

CRIMINOLOGY, BACHELOR OF ARTS

Criminology examines the making of laws, the nature and extent of crime and criminality, and efforts to control crime. The criminology program provides students with a strong foundation in sociological theory and research to foster a comprehensive and contextual understanding of crime and justice in society and the capacity to think critically and creatively about what does and doesn't work in current crime control efforts. The organizations and institutions developed to respond to crime, including all the sub-components of the criminal justice system, will be examined along with the related concepts of law and justice. Courses focus on the social construction or definitions of crime, the causes of crime and delinquency, and on the origin, nature, and consequences of societal reactions to criminal offending, including practices in both public and private justice agencies. Students pursuing careers in traditional criminal justice fields, such as policing, probation & parole, corrections and reintegration, will develop a strong foundation to work and effect social change in these fields. Criminology majors interested in careers in legal advocacy, victim assistance, community activism and social research will develop the skills and knowledge enabling them to become transformational leaders in their profession.

The criminology curriculum emphasizes the importance of research-based knowledge, theoretically informed practice, critical analysis and ethical decision-making. Students are strongly encouraged to engage in experiential learning through courses, including our field experience class with placements in criminal justice, juvenile justice, victim services, and community-based agencies.

The criminology major prepares students for careers in the adult and juvenile justice systems – including law enforcement and criminal investigation, the courts, probation and parole, corrections, non-profit community based agencies, and victim services – or for graduate and professional programs in criminology, criminal justice, sociology, law, or legal and justice studies.

A criminology major leads to either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree.

For a BA degree, criminology majors must complete all the major degree requirements. In addition, students must complete the world language requirement as specified in the Academic Policies section of the University Catalog. This requirement includes completion of the second level of a world language or completion of WL 100 Intro to Comparative Linguistics (3 c.h.) and ANTH 106 Language, Thought and Culture (3 c.h.)/ENG 106 Language, Thought and Culture (3 c.h.), or completion of the second level of American Sign Language.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student learning outcomes apply for both the BS and BA degrees in Criminology.

Upon completion of the criminology major, students should be able to demonstrate:

1. A comprehension of and the ability to critically assess and compare the major criminological theoretical perspectives.
2. An ability to understand, interpret, and apply various research methodologies in the field of criminology

3. An ability to apply criminological theories and methods to substantive issues and in order to understand social problems and inform crime-related social policy.
4. An ability to engage in critical thinking about various aspects of social life and organization, including crime and criminal justice institutions.

Specific Program Requirements

- *Note: Criminology majors are required to take SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3) (3 c.h.) as one of their general education social science (SS) requirements.*
- Completion of 36 credit hours of criminology coursework is required for the major. All criminology majors will work with a faculty advisor who will assist in the selection of courses to complete academic requirements.
- A minimum grade of C is required in all courses counting toward the criminology major.

Course	Title	Credits
CORE REQUIREMENTS		
CRIM 101	Introduction to Criminology	3
CRIM 205	Research Methods	3
CRIM 310	Criminological Theory	3
ELECTIVES		
Select 27 credit hours of criminology electives		27
Total Credits		36

Criminology Electives

A total of 27 credit hours of criminology electives are required for the major, including a minimum of 18 credit hours of upper-division electives. Electives accepted toward the major can include a maximum of 6.0 credit hours of anthropology and/or sociology. **These courses must be approved by a criminology faculty advisor.**

Course	Title	Credits
CRIM 203	The Criminal Justice System	3
CRIM 212	The Forensics of Bones	3
CRIM 252	Understanding Lived Experiences	3
CRIM 261	Introduction to Cannabis Studies	3
CRIM 291	Special Topics	1-3
CRIM 303	Deviance	3
CRIM 304	Race and Crime	3
CRIM 305	Women & Crime	3
CRIM 306	Delinquency and Juvenile Justice	3
CRIM 321	Cross-Cultural Perspective on Crime	3
CRIM 353	Penology	3
CRIM 357	Immigration	3
CRIM 361	Advanced Cannabis Studies	3
CRIM 374	Crime in Film	3
CRIM 376	Crime & Society in Science Fiction	3
CRIM 401	Crime, Law, & Justice Studies	3
CRIM 405	Law & Society	3
CRIM 407	Family Violence	3
CRIM 409	Victimology	3
CRIM 410	Structural & Elite Crime	3
CRIM 411	Police and Society	3

CRIM 413	Patterns of Homicide	3
CRIM 415	Forensic Criminology	3
CRIM 418	Crime, Drugs, & Social Policy	3
CRIM 422	Terrorism and Mass Murder	3
CRIM 425	Gangs in Contemporary America	3
CRIM 426	Collective Violence and Rioting	3
CRIM 453	Inside Out: Issues in Crime & Justice	3
CRIM 455	Hate Crimes	3
CRIM 492	Research (CREDITS VARY)	1-3
CRIM 494	Field Experience (CREDITS VARY)	1-12
CRIM 495	Independent Study (CREDITS VARY)	1-3

Open electives	9.0 credits must be upper division, including 3.0 credits outside the major	11
Credits		14
Spring		
Major elective	upper division criminology class	3
Open electives	7.0 credits must be upper division, including 3.0 outside of the major	11
Credits		14
Total Credits		120

Planning Sheet

Disclaimer: The Planning Sheet is designed as a guide for student's planning their course selections. The information on this page provides only a suggested schedule. Actual course selections should be made with the advice and consent of an academic advisor. While accurately portraying the information contained in the college catalog, this form is not considered a legal substitute for that document. Students should become familiar with the catalog in effect at the time in which they entered the institution.

Course	Title	Credits
Year 1		
Fall		
ENG 101	Rhetoric & Writing I (GT-CO1)	3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3)	3
General Education	recommended - WL100 or language 101, 3.0 Humanities, and Science w/lab (ANTH 101 or BIOL class)	10
Credits		16
Spring		
CRIM 101	Introduction to Criminology	3
ENG 102	Rhetoric & Writing II (GT-CO2)	3
General Education	recommended - ANTH 106 or language 102, Math, & Science w/lab (CHEM 160 or other)	10
Credits		16
Year 2		
Fall		
CRIM 205	Research Methods	3
General Education	recommended - History & Humanities or Social Science	6
Major elective	criminology class	3
Open elective		3
Credits		15
Spring		
CRIM 310	Criminological Theory	3
Major electives		6
Open electives	3.0 credits must be outside the major	6
Credits		15
Year 3		
Fall		
Major electives	upper division criminology classes	6
Open electives	3.0 credits must be outside the major	9
Credits		15
Spring		
Major electives	upper division criminology classes	6
Open electives	6.0 credits must be outside the major and upper division	9
Credits		15
Year 4		
Fall		
Major elective	upper division criminology class	3