

Department of Criminal Justice

The Department of Criminal Justice offers a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree which provides the opportunity for comprehensive study of criminal justice, and a Minor in Criminal Justice. Students completing the Bachelor of Arts degree may pursue professional careers in government or the private sector as well as apply for admission to law or graduate schools.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for this degree, including the Core Curriculum requirements, is 120. Thirty-nine of the total semester credit hours required for the degree must be at the upper-division level. Criminal Justice majors, through consultation with faculty advisors, should choose elective courses from Core Curriculum requirements that will enhance their awareness of the complex social and cultural issues confronting contemporary American society.

All candidates for this degree must fulfill the Core Curriculum requirements and the degree requirements, which are listed below.

Core Curriculum Requirements (42 semester credit hours)

Students seeking the B.A. degree in Criminal Justice must fulfill University Core Curriculum requirements. The courses listed below satisfy both degree requirements and Core Curriculum requirements; however, if these courses are taken to satisfy both requirements, then students may need to take additional courses in order to meet the minimum number of semester credit hours required for this degree.

CRJ 1113 The American Criminal Justice System may be used to satisfy the core requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences as well as a major requirement.

Core Curriculum Component Area Requirements (<http://catalog.utsa.edu/undergraduate/bachelorsdegreeregulations/degreerequirements/corecurriculumcomponentarearequirements>)

First Year Experience Requirement	3
Communication	6
Mathematics	3
Life and Physical Sciences	6
Language, Philosophy and Culture	3
Creative Arts	3
American History	6
Government-Political Science	6
Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Component Area Option	3
Total Credit Hours	42

Gateway Course

Students pursuing the B.A. degree in Criminal Justice must successfully complete the following Gateway Course with a grade of "C-" or better in no more than two attempts. A student who is unable to successfully complete this course within two attempts, including dropping the course

with a grade of "W" or taking an equivalent course at another institution, will be required to change his or her major.

CRJ 1113 The American Criminal Justice System

Major Degree Requirements (78 semester credit hours)

All required and elective CRJ courses must be completed with a grade of "C-" or better to count towards a major in Criminal Justice.

A. Criminal Justice Core (18 semester credit hours)

1. 9 semester credit hours of required courses:

CRJ 1113	The American Criminal Justice System	3
CRJ 2153	Criminological Theory	3
CRJ 3013	Research Design and Analysis in Criminal Justice	3

2. 9 semester credit hours of CRJ upper-division electives, with at least 3 credits chosen from each of the sub-areas:

Sub-Area 1: Policing (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 3123	Investigations	3
CRJ 4413	Contemporary Police Practices	3
CRJ 4443	Special Topics in Policing	3
Sub-Area 2: Courts (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 3623	Substantive Criminal Law	3
CRJ 4633	Constitutional Criminal Procedure	3
CRJ 4863	Special Topics in Courts	3
Sub-Area 3: Corrections (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 3533	Community Corrections	3
CRJ 4603	Institutional Corrections	3
CRJ 4663	Special Topics in Corrections	3

B. Non-Core Criminal Justice Coursework

18 credit hours semester credit hours of non-core criminal justice courses chosen from the following courses:

CRJ 2213	Introduction to Policing	3
CRJ 2513	Introduction to Corrections	3
CRJ 2813	Introduction to Courts and the Legal System	3
CRJ 3123	Investigations	3
CRJ 3213	Managing Criminal Justice Organizations	3
CRJ 3233	Introduction to Forensic Science	3
CRJ 3533	Community Corrections	3
CRJ 3563	Juvenile Justice	3
CRJ 3573	Restorative Justice	3
CRJ 3623	Substantive Criminal Law	3
CRJ 3713	Ethics in Criminal Justice Practice	3
CRJ 4303	Victimology	3
CRJ 4403	Race, Ethnicity, and Criminal Justice	3
CRJ 4413	Contemporary Police Practices	3
CRJ 4443	Special Topics in Policing	3
CRJ 4453	Drugs and Crime	3
CRJ 4463	Gender and Crime	3
CRJ 4603	Institutional Corrections	3
CRJ 4633	Constitutional Criminal Procedure	3

CRJ 4653	White Collar Crime	3
CRJ 4663	Special Topics in Corrections	3
CRJ 4703	Life Course Criminology	3
CRJ 4833	Violent Crime	3
CRJ 4843	Study Abroad: International Criminal Justice	3
CRJ 4863	Special Topics in Courts	3
CRJ 4913	Independent Study	3
CRJ 4953	Special Topics in Criminal Justice/Criminology	3
CRJ 4993	Honors Thesis	3

