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

or 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
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

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

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

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

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.

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: 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.