



Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice major provides students with knowledge about the nature and causes of crime and delinquency, law and the legal system for juveniles and adults in American society, and the decision-making processes of criminal justice agencies. The purpose of a Criminal Justice major within a liberal arts framework is to develop the knowledge, values, and ethical consciousness that are essential for becoming successful managers and leaders in criminal justice and related human service vocations.

The Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice is a generalist degree preparing students for careers in law enforcement, corrections, and other public and private agencies concerned with the prevention and investigation of crime. The program allows majors to choose one of four areas of specialization within the discipline that best prepares them for their career choice. This preparation includes a combination of course work, internships, and special research projects. Students considering this major are encouraged to develop a proficiency in writing. The degree is also appropriate for students who choose to pursue advanced study in criminal justice or law.

Completion of the Criminal Justice degree at Bemidji State University satisfies the Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST) academic requirements.

Programs

- Criminal Justice, B.S. *major*
- Criminal Justice *minor*

Career Directions

- Asset Protection
- Corrections
- Court Administration
- Customs Inspection
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Law Enforcement
- Lawyer
- Parole Officer
- Private Security Services
- Probation Officer
- Also: Graduate Study

Preparation

Recommended High School Courses

- English
- Government
- Psychology
- Social Science

Criminal Justice, B.S. *major*

ALERT: To be licensed by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board in order to practice law enforcement in Minnesota, a student must be certified in crash injury management, as an emergency medical technician, or obtain a Red Cross Advanced Certificate by taking HLTH 3600. In addition, CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation, CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence, CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations, and a course in Traffic Code must be completed. A psychological examination and background investigation are also required.

Required Credits: 66

Required GPA: 2.25

I REQUIRED CORE COURSES

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 1120 Criminal Justice and Society (4 credits)
- CRJS 3201 Research Methods and Statistics for Criminal Justice (4 credits)
- CRJS 3304 Police Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3305 Judicial Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3306 Correctional Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3358 Criminal Law (4 credits)

COMPLETE 4 SEMESTER CREDITS FROM THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- CRJS 4920 Directed Group Study (4 credits)

II REQUIRED TRACK

Select 1 of the following tracks A. Law Enforcement with Internship B. Corrections with Internship C. Criminal Justice with Internship D. Criminal Justice (non-internship) All tracks will display until a specific track(s) is declared. To declare a track, contact the Records Office.

A. LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH INTERNSHIP

A. Law Enforcement with Internship

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 3315 Criminology and Delinquency (4 credits)
- CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)

COMPLETE 12 CREDITS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- CRJS 4970 Internship (12 credits)

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

COMPLETE 7 SEMESTER CREDITS:

- CHEM 2210 Criminalistics (3 credits)
- CHEM 2270 Criminalistics Laboratory (1 credit)
- CRJS 1000 The American Legal System (3 credits)
- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)
- CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)

- CRJS 3319 Topics In Criminal Justice (1-2 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)
- CRJS 3344 Criminal Justice and Domestic Violence (3 credits)
- CRJS 3351 Criminal Profiling (3 credits)
- CRJS 3355 Drugs and Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3356 Introduction to Homeland Security (4 credits)
- CRJS 3357 Applied Civil Law (3 credits)
- CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)
- CRJS 4487 Offender Intervention (3 credits)
- HLTH 3600 Emergency Response (3 credits)
- INST 1107 Introduction to Indian Studies (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Race and Ethnic Relations (3 credits)

B. CORRECTIONS WITH INTERNSHIP

B. Corrections with Internship

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 3315 Criminology and Delinquency (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)

COMPLETE 12 CREDITS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- CRJS 4970 Internship (12 credits)

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

COMPLETE 5 SEMESTER CREDITS:

- CHEM 2210 Criminalistics (3 credits)
- CHEM 2270 Criminalistics Laboratory (1 credit)
- CRJS 1000 The American Legal System (3 credits)
- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)
- CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3319 Topics In Criminal Justice (1-2 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)
- CRJS 3344 Criminal Justice and Domestic Violence (3 credits)
- CRJS 3351 Criminal Profiling (3 credits)
- CRJS 3355 Drugs and Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3356 Introduction to Homeland Security (4 credits)
- CRJS 3357 Applied Civil Law (3 credits)
- CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)
- CRJS 4487 Offender Intervention (3 credits)
- HLTH 3600 Emergency Response (3 credits)
- INST 1107 Introduction to Indian Studies (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Race and Ethnic Relations (3 credits)