C. Criminal Justice Internship (3 semester credit hours)

CRJ 4933	Internship in Criminal Justice	3
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3 semester credit hours of CRJ 4933 Internship in Criminal Justice taken in consultation with the Department’s internship coordinator once the prerequisites are satisfied (students are encouraged to complete at least 90 credit hours prior to enrolling). 3 semester credit hours of appropriate upper-division coursework may be taken in lieu of the internship if a student has relevant and documented full-time employment of at least one year in duration in a justice-related agency or is unable to obtain a placement in an agency due to verifiable personal circumstances or background issues. May be repeated for an additional 3 credit hours with a different internship work site in a subsequent semester. Prerequisites to CRJ 4933 are CRJ 1113 The American Criminal Justice System, CRJ 2153 Criminological Theory, and CRJ 3013 Research Design and Analysis in Criminal Justice.

D. Electives (39 semester credit hours)

39 semester credit hours of electives, of which 15 must be 3000 or 4000 level courses.

Course Sequence Guide for Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice

This course sequence guide is designed to assist students in completing their UTSA undergraduate Criminal Justice degree requirements. *This is merely a guide and students must satisfy other requirements of this catalog and meet with their academic advisor for individualized degree plans.* Progress within this guide depends upon such factors as course availability, individual student academic preparation, student time management, work obligations, and individual financial considerations. Students may choose to take courses during Summer terms to reduce course loads during long semesters.

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice – Recommended Four-Year Academic Plan

First Year

Fall		Credit Hours
CRJ 1113	The American Criminal Justice System	3
AIS 1203	Academic Inquiry and Scholarship (core)	3
WRC 1013	Freshman Composition I (Q) (core)	3
University Core		3
University Core		3
Spring		
WRC 1023	Freshman Composition II (Q) (core)	3

University Core		3
University Core		3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Elective		3
Second Year		
Fall		
CRJ 2153	Criminological Theory	3
University Core		3
University Core		3
University Core		3
Elective		3
Spring		
CRJ 3013	Research Design and Analysis in Criminal Justice	3
University Core		3
University Core		3
Elective		3
Upper-division Elective		3
Third Year		
Fall		
University Core		3
Major Core		3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Elective		3
Upper-division Elective		3
Spring		
Major Core		3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Upper-division Elective		3
Fourth Year		
Fall		
Major Core		3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Upper-division Elective		3
Spring		
CRJ 4933	Internship in Criminal Justice	3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Non-Core CRJ		3
Elective		3
Upper-division Elective		3
Total Credit Hours:		120.0

Minor in Criminal Justice

All students pursuing a Minor in Criminal Justice must complete 21 semester credit hours (only available for non-Criminal Justice majors).

A. Required Courses (15 semester credit hours)

1. 6 semester credit hours from the following:		6
CRJ 1113	The American Criminal Justice System	

CRJ 2153	Criminological Theory	
2. 9 semester credit hours of CRJ electives, with at least 3 credits chosen from each of the sub-areas:		9
Sub-Area 1: policing (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 2213	Introduction to Policing	
CRJ 3123	Investigations	
CRJ 4413	Contemporary Police Practices	
CRJ 4443	Special Topics in Policing	
Sub-Area 2: Courts (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 2813	Introduction to Courts and the Legal System	
CRJ 3623	Substantive Criminal Law	
CRJ 4633	Constitutional Criminal Procedure	
CRJ 4863	Special Topics in Courts	
Sub-Area 3: Corrections (3 semester credit hours)		
CRJ 2513	Introduction to Corrections	
CRJ 3533	Community Corrections	
CRJ 4603	Institutional Corrections	
CRJ 4663	Special Topics in Corrections	
B. Elective Courses (6 semester credit hours)		
6 semester credit hours of non-criminal justice core electives which must be upper-division (3000 and 4000 level) Criminal Justice (CRJ) electives. These electives will be selected by the student to reflect his or her specific interests.		6
Total Credit Hours		21

To declare a Minor in Criminal Justice, obtain advice, obtain lists of relevant courses, or seek approval of substitutions for course requirements, students should consult their academic advisor.

