

CRIMINOLOGY, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

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. Restorative justice approaches and other community-based alternatives are also studied. 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, youth services, program development & evaluation, 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. Criminology majors earning a BS degree can choose the community engagement concentration to build community connections and skills in advocacy and community organization while completing their degree. Core classes in the concentration include a required internship.

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 BS degree, CRIM 335, Advanced Methods, is a required course. BA students can choose to take CRIM 335 as an elective in their major.

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 & Culture (3 c.h.)/ENG 106 Language, Thought & Culture (3 c.h.), or completion of the second level of American Sign Language.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

Program Overview ¹

Requirement	Credits
General Education	35
Core Requirements	9
Major Requirements	27
Open Electives	25
Minor	24
Total Credits	120

¹ Total 120 credits must be inclusive of 40 upper division credits.

Specific Core Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
CRIM 101	Introduction to Criminology	3
CRIM 205	Research Methods	3
CRIM 310	Criminological Theory	3
Total Credits		9

Specific Major Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Additional Major Requirements		
CRIM 335	Advanced Research Methods	3
Criminology Electives A minimum of 15 credits must be upper division.		24
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 & Science	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	Punishment & Corrections	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	Elite Crime & Deviance	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	1-3
CRIM 494	Field Experience	1-12
CRIM 495	Independent Study	1-3
Total Credits		27

Planning Sheet

Disclaimer: The Planning Sheet is designed as a guide for students 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: 6 credits of Humanities & History	9
Credits		15
Spring		
ENG 102	Rhetoric & Writing II (GT-CO2)	3
CRIM 101	Introduction to Criminology	3
General Education	Recommended: Humanities, Math, & Science w/lab (CHEM 160 or other)	10
Credits		16
Year 2		
Fall		
CRIM 205	Research Methods	3
General Education	Recommended: Social Science & Science w/lab (ANTH 101 or other)	7
Major elective	CRIM class	3
Open elective		3
Credits		16
Spring		
CRIM 335	Advanced Research Methods	3
Major electives	CRIM classes	6
Open electives	3 credits must be outside the major	6
Credits		15
Year 3		
Fall		
CRIM 310	Criminological Theory	3
Major elective	Upper division CRIM class	3
Open electives	3 credits must be outside the major	9
Credits		15

Spring		
Major electives	Upper division CRIM classes	6
Open electives	6 credits must be outside the major and upper division	9
Credits		15
Year 4		
Fall		
Major elective	Upper division CRIM class	3
Open electives	9 credits must be upper division, 6 credits must be outside the major	11
Credits		14
Spring		
Major elective	Upper division CRIM class	3
Open electives	4 credits must be upper division	11
Credits		14
Total Credits		120