CRIMINAL JUSTICE, BS

Program Description

The Criminal Justice Program leads to a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and supports the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences Degree with courses applicable to the Criminal Justice, Community and Mental Health, and Legal Studies tracks. The program has two main objectives: to provide an advanced understanding of the criminal justice system and its components and to provide either a concentration of knowledge and application of skills in a specialized subfield of study or a broad exploration of the discipline based on individual student needs through the selection of disciplinary electives.

The curriculum is planned to offer preparation for a professional career by integrating a core of Criminal Justice courses into a general program of the arts, sciences, humanities and social sciences. The student in consultation with faculty will determine the most desirable course offerings from core courses and recommended electives to achieve his or her particular educational goals. The program may be used as preparation for entry into graduate work or law school. Criminal Justice courses are recommended as social science electives for non-majors.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the operation and purposes of the major components of the criminal justice system (police, courts, and corrections)
- Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze the criminal justice system and its aims and objectives
- Demonstrate the ability to apply professional standards of writing and research to criminal justice issues

Program Requirements

The Criminal Justice major requires a minimum of 45 semester hours, 27 semester hours of which must be at the upper-division level. Supporting courses related to essential skills totaling 3 hours are also required. Criminal Justice majors are encouraged to take MATH 1442 Statistics for Life (4 sch) to satisfy the Mathematics Core Curriculum Program requirement. Students who do not take MATH 1442 Statistics for Life (4 sch) in the Core Curriculum will be required to do so to fulfill the supporting coursework requirement for majors. The College of Liberal Arts also requires students in Criminal Justice to take at least 6 hours of a second language.

Students seeking the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice are expected to develop a breadth of knowledge of the component parts of the criminal justice system. Through their choice of disciplinary electives, students may concentrate on Criminal Justice subfields or broadly explore the discipline and its career options. Students should select a majority of their upper-division elective hours from disciplines which support their choice of specialization.

Students may also register for CRIJ 4398 Applied Experience (3 sch) and participate in the Applied Experience Program to earn course credit while gaining practical work experience in Criminal Justice or a related field. Registration is by application. Interested students should contact the Criminal Justice Applied Experience Coordinator.

Every candidate for the BS in Criminal Justice must complete the CRIJ 4085 Major Field Test (0 sch) in Criminal Justice during their final long semester prior to graduation. The details as to the date and time of administration of the Major Field Test in Criminal Justice are announced at the beginning of each Fall and Spring semester.

General Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Curriculum Program</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(<a href="http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/university-college/programs/core-curriculum-program/">http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/university-college/programs/core-curriculum-program/</a>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Seminars (when applicable)¹</td>
<td>0-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Major Requirements</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Electives</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language Requirements</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Supporting Courses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Field Test in Criminal Justice Completion</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours</td>
<td>120-122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Full-time, first time in college students are required to take the first-year seminars.
  • UNIV 1101 First-Year Seminar I (1 sch)
  • UNIV 1102 First-Year Seminar II (1 sch)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1101</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar I</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 1102</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar II</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Core Curriculum Program

University Core Curriculum 42

Students who do not take the following in the Core Curriculum will be required to do so for the major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1442</td>
<td>Statistics for Life</td>
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Criminal Justice Major Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 1301</td>
<td>Introduction to Criminal Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 1306</td>
<td>Court Systems and Processes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 1310</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Criminal Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 2313</td>
<td>Correctional Systems &amp; Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 2328</td>
<td>Police Systems and Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4085</td>
<td>Major Field Test</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4335</td>
<td>Criminology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4345</td>
<td>Research Methods in Criminal Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Advanced Understanding in Criminal Justice

Theoretical Perspectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4325</td>
<td>Diversity in Criminal Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CRIJ 4331</td>
<td>Juvenile Delinquency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

 Corrections

Select one of the following: 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 3325</td>
<td>Community-Based Corrections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4320</td>
<td>Offender Rehabilitation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Criminal Justice, BS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4321</td>
<td>American Prisons and Prisoners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 4312</td>
<td>Law and Evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CRIJ 4313</td>
<td>Criminal Procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIJ 3302</td>
<td>Police and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CRIJ 4351</td>
<td>POLICE SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Criminal Justice Electives
Select 12 hours of the following or any other upper-level Criminal Justice course listed above that is not counting towards required major hours in another area:
- CRIJ 3313: The Juvenile Justice System
- CRIJ 3340: Comparative Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 3341: Terrorism
- CRIJ 3360: Organized Crime
- CRIJ 3361: Drugs, the Drug War, and Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 3365: Sex Crimes
- CRIJ 3370: Crime in the Media
- CRIJ 3375: Applied Statistics in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 4324: Women and Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 4360: Intimate Relationship Violence
- CRIJ 4365: White Collar Crime
- CRIJ 4390: Topics in Criminal Justice
- CRIJ 4396: Directed Individual Study
- CRIJ 4398: Applied Experience

### Required Supporting Course
- ENGL 3301: Technical and Professional Writing (3 hours)

### University Electives
Select 24 hours of university electives.

### Foreign Language Requirements
See the College of Liberal Arts for the college language requirement.

### Total Hours
122

1. Students may choose to concentrate their Criminal Justice Electives in a subfield of Theoretical Perspectives, Corrections, Courts, or Law Enforcement. For more information please contact a Criminal Justice Faculty or the Academic Advisor for Criminal Justice majors.