Criminal Justice (CRJ) Courses

CRJ 1113. The American Criminal Justice System. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = CRIJ 1301)

Philosophy and history of criminal justice in America; examination of criminal justice agencies operating as an interacting system: police and security agencies, courts, and corrections. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 2153. Criminological Theory. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = CRIJ 1307)

A multidisciplinary survey of theories of crime causation and social control. Major topics covered include: theory construction, theory-methods, symmetry, evaluating theory, theoretical integration, and applied criminology. (Formerly titled "Nature of Crime and Justice.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 2213. Introduction to Policing. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = CRIJ 2328)

An introduction to American policing organizations (public and private), history of policing, modern community policing practices, and important trends in law enforcement. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

CRJ 2513. Introduction to Corrections. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = CRIJ 2313)

A study of the history, philosophy, and practice of corrections in America. Theories and practices of incarceration; legal and administrative issues surrounding imprisonment and the death penalty. (Formerly titled "Corrections: Theory and Practice.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 2813. Introduction to Courts and the Legal System. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = CRIJ 1306)

Examines state and federal American court systems, their powers, remedies, limitations, and procedures; and the contributions of courts to governance. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 3013. Research Design and Analysis in Criminal Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Provides students with an opportunity to be knowledgeable consumers of criminal justice research. Provides an overview of principles of scientific inquiry, research designs, and statistical concepts and techniques. Introduction to interpretation of data analysis and preparation of research reports. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

CRJ 3123. Investigations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examination of the investigative process. Focus on the history, structure, and success rates of investigation units, theories of investigation, and the information that is used to produce case clearances. (Formerly CRJ 4123. Credit cannot be earned for both CRJ 3123 and CRJ 4123.) (Formerly titled "Concepts of Investigations").

CRJ 3213. Managing Criminal Justice Organizations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examines bureaucratic, political and other characteristics of justice organizations through a review of theories of public administration and organizational behavior. Applies theories to problems and policies encountered in managing criminal justice agencies. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 3233. Introduction to Forensic Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Enrollment limited to upper-division criminal justice majors. This course will expose students to the nature of physical evidence and its part in our criminal justice system, an introduction to basic scientific and legal principles involved with the utilization of physical evidence, and exposure to specific items of physical evidence to include their components, manufacture, methods of analysis, and value in case work. (Formerly CRJ 3133. Credit cannot be earned for both CRJ 3233 and CRJ 3133.) Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 3533. Community Corrections. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

History, philosophy, and practice of community supervision of offenders. Examination of various intermediate punishments including boot camps, intensive probation supervision, electronic monitoring, restitution, and community service. (Formerly titled "Probation, Parole and Intermediate Sanctions.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 3563. Juvenile Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Examination of the history of adolescence and the development of the juvenile justice system. An in-depth study of police, courts and corrections as applied to youth. Consideration of youth as both offenders and victims. Topics include child abuse, youth gangs, waiver/transfer of youth to the adult court and juvenile offending. Generally offered: Fall.

CRJ 3573. Restorative Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Provides students with a detailed study of the principles and practices of restorative justice aimed at creating a just peace within a community, a just public order for the community, vindication for victims and opportunities for accountability and restoration to offenders. Generally offered: Fall.

CRJ 3623. Substantive Criminal Law. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Jurisprudential philosophy and case study of common law and statutory crimes. Includes functions and development of substantive criminal law, elements of specific offenses, and defenses. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 3713. Ethics in Criminal Justice Practice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Survey of major schools of ethics theory; sources of ethical and philosophical foundations for criminal justice functions; common quandaries confronting officers, supervisors, and executives in justice organizations. Examines the role of criminal justice within modern civil societies.

CRJ 4303. Victimology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. This course will familiarize students with victimology concepts, theories, and literature as a field of study within criminology. Topics may include nature and incidence of victimization, victim and offender relationships, victim justice, victim rights and services. Consideration may be given to responses to victims with special needs and crime prevention strategies. (Formerly titled "Victims and the Justice System").

CRJ 4403. Race, Ethnicity, and Criminal Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. This course examines experiences of racial and ethnic groups in the criminal justice system. Topics include: the nature and extent of overrepresentation by racial and ethnic minorities as justice system clients, culture-specific crime and victimization patterns, research evidence and theoretical explanations for these patterns. (Formerly CRJ 4313. Credit cannot be earned for both CRJ 4403 and CRJ 4313).

CRJ 4413. Contemporary Police Practices. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. A survey of leading research-based law enforcement practices for crime prevention and problem solving. This course covers a variety of policing strategies for crime control including community policing, problem solving, evidence-based practices, and police-community relations. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 4443. Special Topics in Policing. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Considers special topics in policing and crime prevention not ordinarily evaluated in depth in other courses. May be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. (Formerly titled "Special Topics in Policing and Crime Prevention.") Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 4453. Drugs and Crime. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. An overview of the scope and role of drugs in society and the relationship between illicit substances and crime. Leading theories of drug use and enforcement will be surveyed. Major topics include: the social construction of drug issues, the war on drugs, drug control policy, and the function of drugs in popular cultural mediums. Contemporary topics to be examined include: asset forfeiture, the confidential informant role in drug enforcement, drug ethnography, corrections-based substance abuse treatment, and drug enforcement strategies.

