
A Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice prepares students interested in criminal justice careers like law enforcement, parole and probation, corrections, and youth services. While students will learn about the inner workings of the justice system, our courses are also designed to develop skills that will make their careers more successful, like critical thinking skills, good communication skills, problem solving skills, and an ability to grow and learn after college. Finally, the degree prepares students interested in pursuing a graduate degree by providing a strong academic foundation in criminological theory, research methods, and statistics.

A – GENERAL EDUCATION CORE – 42 HOURS

Students must fulfill the General Education Core requirements. The courses listed below satisfy both degree requirements and General Education core requirements.

Recommended

020 - Mathematics – 3 hours

Any available course, except MATH 1332.

B – MAJOR REQUIREMENTS – 51 HOURS (33 advanced minimum)

1 – Criminal Justice Core – 30 hours (18 advanced)

CRIJ 1301 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices
CRIJ 2313 Correctional Systems and Practices
CRIJ 2328 Police Systems and Practices
CRIJ 3303 Criminology
CRIJ 3304 Criminal Justice Research Methods
CRIJ 3305 Statistical Applications in Criminal Justice
CRIJ 3310 The Constitution and Criminal Law

Choose one:

CRIJ 4399 Criminal Justice System Capstone
CRIJ 4364 Field Internship
SOCL 4333 Social Theory for Sociology Students

2 – Criminal Justice Electives – 21 hours (15 advanced minimum)

Choose from:

CRIJ 1307 Crime in America
CRIJ 1313 Juvenile Justice System
CRIJ 3316 Criminal Evidence and Proof
CRIJ 3322 Juvenile Delinquency and Justice
CRIJ 3325 Violent Crime and Offenders
CRIJ 3331 Legal Aspects of Corrections
CRIJ 3341 Probation and Parole
CRIJ 3344 Gender, Crime, and Criminal Justice
CRIJ 4312 Principles of Law Enforcements and Supervision
CRIJ 4313 Seminar: Issues in Law Enforcement
CRIJ 4314 Private Security and Loss Prevention
CRIJ 4316 Environmental Crime and Justice
CRIJ 4320 Criminal Justice Organization and Management
CRIJ 4321 White-Collar and Organized Crime
CRIJ 4322 Terrorism
CRIJ 4335 Restorative and Community Justice
CRIJ 4341 Correctional Casework and Counseling
CRIJ 4343 Current Issues in Corrections
CRIJ 4350 Peace, Nonviolence, and Justice
CRIJ 4355 Current Issues in the Courts
CRIJ 4356 Law and Society
CRIJ 4357 Crime Prevention Techniques
CRIJ 4361 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems
CRIJ 4362 Special Topics in Criminal Justice
CRIJ 4365 Independent Studies in Criminal Justice
CRIJ 4370 Senior Seminar: Policy Issues

C – MINOR – 18 HOURS (6 advanced)

D – FREE ELECTIVES – 9 HOURS

Advanced hours will vary to meet 51 advanced hour requirement.

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION – 120 HOURS

TOTAL ADVANCED HOURS – 51 HOURS

ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, if applicable:

Graduation requirements

In addition to the graduation requirements listed in the UTRGV 2017-2019 Undergraduate Catalog, demonstration of proficiency in a language other than English is required at the undergraduate level equivalent to a minimum of six credit hours. Proficiency can be demonstrated by a college credit exam, a placement test approved through the UTRGV Department of Writing and Language Studies, and/or up to six credit hours of college-level language coursework.