Criminology, Law and Justice, B.A.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

• recognize the causes and consequences of crime at the micro and macro levels and match these with prominent criminological perspectives;
• describe the interrelated institutions and processes of the criminal justice system and legal systems;
• apply theories of crime, legal systems, and criminal justice systems to explain actual and hypothetical scenarios, behaviors, and trends;
• understand the role of formal law in advanced democracies;
• explain the various social science methods of inquiry and use these to test specific criminological research questions;
• recognize and explain social inequities in crime and criminal justice processes by race, social class, gender, region, and age; and
• evaluate the effectiveness of policy interventions for altering social behavior, including those deemed illegal or harmful.

Overview

The criminology, law and justice major examines issues related to race and ethnic diversity, and gender and poverty, heightening awareness of these important topics. Students learn about sociological explanations for crime and criminal justice; the operation of law and the criminal justice system, including their complex interplay with other institutions, such as the economy and politics; and important data sources on crime in the United States and internationally.

The criminology, law and justice course work required for the major is the same for B.A. and B.S. students, but the major for the B.S. includes additional semester hours in theory, statistics, and methods courses.

The department has an active undergraduate organization, the Sociology and Criminology Club, which is open to all interested students. The student-run group sponsors speakers, films, and career days; conducts study groups; and facilitates group volunteerism.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in criminology, law and justice requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 39 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Transfer students must earn at least 24 s.h. in criminology, law and justice course work at the University of Iowa; transfer courses must be approved by a sociology advisor.

Requirements for the major are similar for the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science. B.A. students take a minimum of 39 s.h. of course work for the major, while B.S. students take a minimum of 48 s.h. which includes additional theory, statistics, and methods courses.

Students who earn the major in criminology, law and justice can earn the major in sociology. No more than 9 s.h. of major course work can double count for each of the majors. Students who earn both majors may not complete a minor in either area.

Students who earn the major in criminology, law and justice may earn a minor in sociology. No more than 3 s.h. can double count for the major and minor.

Students who earn the major in criminology, law and justice may not earn the criminology, law and justice minor.

The B.A. with a major in criminology, law and justice requires the following course work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:1410</td>
<td>Introduction to Criminology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:1447</td>
<td>Introduction to the Criminal Justice System</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:1010 or SOC:1030</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology or Contemporary Social Problems</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:1420</td>
<td>Law and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 39-41

Introductory Courses

Code | Title                                           | Hours |
Two of these:
SOC:2130 | Sociological Theory                            | 3     |
CRIM:2470 | Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice | 3     |
SOC:2170 | Research Methods                               | 3     |

One of these:
SOC:2160 | Applied Statistics for Social Scientists        | 3     |
ECON:3300 | Introduction to Econometrics                   | 3     |
STAT:1020/PSQF:1020 | Elementary Statistics and Inference       | 3     |
STAT:1030 | Statistics for Business                        | 4     |
STAT:2010 | Statistical Methods and Computing              | 3     |
STAT:3510/IGPI:3510 | Biostatistics                                | 3     |
STAT:4143/PSQF:4143 | Introduction to Statistical Methods         | 3     |

Theory, Statistics, and Methods

Students should complete SOC:2130, and either CRIM:2470 or SOC:2170 as soon as possible.

Code | Title                                           | Hours |
This course:
SOC:2130 | Sociological Theory                            | 3     |

Of these:
CRIM:2470 | Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice | 3     |
SOC:2170 | Research Methods                               | 3     |

One of these:
SOC:2160 | Applied Statistics for Social Scientists        | 3     |
ECON:3300 | Introduction to Econometrics                   | 3     |
STAT:1020/PSQF:1020 | Elementary Statistics and Inference       | 3     |
STAT:1030 | Statistics for Business                        | 4     |
STAT:2010 | Statistical Methods and Computing              | 3     |
STAT:3510/IGPI:3510 | Biostatistics                                | 3     |
STAT:4143/PSQF:4143 | Introduction to Statistical Methods         | 3     |
## Upper-Level Sociology Requirement

Students complete 3 s.h. from these courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC:2064</td>
<td>Racial Inequity and the Experiences of African American Families in the U.S.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:2710</td>
<td>The American Family</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:2810</td>
<td>Social Inequality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:2830</td>
<td>Race and Ethnicity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3171</td>
<td>Drugs and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3220</td>
<td>Sociology of Mental Illness</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3510</td>
<td>Medical Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3610</td>
<td>Organizations and Modern Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3650</td>
<td>Education, Schools, and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3750</td>
<td>Born in the USA: Fertility and Reproduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3850</td>
<td>Economy and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:3880</td>
<td>The Sociology of Networks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4200</td>
<td>Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4210</td>
<td>Social Psychology of Small Groups</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4225</td>
<td>The Social Psychology of Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4230</td>
<td>Sociology of Self-Improvement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4540</td>
<td>Political Sociology and Social Movements</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4820</td>
<td>Sociology of Sexuality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Electives