C. CRIMINAL JUSTICE WITH INTERNSHIP

C. Criminal Justice with Internship

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)

- CRJS 3315 Criminology and Delinquency (4 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)

COMPLETE 12 CREDITS IN THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

- CRJS 4970 Internship (12 credits)

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

COMPLETE 16 SEMESTER CREDITS:

- CHEM 2210 Criminalistics (3 credits)
- CHEM 2270 Criminalistics Laboratory (1 credit)
- CRJS 1000 The American Legal System (3 credits)
- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)
- CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3319 Topics In Criminal Justice (1-2 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)
- CRJS 3344 Criminal Justice and Domestic Violence (3 credits)
- CRJS 3351 Criminal Profiling (3 credits)
- CRJS 3355 Drugs and Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3356 Introduction to Homeland Security (4 credits)
- CRJS 3357 Applied Civil Law (3 credits)
- CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)
- CRJS 4487 Offender Intervention (3 credits)
- HLTH 3600 Emergency Response (3 credits)
- INST 1107 Introduction to Indian Studies (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Race and Ethnic Relations (3 credits)

D. CRIMINAL JUSTICE (NON-INTERNSHIP)

D. Criminal Justice (Non-Internship)

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)
- CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3315 Criminology and Delinquency (4 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

COMPLETE 25 SEMESTER CREDITS:

- CHEM 2210 Criminalistics (3 credits)
- CHEM 2270 Criminalistics Laboratory (1 credit)
- CRJS 1000 The American Legal System (3 credits)
- CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)
- CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3319 Topics In Criminal Justice (1-2 credits)
- CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)
- CRJS 3344 Criminal Justice and Domestic Violence (3 credits)
- CRJS 3351 Criminal Profiling (3 credits)
- CRJS 3355 Drugs and Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- CRJS 3356 Introduction to Homeland Security (4 credits)
- CRJS 3357 Applied Civil Law (3 credits)
- CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)
- CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)
- CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)
- CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)
- CRJS 4487 Offender Intervention (3 credits)
- HLTH 3600 Emergency Response (3 credits)

- INST 1107 Introduction to Indian Studies (3 credits)
- SOC 2230 Race and Ethnic Relations (3 credits)

SUGGESTED SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJOR, B.S.

The following is a list of required Criminal Justice courses for the B.S. major, arranged by year. This schedule is intended to help students plan their courses in an orderly fashion; however these are only suggestions and this schedule is flexible.

Freshman

- Liberal Education requirements

Sophomore

- CRJS 1120 Criminal Justice and Society (4 credits)
- CRJS 3201 Research Methods and Statistics for Criminal Justice (4 credits)
- CRJS 3304 Police Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3305 Judicial Process (4 credits)
- Liberal Education requirements

Junior

- CRJS 3306 Correctional Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3358 Criminal Law (4 credits)
- CRJS 4970 Internship (12 credits)
- Selected track courses
- Minor/free electives

Senior

- CRJS 4920 Directed Group Study (4 credits)
- Selected track courses
- Minor/free electives

Criminal Justice *minor*

Required Credits: 25

Required GPA: 2.00

REQUIRED COURSES

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CRJS 1120 Criminal Justice and Society (4 credits)
- CRJS 3304 Police Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3305 Judicial Process (4 credits)
- CRJS 3306 Correctional Process (4 credits)

SELECT 9 ADDITIONAL ELECTIVE CREDITS IN CRJS COURSES AT THE 3000 LEVEL OR HIGHER

Criminal Justice Courses

CRJS 1000 The American Legal System (3 credits)

Examines the most important themes in the American legal system. Introduces students to the legal institutions, including the constitutional basis of the law, the justification of criminal law, the rationale for punishment, and the stages and people in the American legal process. Liberal Education Goal Area 9

CRJS 1120 Criminal Justice and Society (4 credits)

A general introduction to the philosophies, principles, and social aspects which underlie the formulation of law and administration of justice in the United States. Provides an overview of the institutions and relationships of those agencies composing the criminal justice system and an introduction to systems theory. Includes computer-based exercises that familiarize students with available data sources, interrelationships between criminal justice and the larger society, and possible outcomes of alternative policy choices.