### Courses

#### CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

Overview of criminal justice system, history, and administration. Examines the roles played by police, prosecution, and corrections agencies. Discusses legal and ethical issues in the administration of justice.

#### CRIJ 1305 The Judicial Process
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

Examination of the judicial process, including the role of the court system, the administration of justice, and the administration of the juvenile justice system. Focuses on the history and development of the judicial process and the roles of the various actors involved.

#### CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals of Criminal Law
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

Examination of the legal principles that underlie the criminal justice system. Focuses on the history and development of criminal law, as well as the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement, prosecution, and defense attorneys.

#### CRIJ 1315 Crime Prevention
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

CRIJ 3320 Issues in Corrections
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
ANALYSIS OF CONTEMPORARY DEVELOPMENTS, CONTROVERSIES AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS IN THE FIELD OF CORRECTIONS. INCLUDES EXAMINATION OF THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF CORRECTIONAL POLICY.

CRIJ 3325 Community-Based Corrections
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
EXAMINATION OF THE CORRECTIONAL STRATEGIES AND FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN COMMUNITY SETTINGS INCLUDING DIVERSION PROGRAMS, PROBATION, PAROLE,HALFWAY HOUSES, BOOT CAMPS, AND RESTITUTION CENTERS.

CRIJ 3340 Comparative Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
COMPARISON OF THE POLICE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES WITH THE U.S. CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC FACTORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

CRIJ 3341 Terrorism
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
AN EXAMINATION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE FROM CRIMINOLOGICAL, LEGAL, AND POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES. APPLICATION TO CONTEMPORARY EVENTS IS EMPHASIZED. THE SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY, AND ORGANIZATION OF TERRORIST GROUPS ARE ALSO EXPLORED AS WELL AS COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGIES, METHODS, AND DILEMMAS.

CRIJ 3360 Organized Crime
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
THE COURSE ANALYZES AND DISCUSSES HOW CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS CARRY OUT THEIR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES WHILE LAUNDERING MONEY THROUGH LEGAL ENTERPRISES. IT DISCUSSES WHY PEOPLE BELONG TO ORGANIZED CRIME SYNDICATES DESPITE THE RISKS OF DEATH AND IMPRISONMENT. THE LINKAGES OF POVERTY, LACK OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES, AND THE GLORIFICATION OF CAPITALIST IDEOLOGY BY THE PHENOMENON OF ORGANIZED CRIME ARE EXAMINED.

CRIJ 3361 Drugs, the Drug War, and Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
THIS COURSE IS AN ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF DRUGS, THE WAR ON DRUGS, AND HOW THESE TWO PHENOMENA IMPACT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN AMERICAN SOCIETY. THERE IS A REVIEW OF THE COMMON ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT DRUGS AND ITS SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS. AN EXAMINATION OF THE SOCIOCULTURAL INTERCONNECTIONS OF THE NATURE OF DRUGS, DRUG USE, DRUG TRAFFICKING, AND DRUG POLICY FROM A JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE IS PRESENTED.

CRIJ 3365 Sex Crimes
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
THIS COURSE ANALYZES THE NATURE, ETIOLOGY, AND THEORIES RELATED TO SEX OFFENSES AND SEX OFFENDERS. IT EXPLORES THE HISTORY AND CURRENT PRACTICES EMPLOYED BY THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS TO DEAL WITH SEX OFFENDING. THE COURSE ALSO EXAMINES MULTIPLE TYPES OF SEXUAL OFFENSES, PERPETRATORS AND VICTIMS, AS WELL AS THE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF SEXUAL OFFENSES AND ITS SOCIOCULTURAL RAMIFICATIONS TO GRASP THE COMPLEXITY OF THESE CRIMES.

CRIJ 3370 Crime in the Media
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

CRIJ 3375 Applied Statistics in Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
THIS COURSE WILL TEACH STUDENTS THE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR USING STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES THAT ARE MOST APPLICABLE IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE. IT WILL TEACH THEM WHEN, WHERE, AND WHY EACH STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IS NECESSARY AND/OR USEFUL, AND IT WILL HELP STUDENTS LEARN THOSE SKILLS BY APPLYING THEM TO AN ACTUAL PROJECT.

CRIJ 3380 Victimology
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

Prerequisite: CRIJ 1301.