Students complete 18 s.h. of elective course work in criminology, law and justice (prefix CRIM). Four of the required electives must be advanced, chosen from criminology, law and justice courses numbered 3000-4901 or CRIM:4998 Honors Research. Two of the four advanced electives must be taken after (and not concurrent with) the completion of SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, CRIM:2470 Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice or SOC:2170 Research Methods, and an additional approved course from the "Theory, Statistics, and Methods" list above. With permission, students may use graduate courses in sociology (prefix SOC) numbered 5000 or above to satisfy the electives requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:2430</td>
<td>Comparative Criminal Justice Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:2460</td>
<td>Policing in Modern Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:2901</td>
<td>Special Topics in Criminology, Law, and Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:3250</td>
<td>Drugs, Deviance, and Social Control</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:3350</td>
<td>Criminals in the Making: A Life Course Approach</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:3415</td>
<td>Global Criminology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Students may apply one of the following 3 s.h. courses toward the elective requirement:

- CRIM:3500 Policies and Procedures of Policing
- CRIM:4400 Internship in Criminal Justice and Corrections
- CRIM:4410 Treatment Interventions in Corrections

### Capstone Course

All students complete a capstone course, which illustrates their accomplishments and includes assembling a portfolio. Students generally take the course during their last two semesters of course work for the major, as long as they have completed an approved statistics course: CRIM:2470 Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice or SOC:2170 Research Methods; one of the introductory courses in criminology, law and justice; SOC:2130 Sociological Theory; and at least 6 s.h. of electives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:4400</td>
<td>Internship in Criminal Justice and Corrections</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4800</td>
<td>Research Practicum in Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4910</td>
<td>Capstone Course in Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graduation Portfolio

During their last semester, all students enroll in the following course, in which they submit the portfolio they assembled in the capstone course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4909</td>
<td>Graduation Portfolio</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Combined Programs

B.A./M.S. in Business Analytics (Career Subprogram)

Students majoring in criminology, law and justice who are interested in earning a master's degree in business analytics with a career subprogram may apply to the combined B.A./M.S. program offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business. The program enables students to begin the study of business analytics before they complete their bachelor's degree. Students are able to complete both degrees in five years rather than six.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the business analytics program, see the M.S. in business analytics (career) in the Tippie College of Business section of the Catalog.

B.A./M.S. in Finance

Students majoring in criminology, law and justice who are interested in earning a master's degree in finance may apply to the combined B.A./M.S. program offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business. The program enables students to begin the study of finance before they complete their bachelor's degree. Students are able to complete both degrees in five years rather than six.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the finance program, see the M.S. in finance (Tippie College of Business) section of the Catalog.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Departmental honors students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 3.33 in all University of Iowa courses and in all criminology, law and justice courses. In order to graduate with honors, the following course work must be completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIM:4998</td>
<td>Honors Research</td>
<td>arr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC:4997</td>
<td>Honors Seminar (taken spring of junior year)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The honors thesis is prepared under faculty supervision. It gives students the opportunity to conduct research in close consultation with a faculty member of the student's choice.

Honors students also must take at least one criminology, law and justice course numbered 3000 or above with honors designation, including graduate courses (honors designation requires instructor approval). Learn more about honors in the major and honors courses on the University of Iowa Honors Program website.

National Honor Program Society

The department sponsors a chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society. Students who have a cumulative g.p.a. of 3.30; a criminology, law and justice g.p.a. of at least 3.00 (with four criminology courses), and have attained junior or higher standing are considered for membership. Consult the Alpha Phi Sigma faculty advisor for details.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the criminology, law and justice major.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Sequencing of course work is important in meeting the four-year plan.

**Before the fifth semester begins:** two introductory courses and a statistics course

**Before the seventh semester begins:** both theory and methods courses, three additional introductory courses, two electives, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree

**Before the eighth semester begins:** a capstone course and two additional electives

**During the eighth semester:** enrollment in all remaining course work in the major, including SOC:4909 Graduation Portfolio; all remaining GE CLAS Core courses; and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Criminology, Law and Justice, B.A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030 The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course</td>
<td>4 - 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major: introductory Criminology course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CSI:1600 Success at Iowa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>1 - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>13-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030 The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric</td>
<td>3 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major: introductory Criminology course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course a
Elective course c 0 - 2

Hours 13-17

Second Year
Fall
SOC:2130 Sociological Theory 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab d 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course a
Major: Elective course 3
Elective course c 0 - 2

Hours 14-17

Spring
Major: introductory statistics course - STAT:1020 Elementary Statistics and Inference recommended b 3
Major: Elective course 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level 4 - 5
Proficiency or elective course a
Elective course c 3
Elective course c 1 - 3

Hours 14-17

Third Year
Fall
CRIM:2470 Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice 3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives d 3
Elective course c 3
Elective course c 3

Hours 15

Spring
Major: capstone course 3
Major: Elective course 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts 3

Elective course c 3
Elective course c 3

Hours 15

Fourth Year
Fall
Major: Elective course 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab d 3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture d 3
Elective course c 3
Elective course c 3

Hours 15

Spring
SOC:4909 Graduation Portfolio 0
Major: upper-level sociology elective/track course 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues d 3
Major: Elective course 3
Elective course c 3
Elective course c 3

Hours 15

Total Hours 114-128

Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

Career Advancement

The major in criminology, law and justice provides a foundation for graduate or professional study in criminology, criminal justice, sociology, psychology, law, social work, urban planning, social policy, and similar areas. The major pairs well with majors in other disciplines, such as psychology and social work, and affords students a competitive edge when applying to graduate school in forensic psychology or social work with a corrections emphasis.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.