CRJ 4463. Gender and Crime. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. This course examines gender differences in criminal offending and victimization. Topics also include traditional and gender-specific theories offered to explain female involvement in crime, the experience of female victims and offenders in the criminal justice system, and women working in the criminal justice system. (Formerly CRJ 4313. Credit cannot be earned for both CRJ 4463 and CRJ 4313.).

CRJ 4603. Institutional Corrections. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. This course introduces students to theory and research in the areas of institutional corrections and penology. Topics include the history of the use of incarceration in the United States, the influence of sentencing philosophies and practices on incarceration, the organization and management of prisons, and critical issues related to prison staff and inmates.

CRJ 4633. Constitutional Criminal Procedure. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. A procedurally oriented discussion of criminal law, including law of arrest, search and seizure, preliminary examination, bail, the grand jury, indictment and information, arraignment, trial, and review. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

CRJ 4653. White Collar Crime. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Study of the theory, nature, scope, and impact of occupational, political, and organizational/corporate crime. Comparison of white collar crime to street crime. Examination of the structural foundations for these types of crimes and current and future systems for control of white collar crimes. Generally offered: Fall.

CRJ 4663. Special Topics in Corrections. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Considers special topics in corrections not ordinarily evaluated in depth in other courses. May be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. (Formerly titled "Special Topics in Corrections and Juvenile Justice.") Generally offered: Spring.

CRJ 4703. Life Course Criminology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Life course criminology has developed into a leading theoretical framework for studying criminal offenders. This course provides an overview of age-graded explanations of antisocial conduct and cutting-edge empirical research on the causes of antisocial behavior during various developmental periods including childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. The role of both biology and the environment in explaining antisocial conduct over the lifespan is emphasized, and the implications of this research for developing age-appropriate interventions are explored.

CRJ 4833. Violent Crime. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Examination of various forms of violence including homicide, robbery, assault and rape. Discussion of major theories of violent personal behavior and examination of historical and current data on violent crime. Consideration of rates of violent crime, how these rates have changed, and factors that contribute to violent crimes. Generally offered: Spring.

CRJ 4843. Study Abroad: International Criminal Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. A lecture/seminar course associated with a study abroad program related to the study of cross-cultural differences in crime and applications of criminal justice systems and practice. Involves international travel and field trips. May be repeated for credit when the destination country varies.

CRJ 4863. Special Topics in Courts. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Considers special topics in courts and adjudication not ordinarily evaluated in depth in other courses. May be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree (Formerly titled "Special Topics in Legal Issues and Adjudication.") Generally offered: Fall.

CRJ 4912. Independent Study. (0-0) 2 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher and permission in writing (form available) of the instructor, the student's advisor, the Department Chair, and Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a tenured/tenure-track faculty member (this course may not be taken under the direction of an Adjunct Instructor). Students are encouraged to approach this course with a specific topic in mind. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree.

CRJ 4913. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher and permission in writing (form available) of the instructor, the student's advisor, the Department Chair, and Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a tenured/tenure-track faculty member (this course may not be taken under the direction of an Adjunct Instructor). Students are encouraged to approach this course with a specific topic in mind. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree.

CRJ 4933. Internship in Criminal Justice. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisites: CRJ 1113, CRJ 2153, and CRJ 3013; consent of academic advisor and Internship Coordinator. Students are encouraged to complete at least 90 semester credit hours prior to enrolling in this course. Supervised experience in an administrative setting that provides the opportunity to integrate theory and practice in justice-related agencies. May be repeated for credit in a subsequent semester when agency setting varies, but not more than 6 semester credit hours will apply to a bachelor's degree. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

CRJ 4953. Special Topics in Criminal Justice/Criminology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of regular course offerings. May be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree. (Formerly titled "Special Studies in Criminal Justice.") Generally offered: Spring, Summer.

CRJ 4993. Honors Thesis. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.

Prerequisite: CRJ 3013 with a grade of "C-" or higher. Enrollment limited to candidates for Honors in Criminal Justice during the last two semesters; completion of honors examination and approval by the honors program coordinator. Supervised research and preparation of an honors thesis. May be repeated once with advisor's approval.