CRIJ 4085 Major Field Test
0 Semester Credit Hours
THE MAJOR FIELD TEST (MFT) IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS A NATIONAL EXAMINATION GIVEN IN THE FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS ONLY. IT IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT FOR ALL CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJORS. STUDENTS ENROLL IN THIS COURSE DURING THE SEMESTER THAT THEY PLAN TO TAKE THE MFT. THIS SHOULD BE THE SEMESTER OF GRADUATION OR THE SPRING SEMESTER FOR THOSE PLANNING A SUMMER GRADUATION. THERE IS NO COST TO THE STUDENT FOR THE MAJOR FIELD TEST (MFT) IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS A NATIONAL EXAMINATION GIVEN IN THE FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS ONLY. IT IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT FOR ALL CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJORS. STUDENTS ENROLL IN THIS COURSE DURING THE SEMESTER THAT THEY PLAN TO TAKE THE MFT. THIS SHOULD BE THE SEMESTER OF GRADUATION OR THE SPRING SEMESTER FOR THOSE PLANNING A SUMMER GRADUATION. THERE IS NO COST TO THE STUDENT FOR EITHER THIS COURSE OR THE MFT. ADMISSION IS LIMITED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED 90 OR MORE SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS. GRADED: CR/NC.

CRIJ 4310 Constitutional Law
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)

CRIJ 4312 Law and Evidence
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THE USE, ADMISSIBILITY, AND PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE. ISSUES AND PROBLEMS DEALING WITH THE RULES OF EVIDENCE AND THE THEORIES ON WHICH THOSE RULES ARE BASED.
CRIJ 4313 Criminal Procedure
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A detailed examination of the legal constraints on investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses. Analysis of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure and of search and seizure law under the Fourth Amendment, as well as other due process issues arising under the Fifth and Sixth Amendments.

CRIJ 4320 Offender Rehabilitation
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Theories of rehabilitation, treatment, and correction of criminal offenders. Includes analysis of the historical development of the rehabilitative ideal and contemporary controversies surrounding it, and a survey of therapeutic models and methods.

CRIJ 4321 American Prisons and Prisoners
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Analysis of the history, philosophy, and function of prisons. Examination of control and treatment of offenders in institutional settings. Focus is upon current developments, controversies and management problems.

CRIJ 4322 Crime and Punishment in Literature
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A study of selected literary classics that treat of crime and punishment. The works of literary artists from various cultures which describe experience with crime and the criminal justice system will be placed in historical and theoretical perspective.

CRIJ 4324 Women and Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
An historical and ideological analysis of the role of women in the criminal justice system as offenders, reformers, and professionals.

CRIJ 4325 Diversity in Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course is an investigation into the impact of social diversity (race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and more) on crime and the criminal justice system. Students will examine the impact of these factors on both offenders and criminal justice system employees, and will discuss and critically examine historical trends, contemporary events, and criminal justice system policies and laws.

CRIJ 4330 Understanding Criminal Behavior
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course examines various aspects of human behavior from a criminal justice perspective and is designed to give students a basic understanding of criminal behavior and psychological disorders which are encountered by criminal justice professionals.

CRIJ 4331 Juvenile Delinquency
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Examination of the nature and extent of juvenile crime today. Analysis of the history and theory of delinquency and society's response to it. (Credit may not be given for both this course and SOCI 4331.) Cross listed with SOCI 4331.

CRIJ 4335 Criminology
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
An examination of the major sociological explanations for crime, criminal behavior, and the social responses to crime. (Credit may not be given for both this course and SOCI 4335.) Cross listed with SOCI 4335.

CRIJ 4340 Criminal Investigation
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Critical examination of investigation methods and comparison of these to research methods. Advanced examination of investigative procedures, theory, supervision, and evaluative research. Some practical applications.

CRIJ 4345 Research Methods in Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course is designed to help students gain a working understanding of the research process with direct application to criminal justice research. Attention will focus on various aspects of the research process including quantitative and qualitative methods. Students will complete literature reviews, create research proposals, conduct observations/interviews, and construct surveys in addition to various assignments and activities.
Prerequisite: CRIJ 1301 or 1313.

CRIJ 4351 Police Supervision and Management
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Study of contemporary theories of management and supervision as they relate to law enforcement. Management concerns considered include planning, motivation, organizational communication, discipline, productivity, ethics, conflict, and job stress.

CRIJ 4360 Intimate Relationship Violence
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Violence involving acquaintance, spouse, child, and elder abuse is examined within a theoretical construct relating violence to social responses. Alternative causal theories, prevention, counseling, administration, innovative programs, and inter-agency coordination are addressed.

CRIJ 4365 White Collar Crime
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Critical examination of widespread forms of offending and offenders typically omitted from traditional criminology and criminal justice courses. Critical exploration of white collar, corporate, environmental and governmental crimes/criminal.

CRIJ 4390 Topics in Criminal Justice
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

CRIJ 4396 Directed Individual Study
1-3 Semester Credit Hours
See college description.

CRIJ 4398 Applied Experience
3 Semester Credit Hours
See college description.