

Criminal Justice Major

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJOR

First launched in 2016, criminal justice is one of the most popular majors on campus. The program emphasizes corrections and law enforcement, and requires major courses that range from Juvenile Justice to Constitutional Law, and Criminal Evidence and Procedure to Community Based Corrections. Majors also take courses in psychology and history, to gain a better understanding of the national debates on the American criminal justice and prison systems. Upon graduating, majors have the content knowledge and analytical skills to pursue careers in law enforcement, community corrections, and federal, state, and local agencies, such as the FBI, Alabama crime scene unit, and county sheriff's office. Majors might also apply to graduate school and law school, opening the possibility of academic and legal-related careers.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Criminal Justice major, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the evolution of the correctional system in the United States [Content].
2. Distinguish between criminal justice and corrections [Content].
3. Distinguish between parole and probation [Content].
4. Explain the legal issues and liabilities that relate to offenders and corrections personnel [Content].
5. Differentiate between public and private federal, state and local correctional systems [Content].
6. Analyze issues relating to corrections in scholarly writings [Critical Thinking].
7. Develop skills of critical analysis, criminological research, and writings [Critical Thinking and Communication].
8. Demonstrate knowledge of legal concepts and terminology [Content].

Program Outcomes

As a result of successful completion of the Criminal Justice Program, graduates will:

1. Demonstrate the professional values essential to employment by the city, county, state, and federal agencies, as well as private facilities.
2. Find employment in the field of security of local, regional and national organizations.
3. Pursue graduate degrees in criminal justice or related fields.

Semester Plan

Included below is a sample semester-by-semester plan for a major in Criminal Justice.

Program: Criminal Justice

Type: Bachelor of Arts

Major in Criminal Justice

Required courses for the major in Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice major consists of a minimum of 30 hours of Criminal Justice courses and 21 hours of cognate courses. Required courses are:

Item #	Title	Credits
CJ 131 3	Introduction to Criminal Justice	
CJ 132 3	Juvenile Justice	
CJ 232 3	Community Based Corrections	
CJ 331 3	Constitutional Law	
CJ 332 3	Criminal Evidence and Procedure	
CJ 333 3	Corrections	
CJ 430 3	Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice	
CJ 431 3	Penology	
CJ 432 3	Public Policy and Criminal Justice	
CJ 433 3	Research in Criminal Justice	
BUS 233 3	Principles of Macroeconomics	
GEO 231 3	World Regional Geography	
HIS 132 3	Foundations of American Civilization	
PSY 334 3	Abnormal Psychology	
PSY 335 3	Social Psychology	
MAT 132 3	Trigonometry and Analytic Geometry	

MAT 233	Introduction to Statistics
3	
	Sub-Total Credits
51	

Course Sequencing

Major in Criminal Justice FRESHMAN YEAR Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 131	English Composition I	
3		
REL 131	Introduction to the Old Testament	
3		
MAT 131	Algebra	
3		
HUM 130	African American Heritage	
3		
STI 111	Orientation	
1		
	Sub-Total Credits	
13		

FRESHMAN YEAR Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 132 3	English Composition II	
REL 132 3	Introduction to the New Testament	
HIS 131 3	Foundations of World Civilization	
PSY 230 3	Introduction to Psychology	
BIO 131 3	Life Science	
STI 114 1	Orientation II	
	Sub-Total Credits	
16		

SOPHOMORE YEAR Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
GEO 231 3	World Regional Geography	
PHY 131 3	Physical Science	
CSC 121 2	Computer Literacy	
CJ 131 3	Introduction to Criminal Justice	
BUS 233 3	Principles of Macroeconomics	
HPR 121 2	Lifetime Wellness	
	Sub-Total Credits	
16		

SOPHOMORE YEAR Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
HIS 132 3	Foundations of American Civilization	
MAT 132 3	Trigonometry and Analytic Geometry	
SPE 232 3	Public Speaking	
3	200-level Religion	
BUS 210 1	Financial Literacy	
CJ 132 3	Juvenile Justice	
16	Sub-Total Credits	

JUNIOR YEAR Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CJ 232 3	Community Based Corrections	
PSY 334 3	Abnormal Psychology	
CJ 333 3	Corrections	
3	300-level Religion	
MAT 233 3	Introduction to Statistics	
15	Sub-Total Credits	

JUNIOR YEAR Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CJ 332 3	Criminal Evidence and Procedure	
LOG 330 3	Logic	
CJ 331 3	Constitutional Law	
EDU 310 1	Test Taking Strategies	
PSY 335 3	Social Psychology	
3	General Elective (3 credits)	
16	Sub-Total Credits	

SENIOR YEAR Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CJ 430 3	Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice	
CJ 433 3	Research in Criminal Justice	
3	General Elective (3 credits)	
3	General Elective (3 credits)	
2	General Elective (2 credits)	
14	Sub-Total Credits	

SENIOR YEAR Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CJ 432 3	Public Policy and Criminal Justice	
CJ 431 3	Penology	
3	General Elective (3 credits)	
3	General Elective (3 credits)	
2	General Elective (2 credits)	
14	Sub-Total Credits	