Criminology, Law and Justice, B.A.

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.

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 General Education Program. 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.

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**Introductory Courses**

Two of these:

- CRIM:1410 Introduction to Criminology 3
- CRIM:1447 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System 3
- SOC:1010 Introduction to Sociology 3-4
- SOC:1020 Social Problems 3
- One of these:
  - SOC:2160 Applied Statistics for Social Scientists 3
  - STAT:1020/PSQF:1020 Elementary Statistics and Inference 3
  - STAT:1030 Statistics for Business 4
  - STAT:3510 Biostatistics 3
  - STAT:4143/PSQF:4143 Introduction to Statistical Methods 3

**Theory and Methods**

Students should complete these courses as soon as possible.

This course:

- SOC:2130 Sociological Theory 3

One of these:

- CRIM:2470 Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice 3
- SOC:2170 Research Methods 3

**Upper-Level Sociology Requirement**

3 s.h. from these:

- SOC:2064 Racial Inequity and the Experiences of African American Families in the U.S. 3
- SOC:2710 The American Family 3
- SOC:2810 Social Inequality 3
- SOC:3171 Drugs and Society 3
- SOC:3220 Sociology of Mental Illness 3
- SOC:3510 Medical Sociology 3
- SOC:3610 Organizations and Modern Society 3
- SOC:3650 Education, Schools, and Society 3
- SOC:3750 Born in the USA: Fertility and Reproduction 3
- SOC:3830 Race and Ethnicity 3
- SOC:3841 Community and Urban Sociology 3
- SOC:3880 The Sociology of Networks 3
- SOC:4200 Sociology of Religion 3
- SOC:4210 Social Psychology of Small Groups 3
- SOC:4225 The Social Psychology of Leadership 3
- SOC:4230 Sociology of Self-Improvement 3
- SOC:4540 Political Sociology and Social Movements 3

**Electives**

18 s.h. from these:

- CRIM:2430 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems 3
### 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.

**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:** SOC:4910 Capstone Course in Sociology and two additional electives

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

#### 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, education, 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.

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### Capstone Course

All students complete the 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 the statistics requirement; SOC:2170 Research Methods; one of the introductory courses in criminology, law and justice; and at least 6 s.h. of electives. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in work for the major.

**SOC:4910** Capstone Course in Sociology 3

### 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.

**SOC:4909** Graduation Portfolio 0

### 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 sociology and criminology, law and justice courses. In order to graduate with honors, the following course work must be completed.

**SOC:4997** Honors Seminar (taken spring of junior year) 1

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.

### 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.

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| CRIM:2460 | Policing in Modern Society | 3 |
| CRIM:2901 | Special Topics in Criminology, Law, and Justice | 3 |
| CRIM:3415 | Global Criminology | 3 |
| CRIM:3416 | Race, Crime, and Justice | 3 |
| CRIM:3417 | Community Corrections | 3 |
| CRIM:3420 | Juvenile Delinquency | 3 |
| CRIM:3425 | Women, Crime, and Justice | 3 |
| CRIM:3437 | American Crime | 3 |
| CRIM:3450 | Criminal Legal System | 3 |
| CRIM:4420 | Criminal Punishment | 3 |
| CRIM:4430 | Interpersonal Violence in Society | 3 |
| CRIM:4440 | Sociology of White-Collar Crime | 3 |
| CRIM:4450 | Juvenile Justice: A Sociolegal Perspective | 3 |
| CRIM:4460 | Sociology of Law | 3 |
| CRIM:4901 | Advanced Topics in Criminology, Law, and Justice | 3 |

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

**CRIM:3500** Policies and Procedures of Policing 3

**CRIM:4400** Internship in Criminal Justice and Corrections 3

**SOC:4998** Honors Research (honors thesis) 2-3

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