Who is this program for?

The Bachelor of Applied Arts program at the University of Guelph-Humber is a unique program. It's designed for the working professional that's involved in the justice field or the wider public safety field. We have students from policing, fire, EMS, military, intelligence, corrections, courts, counselling, youth services, corporate investigation and security, so a wide range of professions will find this particular program suitable. We're looking for candidates that have some university courses already under their belt, or the majority of our students have a college diploma and they're looking to come back and complete a university degree.

I work full time and have a family. Is this something I can realistically pursue?

It's a program that is built around the demands on time of the working professional. It's designed to provide you balance between work, family and school. I'm a graduate of the program myself. Many years ago I took the program, and I can tell you that it is eminently doable even with a very busy family and work life.

I already know how to do my job why would I take this program?

So the program is designed to provide a theoretical framework, critical thinking, critical communication skills for the working professional. We would not presume to try to teach you how to do your job. Rather we give you tools to help you be more effective at the job that you have or maybe the job that you aspire to. So the program is set up over two and a half to three years depending on the number of credits you get on admission, and it is a 12-week semester. During that time, you do two courses, each one of six weeks long. So one course at a time. You finish that first course, you do your second course, and you have three weeks off. Repeat until completed.
2:31 – 2:38 [Text that reads: Bachelor of Applied Arts in Justice and Public Safety
What’s the BAA experience from the perspective of someone who has taken the program?]

2:39 – 3:54 [Interview with Kimberly Greenwood, Chief of Police, Barrie Police Service]
I have been very fortunate in my policing career and had been provided with opportunities for training, but I had not been in the academic setting for well over 25 years. This program, Justice Studies, was supported by my police service, and I had the opportunity to work with police officers from my own service, but also civilian and sworn members from across the province and other law enforcement agencies. So that was an opportunity to gain from the theory and the academics and then apply it in a practical setting and gain successful initiatives and projects from other police services that I could bring back to my own police service. It was an opportunity to listen and to learn, and I will say that all of the individuals through the university, whether it was the support staff, to the professors, to the administrators, they all assisted us in ensuring that we had guidance and support to all be successful.

3:55 – 4:01 [Text that reads: Bachelor of Applied Arts in Justice and Public Safety
What can I expect to get out of this program?]

4:02 – 4:55 [Interview with Kimberly Greenwood]
It was both beneficial from a personal perspective and a professional perspective. I believe that this degree assisted me in being the chief that I am today for the Barrie Police Service. I was able to enhance my communication whether it be verbal or in writing. I always enjoyed research, but it was applying the research that was very, very important. Critical thinking, my ability to think, to ask questions, to reflect, to analyze, understanding the importance of problem solving. I also was provided the opportunities where I had to prioritize and all of those skills helps me every single day when I'm working.

4:56 – 5:03 [Text that reads: Bachelor of Applied Arts in Justice and Public Safety
For more information visit: www.guelphhumber.ca/futurestudents/jps]