementing the Program by Year												
Category	1 <sup>st</sup>		2 <sup>nd</sup>		3 <sup>rd</sup>		4 <sup>th</sup>		5 <sup>th</sup>		Grand Total	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
Program Administration and Faculty/Staff Salaries	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$180,000	\$161,000	\$341,000	\$161,000	\$502,000	\$161,000	\$663,000	\$663,000	\$663,000
Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$19,000	\$9,500	\$28,500	\$9,500	\$38,000	\$9,500	\$47,500	\$47,500	\$47,500
Library Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	\$99,500	\$99,500	\$99,500	\$199,000	\$170,500	\$369,500	\$170,500	\$540,000	\$170,500	\$710,500	\$710,500	\$710,500
<b>Net Total</b> (Sources of	\$24,760	\$24,760	\$103,240	\$128,000	\$104,180	\$232,180	\$156,500	\$388,680	\$182,660	\$571,340	\$571,340	\$571,340

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Financing Minus Estimated Costs)												
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**Note:** New costs - costs incurred solely as a result of implementing this program. Total costs - new costs; program's share of costs of existing resources used to support the program; and any other costs redirected to the program.

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**Budget Justification**

Provide an explanation for all costs and sources of financing identified in the Financial Support table. Include an analysis of cost-effectiveness and return on investment and address any impacts to tuition, other programs, services, facilities, and the institution overall.

The undergraduate program in Criminology is cost-effective. In time, we believe that the proposed M.S. program will be cost effective, but that it has some up-front costs of new faculty members that need to be hired in order to deliver this program with high quality instruction.

Tuition Funding is calculated using projected enrollment numbers as presented earlier in this report. Full-time graduate students are defined in taking 6 hours of coursework at \$545 per credit hour, so Year 1 has 10+12+16 FTEs in fall, spring, and summer terms. Thus, 38 students x 6 hrs x \$545 = \$124,260 tuition. As noted in the enrollment estimates, these estimates capture all variation in students’ courseloads such that some students may take less or more than 6 hours per term.

Below are estimated costs:

Program Administration and Faculty/Staff Salaries

Years 1-2: half of the costs associated with 2 new faculty members (salary + fringe) = \$90,000

Years 3-5: three-fourths of the costs associated with 2 new faculty members (salary + fringe) + half of the costs associated with a new staff member = \$161,000

With enrollment growth in Years 3-5, more of the new faculty members’ load is devoted to the M.S. program.

Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials

New costs are associated with statistical methods software for faculty members as well as additional funds for faculty research, travel, and professional development. This totals \$9,500 annually for Years 1-5.

There are no estimated new costs for Library Services. The above estimates of net total do not reflect all of the university’s costs in terms of academic administration, recruitment, and retention efforts as reflected in costs associated with the Divisions of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, and Student Success. Therefore, all costs to Lander University are not captured in the table above.

**Evaluation and Assessment**

<b>Program Objectives</b>	<b>Student Learning Outcomes Aligned to Program Objectives</b>	<b>Methods of Assessment</b>
Effective communication skills	1. Students will demonstrate effective communication skills as leaders in both crisis and non-crisis situations.  2. Students will effectively communicate research-based and policy-oriented findings to their colleagues in a professional manner.	CRIM 620: Crisis Communication and CRIM 695: Capstone Experience will require assessments that measure these student learning outcomes. Faculty will develop and utilize rubrics to evaluate the written and oral presentations.
Enhanced application skills	1. Students will effectively demonstrate understanding and application of contemporary criminological theory to policy design and	CRIM 650: Contemporary Criminological Theory & Policy as well as CRIM 625: Crisis Leadership and/or CRIM 635: Mental Health and First

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	<p>implementation.</p> <p>2. Students will effectively demonstrate understanding and application of leadership principles in both crisis and non-crisis situations.</p> <p>3. Students will effectively demonstrate application skills in identifying responses by survivors and first responders in crisis situations and in applying knowledge about mental health resources for assistance to these populations.</p>	<p>Responders will require assessments that measure these student learning outcomes.</p> <p>CRIM 650 will have assessments that measure students' knowledge of and application of theory to policy design and implementation. Faculty will develop and utilize rubrics to evaluate written assessments. In CRIM 625: Crisis Leadership, assessments will be designed to measure application of leadership principles and critical thinking skills. In CRIM 635: Mental Health and First Responders, assessments will measure understanding and application of the impact and effects of crisis, violence, and trauma on populations.</p>
Enhanced research capacity	<p>Students will effectively demonstrate how to collect and/or interpret data; utilize academic and policy-oriented research; conduct analysis; and communicate findings in a professional paper.</p>	<p>CRIM 695: Capstone Experience will require assessments that measure these student learning outcomes. Faculty will develop and utilize rubrics to evaluate a professional paper on an issue which will contribute to knowledge in the field.</p>

Explain how the proposed program, including all program objectives, will be evaluated, along with plans to track employment. Describe how assessment data will be used.

