

Criminology, PhD

Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy program in criminology requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit. This can include up to 30 s.h. of credit from a previous master's degree in criminology or sociology; a maximum of 3 s.h. of credit from SOC:7030 Readings and Research Tutorial or its transferable equivalent at another institution will be counted as part of the 30 s.h. Students must maintain a program grade-point average of at least 3.25.

The PhD in criminology requires the following coursework.

Required Courses

All PhD students must complete the following courses with grades of B-minus or higher.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
SOC:5160	Research Design and Methods	3
SOC:6170	Introduction to Sociological Data Analysis	3
SOC:6180	Linear Models in Sociological Research	3
SOC:6410	Seminar: Criminological Theories	3
	Foundations of Criminal Theory (pending)	3
	Criminal Justice Systems (pending)	3
	Advanced Criminological Theory (pending)	3

Professional Seminars

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SOC:7270	Scholarly Professionalism and Integrity I	2
SOC:7271	Scholarly Professionalism and Integrity II	2

Research Methods and Statistics Courses

Students must complete the following courses with grades of B-minus or higher. They may substitute another course for those listed below with approval from the director of graduate studies.

Course #	Title	Hours
Two of these:		
SOC:6175	Qualitative Methods	3
SOC:7170	Advanced Statistical Modeling of Data	3
SOC:7175	Social Science Research: Big Data	3
SOC:7180	Structural Equation Modeling	3

Elective Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
18 s.h. from these:		
SOC:6420	Seminar: Selected Topics in Deviance and Control (taken 3 times as topics vary)	9
SOC:6440	Crime and Health in the Life Course	3
SOC:6750	Race and Crime	3
SOC:7410	Communities and Crime	3

Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examination consists of five questions prepared by the student's exam committee; each answer should contain no more than 2,500 words. The student should demonstrate mastery of the relevant research methods as well as the major, minor, or related fields of study for a given area. Students should pass the comprehensive examination before the start of their fourth year in the program.

Dissertation

All PhD candidates prepare a detailed prospectus of research for the dissertation within one year of the comprehensive examination. The prospectus is written in consultation with the student's dissertation committee members and should allow the committee to evaluate the feasibility of the dissertation research and make suggestions to improve it.

Students must pass an oral examination by their dissertation defense committee. The oral dissertation defense should be completed no later than five years after passing the comprehensive examination.

As students work on the dissertation they will typically be registered in SOC:7030 Readings and Research Tutorial or SOC:7090 PhD Dissertation.

For a detailed statement of graduate study rules, visit the Department of Sociology and Criminology website. Prospective doctoral students should examine this information carefully.

Teaching Assistantship Training

All new graduate teaching assistants (TAs) are expected to attend a three-day orientation before classes begin. In addition, SOC:7010 Teaching Sociology is required for students who wish to teach their own courses.