

B.A. IN CRIMINOLOGY

Overview

The major in Criminology provides a comprehensive understanding of crime and the criminal justice system. The major prepares students to assume roles of leadership in this critical area of modern society. Courses are designed to review theory, research, and applications of knowledge regarding delinquency and crime, as well as to understand the manner in which offenders are processed. Students learn about the nature and extent of crime, different types of crime and theories to explain crime. In addition, detailed analyses are made of the functions of the law, police, courts, and correctional systems and the ways in which these are linked to broader aspects of society.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
SOC 210	Introduction to Social Research ¹	3
SOC 211 & SOC 212	Quantitative Methods for Sociologists and Quantitative Methods Lab (Or equivalent 3-credit statistics course with Dept approval) ²	3-4
SOC 371	Criminology	3
SOC 470	Theories of Deviant Behavior	3
SOC 271 or SOC 370	Criminal Justice Juvenile Delinquency	3
Departmental Electives		12
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106 or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics ³	3
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Required Courses		
Additional Major/Minor		15-30
Science Course		3
Foreign Language		3-9
Electives		42
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ GEG 306 can be substituted for SOC 210 and EPS 452 can be substituted for SOC 210 only by students who are also enrolled in the School of Education.

² PSY 291, PSY 292 can be substituted for SOC 211 only by students who are Psychology majors or minors and also majoring in Sociology or Criminology. EPS 351 can be substituted for SOC 211 only by students who have a major or minor in the School of Education and Human Development.

³ 3 credit hours in a Mathematics course numbered MTH 108 or higher is required for graduation; MTH 113 is recommended for Criminology students.

* A minimum final grade of C- in all courses offered by the Department

** A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in all courses offered by the Department

*** A minimum of 16 credit hours must be earned in residency in the Department; thus, only a maximum of 15 credit hours can be transferred from other institutions as eligible for the CRIMINOLOGY major

Suggested Plan of Study

Freshman Year		
Fall		Credit Hours
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
Language (first course)		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate (first course)		3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
Language (second course)		3
STEM Cognate (first course)		3
SOC 210	Introduction to Social Research	3
WRS 106 or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
SOC 211 & SOC 212	Quantitative Methods for Sociologists and Quantitative Methods Lab	4
Arts and Humanities Cognate (second course)		3
Minor (first course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	16
Spring		
SOC 271 or 370	Criminal Justice or Juvenile Delinquency	3
Minor (second course)		3
STEM Cognate (second course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Junior Year		
Fall		
SOC 371	Criminology	3
Minor (third course)		3
STEM Cognate (third course)		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
Minor (fourth course)		3
Natural Science Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Senior Year		
Fall		
SOC 470	Theories of Deviant Behavior	3

Minor (fifth course)	
Arts and Humanities Cognate (third course)	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	Credit Hours
	15
Spring	
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
	Credit Hours
	15
	Total Credit Hours
	121

Goals

The undergraduate program in Criminology has as its main objectives are to provide students with:

- A strong component of a social science education, training in analytical and statistical skills that are highly valued by potential employers.
- A valuable undergraduate preparation for pursuing careers in such fields as law in society, in the local and state criminal justice systems (e.g., juvenile probation officer, pretrial services officer, crime analyst for criminal justice agencies), or in federal agencies (e.g., DEA).
- An excellent and comprehensive training program for students wishing to pursue graduate study in criminology, law school, criminal justice, sociology, or other social and behavioral sciences.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate a thorough understanding of Criminology, and the basic criminological theoretical concepts and knowledge base.
- Students will develop and demonstrate critical thinking skills through the comprehension, analysis and critique of criminological theories.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to understand and critique criminological research methodology. Students will have the ability to design and critique valid research studies and to identify reliable findings from such studies.