Assessment

The student learning outcomes are connected to these core courses in the curriculum:

- CRIM 620. CRISIS COMMUNICATION
- CRIM 625. CRISIS LEADERSHIP
- CRIM 635. MENTAL HEALTH AND FIRST RESPONDERS
- CRIM 650. CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY & POLICY
- CRIM 695. CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

Student learning outcomes will be assessed in accordance with the SACSCOC requirements. Lander University has established culture of assessment for all academic programs and maintains an annual assurance of learning (assessment) program. These processes will be extended to the proposed program. The student learning outcomes will be assessed annually throughout core courses named above in the curriculum. Assessment methods will include using rubrics as direct measures of student learning on program-level case studies, projects, essays, and objective-measure assessments. Student, alumni, and employer surveys will serve as indirect measures. Program Productivity data (per CHE standards), including FTE enrollments and graduation rates, are included in assessments and will serve to monitor the continuing need for the program and its long-term sustainability. At the end of each academic year, the faculty share the results of assessment and identify ways to improve student performance on the learning outcomes, which could take the form of curriculum changes, more emphasis on specific topics, or other changes to respond to faculty and student feedback. Periodically, the faculty will review the learning outcomes and methods of assessment. The assessment process will provide evidence of program effectiveness and insight into the sustainability of the program.

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Employment

Exit surveys of the graduates will include employment and contact information. Alumni will be systematically contacted following graduation to assess the effectiveness of the program in preparing them for their careers. Employers will be surveyed periodically to assess the preparedness of graduates and the relevance of the content of the program for quality management positions. Focus groups of alumni and employers will provide richer information. Employment will be tracked through these processes.

**Accreditation and Licensure/Certification**

Will the institution seek program-specific accreditation (e.g., CAEP, ABET, NASM, etc.)? If yes, describe the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline.

- Yes
- No

Will the proposed program lead to licensure or certification? If yes, identify the licensure or certification.

- Yes
- No

Explain how the program will prepare students for this licensure or certification.

If the program is an Educator Preparation Program, does the proposed certification area require national recognition from a Specialized Professional Association (SPA)? If yes, describe the institution's plans to seek national recognition, including the expected timeline.

- Yes
- No



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*Sheriff Clarke A. Stearns*  
P.O. Box 1236, 211 W. Augusta Street Ext. McCormick, SC 29835  
Phone (864) 465-3200

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December 8, 2023

To the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders. In today's climate, these skill sets are a necessity and expectation from the public. There is no doubt Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable asset of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina for years to come.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Clarke A. Stearns'.

Clarke A. Stearns, McCormick County Sheriff

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McCormick County Sheriff 211 W. Augusta Street Ext. McCormick, SC 29835  
864-852-0330  
[cstearns@mccormickcountysc.org](mailto:cstearns@mccormickcountysc.org)

**Leon D. "Doug"**

DISTRICT No. 42  
LAURENS & UNION COUNTIES  
3347 Buffalo-West Springs Hwy.  
Buffalo, SC 29321



420C Blatt Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

Tel. (803) 212-6968  
Cell: (864) 426-0785

*House of Representatives*  
State of South Carolina

November 30, 2023

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the state of the workforce in South Carolina, particularly the law enforcement and social services workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

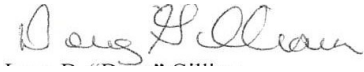
It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement/social services workforce development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

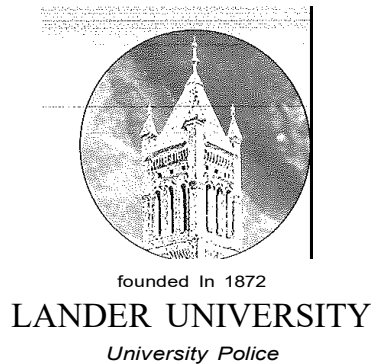
Sincerely,

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Leon D. "Doug" Gilliam

DG/mb/2023nov30-1



November 10, 2023

To the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

My name is Greg Allen. I am the Chief of Police for Lander University. I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

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Sincerely,



Greg Allen

Lander University Chief of Police

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Greenwood, South Carolina 29619 • (864) 388-8222 Fax (BM) 388-8118



## Richland County Sheriff's Department

**Leon Lott**  
**Sheriff**

December 13, 2023

To The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking, and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

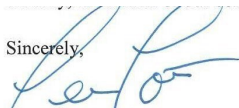
I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

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As a past Adjunct Professor at Lander University, teaching criminal justice classes, I have seen first-hand the quality of Lander's curriculum and students.

