

# Criminology, Law and Justice, B.S.

The criminology, law and justice major examines issues related to race and ethnic diversity, 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 coursework required for the major is the same for B.S. and B.A. 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.

## 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.

## Requirements

The Bachelor of Science with a major in criminology, law and justice requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 48 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 coursework at the University of Iowa; transfer courses must be approved by a sociology advisor.

Requirements for the major are similar for the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Arts. B.A. students take a minimum of 39 s.h. of coursework 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

coursework 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.

Courses listed in more than one area may only be used toward one requirement.

The B.S. with a major in criminology, law and justice requires the following coursework.

| Code                                    | Title | Hours        |
|---|-------|--------------|
| Introductory Courses                    |       | 6-7          |
| Theory, Statistics, and Methods Courses |       | 18           |
| Upper-Level Sociology Requirement       |       | 3            |
| Electives                               |       | 18           |
| Capstone Course                         |       | 3            |
| Graduation Portfolio Course             |       | 0            |
| <b>Total Hours</b>                      |       | <b>48-49</b> |

## Introductory Courses

| Code          | Title                                       | Hours |
|---------------|---|-------|
| 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:1030   | Contemporary Social Problems                |       |

## Theory, Statistics, and Methods

| Code  | Title  | Hours |
|---|--|-------|
| This course (completed as soon as possible):  |  |       |
| SOC:2130                                      | Sociological Theory                                  | 3     |
| One of these (completed as soon as possible): |  |       |
| CRIM:2470                                     | Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice | 3     |
| SOC:2170                                      | Research Methods                                     | 3     |
| All of these:                                 |  |       |
| SOC:2160                                      | Applied Statistics for Social Scientists             | 3     |
| SOC:6170                                      | Introduction to Sociological Data Analysis           | 3     |
| SOC:6180                                      | Linear Models in Sociological Research               | 3     |
| One of these:                                 |  |       |
| CRIM:4800                                     | Research Practicum in Criminology                    | 3     |
| PHIL:2603                                     | Introduction to Symbolic Logic                       | 3     |
| PHIL:3604                                     | Introduction to Philosophy of Science                | 3     |

## Upper-Level Sociology Requirement

| Code               | Title   | Hours |
|--------------------|---|-------|
| 3 s.h. from these: |   |       |
| SOC:2064           | African American Families: Urban and Suburban     | 3     |
| SOC:2710           | The American Family                               | 3     |
| SOC:2770           | Black and White Community Politics                | 3     |
| SOC:2810           | Social Inequality                                 | 3     |
| SOC:2830           | Race and Ethnicity                                | 3     |
| SOC:3100           | Critical Race Theory: Culture, Power, and Society | 3     |
| SOC:3171           | Drugs and Society                                 | 3     |
| SOC:3220           | Sociology of Mental Illness                       | 3     |
| SOC:3510           | Medical Sociology                                 | 3     |
| SOC:3530           | Social Psychology of Small Groups                 | 3     |
| SOC:3610           | Organizations and Modern Society                  | 3     |
| SOC:3630           | The Racial Wealth Gap: Black Debt, White Debt     | 3     |
| SOC:3650           | Education, Schools, and Society                   | 3     |
| SOC:3750           | Born in the USA: Fertility and Reproduction       | 3     |
| SOC:3880           | The Sociology of Networks                         | 3     |
| SOC:4000           | Data Science for Social Good                      | 3     |
| SOC:4200           | Sociology of Religion                             | 3     |
| SOC:4225           | The Social Psychology of Leadership               | 3     |
| SOC:4230           | Sociology of Self-Improvement                     | 3     |
| SOC:4540           | Political Sociology and Social Movements          | 3     |
| SOC:4680           | Corruption: The Social Scientific Perspectives    | 3     |
| SOC:4820           | Sociology of Sexuality                            | 3     |

## Electives

Students complete 18 s.h. of elective coursework 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 required electives must be taken after (and not concurrent with) the completion of SOC:2130 Sociological Theory, and CRIM:2470 Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice or SOC:2170 Research Methods. With permission, students may use graduate courses in sociology (prefix SOC) numbered 5000 or above to satisfy the electives requirement.

| Code                | Title                                   | Hours |
|---------------------|---|-------|
| 18 s.h. from these: |   |       |
| CRIM:2210           | Iowa Criminal Justice Policy and Reform | 3     |
| 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:3110   | Communities and Crime                            | 3   |
| CRIM:3250   | Drugs, Deviance, and Social Control              | 3   |
| CRIM:3260   | Immigration and Crime                            | 3   |
| CRIM:3350   | Life Course Criminology                          | 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:3600   | Crime and Public Policy                          | 3   |
| CRIM:4120   | Environmental Criminology                        | 3   |
| CRIM:4300   | Gender and Violence                              | 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:4680   | Corruption: The Social Scientific Perspectives   | 3   |
| CRIM:4901   | Advanced Topics in Criminology, Law, and Justice | 3   |
| CRIM:4998   | Honors Research                                  | 1-3 |
| Students may apply one of the following 3 s.h. courses toward the elective requirement: |  |     |
| CRIM:4400   | Internship in Criminal Justice and Corrections   | 3   |
| CRIM:4410   | Treatment Interventions in Corrections           | 3   |

