

Choose 1	Communication (Core)
CRIJ 1301	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System
Choose 1	American History (Core)
Choose 1	Mathematics (Core)
UNIV 1301	Learning Framework
Choose 1	Communication (Core)
CRIJ 1306	Court Systems and Practices
Choose 1	American History (Core)
Choose 1	Creative Arts (Core)
Choose 1	Life and Physical Sciences (Core)

## FIRST YEAR

Choose 1	Culture (Core)
Choose 1	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Core)
Choose 1	Life and Physical Sciences (Core)
Choose 1	Integrative/Experiential Learning Option (Core)
Choose 1	Government/Political Science (Core)
CRIJ 2313	Correctional Systems and Practices
CRIJ 2328	Police Systems and Practices
CRIJ 3304	Criminal Justice Research Methods
13XX-X3XX	Criminal Justice Elective
Choose 1	Integrative/Experiential Learning Option (Core)
Choose 1	Government/Political Science (Core)
Choose 1	Life and Physical Sciences (Core)
Choose 1	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Core)
Choose 1	Language, Philosophy &

## SECOND YEAR

CRIJ 3303	Criminology
CRIJ 3305	Statistical Applications in Criminal Justice
33XX-43XX	Free Advanced Elective
13XX-X3XX	Minor Elective
33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective
CRIJ 3310	The Constitution and Criminal Law
33XX-43XX	Free Advanced Elective
33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective
13XX-X3XX	Minor Elective
33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective

## THIRD YEAR

33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective
33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective
SOCI 4333	Social Theory
CRIJ 43XX	CRIJ 4399 or 4364 (choose one)
33XX-43XX	Minor Advanced Elective
33XX-43XX	Minor Advanced Elective
33XX-43XX	Free Advanced Elective
13XX-X3XX	Minor Elective
33XX-43XX	Criminal Justice Advanced Elective
13XX-X3XX	Minor Elective
33XX-43XX	Free Advanced Elective

## FOURTH YEAR

## Additional Info

\* When completing the UTRGV core curriculum requirements, students are encouraged NOT to take MATH 1332. Students should select another math class from the list of approved courses such as MATH 1324 or MATH 1342.

\* Please note that students may choose to take the Criminal Justice Capstone course (CRIJ 4399) or the Criminal Justice Internship course (CRIJ 4364). Whichever course is chosen should be taken during the student's final/senior year.

\* Please note that the old degree plan indicates that students are required to take a sociology course (SOCI 4331) which is no longer being offered. Students should take SOCI 4333, but in order to do so they should first visit the Sociology Department to have the prerequisites for that class waived (i.e., students need to get cleared to enroll in SOCI 4333).

## Contact Info

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## UTRio Grande Valley

# BLUE PRINT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
Catalog: 2017-18  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

## Degree Info

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.



# BLUEPRINT EXPERIENCES

## FIRST YEAR

## SECOND YEAR

## THIRD YEAR

## FOURTH YEAR AND BEYOND

## CAREERS

### MILESTONES

- UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center. Make it a point to visit them!
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Take MATH 1324 or MATH 1342 in your first year.

### ADVICE & SUPPORT

- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence- Visit my.UTRGV.edu and check out the Kuder Journey.
- Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.

### APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN

- Look for a service-learning course! For guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.

### GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu.
- Attend a diversity based campus or community event (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
- Attend a local event such as a walk/run to increase awareness of domestic violence.
- Join a student organization! Consider looking into the American Criminal Justice Association or visit VLink (utrgv.edu/vlink) for options.

### LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Career Connection icon: (My.UTRGV.edu).
- Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
- Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on the Career Center portal!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger- locate and attend one student workshop.

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete major foundation classes, such as CRIJ 2313 and CRIJ 2328.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Make it a point to attend every class.

- Want to explore different careers? Check out Kuder Journey!
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
- Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available

- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.

- Look at study abroad opportunities! Consider going to Spain.
- Check out a cultural campus or community event such as HESTEC or FESTIBA.
- Join another student organization. Perhaps Alphas Phi Sigma or visit VLink for options.
- Check out a campus event that offers free lunch- bring a friend!

- Update your resume in Career Connection and have it reviewed.
- Visit the Career Center site to find a job fair to attend. At the event, approach a recruiter and discuss internships.
- Will a minor expand your career options? We recommend history, political science, psychology, or sociology.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests.

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.

- Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization such as Alpha Phi Sigma.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.

- Go show off your research, service-learning or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium!
- Broaden your horizons! Take an additional course from the list of Language, Philosophy, and Culture courses such as PHIL 1310 or ENGL 2331.

- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit VLink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
- Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.

- Check out the Criminal Justice Department website for postings on career/graduate school.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks' advance notice!
- When is the deadline for your graduate school application? Visiting the program admissions webpage. Most do not accept late applicants!

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.75 (it's your last year, make it count).
- "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
- Register for your Capstone/senior/portfolio project: CRIJ 4364 or CRIJ 4399 (choose one).
- Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for fulltime employment.

- Double check and then triple check your degree works to be sure you are prepared for graduation. You don't want to find out later that you're missing a class.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor that includes employment, finances, and other life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.

- Continue to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Set up an informational interview with an individual (especially an alumnus) currently in the field you aspire to work in.

- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, etc. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Career Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.

- Have you received your acceptance for graduate school or an employment offer? If not, network: talk to faculty, the Career Center, and get on LinkedIn.
- Formulate and implement a strategy for life after graduation: attend career fairs, graduate fairs, apply to fellowships, etc.
- Update your information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events and continued access to Career Center services!
- Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

- Corrections
- Probation
- Parole
- Juvenile justice
- Program development
- Outreach
- Mentoring
- Victim's assistance
- Counseling
- Casework
- Prevention services
- Advocacy
- Supervision
- Assessment
- Reporting
- Grant writing
- Consulting
- Administration
- Patrolling
- Investigating
- Probation
- Parole
- Court security
- Surveillance
- Loss prevention
- Forensics

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out "What Can I Do With This Major?" [www.utrgv.edu/careercenter](http://www.utrgv.edu/careercenter)