I have also seen the great need for a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. In my 48 years in the profession as Sheriff, I know that our current and future leaders will be required to have a Masters in order to progress through the ranks to be an effective leader.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,  


5623 Two Notch Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29223 Office: (803) 576-3000 Fax: (803) 576-3197 WWW.RCSD.NET

[SHERIFF@RCSD.NET](mailto:SHERIFF@RCSD.NET)



**Greenwood County Sheriff's Office**

**Dennis D. Kelly, Sheriff**

November 28, 2023

To the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

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I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,



Sheriff Dennis D. Kelly

Telephone 864-942-8600 • Fax 864-942-8589 • 528 Edgefield Street • Greenwood, SC 29646

Office of the Sheriff  
County of Newberry  
State of South Carolina  
550 Wilson Road  
PO Box 247  
Newberry, SC 29108-0247  
Fax 803-321-2147



Law Enforcement Division  
803-321-2211  
Victim's Advocate Division  
803-321-2211  
E911 Administration & Addressing  
803-321-2182  
E911 Telecommunication  
803-321-2222  
Jail Division  
3239 Louis Rich Drive  
Newberry, SC 29108

[www.newberrycounty.net/sheriff](http://www.newberrycounty.net/sheriff)

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28 November 2023

To the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

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I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,



James Lee Foster

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Blessed Are the Peacemakers

## The State of South Carolina

**Greenwood County**  
600 Monument Street Suite 203  
PO Box 516  
Greenwood SC 29648

**Newberry County**  
1226 College Street  
PO Drawer 10  
Newberry SC 29108



**Laurens County**  
100 Hillcrest Square. Laurens, SC  
PO Box 516  
Greenwood, SC 29648

**Abbeville County**  
102 Court Square. Abbeville, SC  
PO Box 516  
Greenwood, SC 29648

**David M. Stumbo**

Solicitor

December 15, 2023

S. C. Commission on Higher Education 1122  
Lady Street, Suite 300

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: Lander University Application for a M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice

Distinguished Members of the Commission:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal



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Justice. After reviewing this program's curriculum and my familiarity the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens I represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement, and to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as violent crime, domestic violence, and human trafficking; and the well-being of our law enforcement (and other first responders) with its required core class on mental health and first responders. I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for our citizens in this State.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,  


David M. Stumbo  
8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor

[www.scsolicitor8.org](http://www.scsolicitor8.org)

MARK N. WILLIS  
District No. 16  
Greenville - Laurens Counties  
201 Quillen Avenue  
Fountain Inn, SC 29644  
Tel. (864) 862-6179



1105 Pendleton Street  
326-C Blatt Building  
Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 212-6882  
[MarkWillis@schouse.gov](mailto:MarkWillis@schouse.gov)

Committees:  
Interstate Cooperation, Chairman  
Ways and Means

December 4, 2023  
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I write this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Upon consideration of our current workforce in South Carolina, as it relates to law enforcement and social services of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields. This field has experienced substantial growth in terms of services needed and necessary to many vulnerable citizens and those who serve in those capacities.

I am glad to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and



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the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement/social services workforce development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,



Mark N. Willis

MW/vhr/2023dec4-1



**Greenwood Police Department**  
520 Monument Street Greenwood, SC 29646  
864-942-8401 864-942-8418 (fax)  
T.J. Chaudoin, Chief of Police



December 2, 2023

**To:** South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Chief TJ Chaudoin

To the South Carolina Commission of Higher Education, I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing the program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

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It is particularly gratifying to see this program focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina. By supporting this program, we can give the citizens of South Carolina the most professional and well-educated officers to serve them better.

Being a law enforcement professional, I have great experience in knowing that this program will give our community better-trained and more prepared officers. I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to our communities' safety, security, and health. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,



Chief TJ Chaudoin  
Greenwood Police Department  
520 Monument Street  
Greenwood, SC 29648



## McCormick Police Department

December 8, 2023

To the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education:

I am writing this letter in support of Lander University's proposed M.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

After reviewing this program's curriculum and considering the law enforcement workforce of our region of South Carolina, I believe that this program will have a clear and positive impact on the lives of the

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citizens we represent, both in its ability to provide jobs and career advancement and in its ability to enhance the effectiveness of those who work its related fields.

It is particularly gratifying to see this program is focused on advanced practical skills such as crisis communication and leadership; state legislative priorities such as human trafficking; and the wellbeing of our law enforcement and social services workforce with its required core class on mental health and first responders.

I am confident Lander University's MS in Criminology and Criminal Justice will prove to be a valuable part of our law enforcement development strategy as we continue to work for a prosperous future for the citizens of South Carolina.

I urge you to support this degree. The work these graduates do will be vital to the safety, security, and health of our communities.

Sincerely,



William D. Willis  
Chief of Police

115 West Augusta Street Post Office Box 306 McCormick, SC 29835-0306  
Office (864) 852-2985  
Fax (864) 852-2476