## 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 coursework for the major, as long as they have completed the three statistics courses; 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.

| Code          | Title  | Hours |
|---------------|--|-------|
| One of these: |  |       |
| CRIM:4400     | Internship in Criminal Justice and Corrections   | 3     |
| CRIM:4800     | Research Practicum in Criminology (if taken as a Theory, Statistics, and Methods course, registration a second time is required) | 3     |
| SOC:4910      | Capstone Course in Sociology and Criminology   | 3     |

## Graduation Portfolio

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

| Code     | Title                | Hours |
|----------|----------------------|-------|
| 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 criminology, law and justice courses. In order to graduate with honors, the following coursework must be completed.

| Code      | Title           | Hours |
|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| CRIM:4998 | Honors Research | 1-3   |
| SOC:4997  | Honors Seminar  | 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.

Honors students must also take 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 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.

## 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.

## 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 coursework 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:** theory and methods courses, three additional introductory courses, two electives, statistics, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

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

**During the eighth semester:** enrollment in all remaining coursework 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.S.

| Course   | Title                               | Hours        |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Academic Career</b>   |                                     |              |
| <b>Any Semester</b>  |                                     |              |
| GE CLAS Core: Sustainability <sup>a</sup>  |                                     |              |
| <b>Hours</b>   |                                     | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>First Year</b>  |                                     |              |
| <b>Fall</b>  |                                     |              |
| Major: introductory criminology course <sup>b</sup>                                    |                                     | 3            |
| ENGL:1200  | The Interpretation of Literature    | 3 - 4        |
| or RHET:1030   | or Rhetoric                         |              |
| GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup>  |                                     | 4 - 5        |
| CSI:1600   | Success at Iowa                     | 2            |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   |                                     | 3            |
| <b>Hours</b>   |                                     | <b>15-17</b> |
| <b>Spring</b>  |                                     |              |
| Major: introductory criminology course   |                                     | 3            |
| RHET:1030  | Rhetoric                            | 3 - 4        |
| or ENGL:1200   | or The Interpretation of Literature |              |
| GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion <sup>e</sup>                                     |                                     | 3            |
| GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup> |                                     | 4 - 5        |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   |                                     | 2            |
| <b>Hours</b>   |                                     | <b>15-17</b> |
| <b>Second Year</b>   |                                     |              |
| <b>Fall</b>  |                                     |              |
| SOC:2130   | Sociological Theory                 | 3            |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Major: criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM)                             | 3     |
| GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning <sup>e</sup>                            | 3     |
| GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup> | 4 - 5 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 1 - 3 |

**Hours 14-17**

### Spring

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Major: criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM)                             | 3     |
| GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab <sup>e</sup>                                   | 4     |
| GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues <sup>e</sup>                             | 3     |
| GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup> | 4 - 5 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 2     |

**Hours 16-17**

### Third Year

#### Fall

|  |   |
|--|---|
| SOC:2160 Applied Statistics for Social Scientists                                | 3 |
| Major: advanced criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM) <sup>f</sup> | 3 |
| GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab <sup>e</sup>                          | 3 |
| GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts <sup>e</sup>                 | 3 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 3 |

**Hours 15**

#### Spring

|  |   |
|--|---|
| SOC:2170 Research Methods  | 3 |
| Major: capstone course   | 3 |
| Major: advanced criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM) <sup>f</sup> | 3 |
| GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture <sup>e</sup>                                    | 3 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 3 |

**Hours 15**

### Fourth Year

#### Fall

|  |   |
|--|---|
| SOC:6170 Introduction to Sociological Data Analysis                              | 3 |
| Major: advanced criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM) <sup>f</sup> | 3 |
| Major: upper-level sociology elective  | 3 |
| GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives <sup>e</sup>                               | 3 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 3 |

**Hours 15**

#### Spring

|  |   |
|--|---|
| PHIL:3604 or CRIM:4800 or PHIL:2603 Introduction to Philosophy of Science or Research Practicum in Criminology or Introduction to Symbolic Logic | 3 |
| SOC:4909 Graduation Portfolio  | 0 |
| SOC:6180 Linear Models in Sociological Research  | 3 |
| Major: advanced criminology, law and justice elective (prefix CRIM) <sup>f</sup>   | 3 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 3 |
| Elective course <sup>d</sup>   | 3 |

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

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Hours</b>       | <b>15</b>      |
| <b>Total Hours</b> | <b>120-128</b> |

- a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
- b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- c Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
- d Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
- e GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
- f Advanced courses are numbered 3000 or above. Two of the four advanced electives must be taken after (and not concurrent with) the completion of SOC:2130 and SOC:2170.
- g Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.