CRJS 2200 Systems Dynamics (3 credits)

The central concept to systems dynamics is the need to understand how all the parts of a system interact with one another. In this context, organizations can be seen as complex and chaotic systems. The various parts and people in an organizational system interact through "feedback" loops, where a change in one over time affects others, which in turn affects the original, etc. System approaches and theory try to understand the basic structure of the system and therefore the behavior it can produce. This course provides instruction in systems dynamics, its applications, and the computer modeling of systems through the use of Stella software. Prerequisite: CRJS 1120; Prerequisite or Corequisite: CRJS 3201.

CRJS 2221 Comparative Justice (3 credits)

Introduction to a variety of international systems of justice. Students critically examine international legal traditions, study the criminal justice institutions that make up the systems of justice, and explore the cultural, social, and political contexts that contribute to the maintenance of the justice systems. Explores attempts to develop an international criminal justice system. Liberal Education Goal Area 8.

CRJS 3201 Research Methods and Statistics for Criminal Justice (4 credits)

An introduction to the framing and addressing of research questions within a criminal justice context. Students will be exposed to descriptive, explanatory, and exploratory research designs and the application of appropriate quantitative analytic techniques to those research designs.

CRJS 3304 Police Process (4 credits)

An introduction to the police component of the criminal justice system. Based on both classical readings and current issues in the police field, this course covers police history, the police role and functions in modern society, and the evolving nature of police work. Special emphasis given to the evolving nature in police work after the events of September 11th, 2001. Prerequisite: CRJS 1120 and CRJS 3201, or consent of instructor.

CRJS 3305 Judicial Process (4 credits)

Examines the criminal justice and civil law judicial process. Covers judicial involvement from pre-arrest warrant issuance to appellate court review. Focuses on the role, function, and behavior of prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120

CRJS 3306 Correctional Process (4 credits)

Provides the student with an understanding of corrections as a major part of the criminal justice system. Focuses on principles, assumptions, and processes pertaining to achieving correctional goals and objectives. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120 and CRJS 3201, or consent of instructor.

CRJS 3315 Criminology and Delinquency (4 credits)

Significant theoretical traditions, subsequent research, and policy related to crime and delinquency. Students will be exposed to the following crime data sources: official statistics, victimization reports, and self-reports. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120 and CRJS 3201, or consent of instructor.

CRJS 3319 Topics In Criminal Justice (1-2 credits)

Designed to present special topics, problems or areas of current interest to the field of Criminal Justice.

CRJS 3334 Criminal Justice Planning (3 credits)

A systemic overview of crime prevention presented within a framework of a planned, proactive response to crime by all components of the criminal justice system. Examines principles of planning, research, and evaluation as applied to crime prevention. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120, CRJS 3201, CRJS 3304, CRJS 3305, and CRJS 3306, or consent of instructor.

CRJS 3344 Criminal Justice and Domestic Violence (3 credits)

The historical roots of domestic and sexual violence, and the continuing prevalence and magnitude of the problem. This course focuses on coordinated community efforts in the United States to keep families and others safe from relationship violence; thoroughly examines methods used by the criminal justice system to prevent and treat domestic violence; emphasizes the changing response of police, social agencies, the courts, and our lawmakers to domestic violence cases; and investigates ways in which the legal system treats victims of abuse who fight back and sometimes kill abusers. Prerequisite: CRJS 1120.

CRJS 3345 Criminal Justice Administration (3 credits)

Principles of organization and management of criminal justice agencies. Line and non-line functions, personnel administration, planning, budgeting, goals and control are examined. Prerequisites: CRJS 3304, CRJS 3305, or CRJS 3306.

CRJS 3351 Criminal Profiling (3 credits)

Students are exposed to behavioral evidence management techniques, learning how to infer offender traits from physical and/or behavioral evidence. This course is applied to solving real crime through an understanding of the nature and behavior of criminals. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120, CRJS 3201, and CRJS 3315.

CRJS 3355 Drugs and Criminal Justice (3 credits)

Focuses on the historical and contemporary patterns of psychoactive drug use in the United States and on the development and evaluation of criminal justice policies intended to reduce or eliminate drug use and/or drug problems. Topics include major types of psychoactive drugs, the War on Drugs, the international context of drug production and distribution, and personal and social problems resulting from drug use.

CRJS 3356 Introduction to Homeland Security (4 credits)

Addresses the role of state and local law enforcement in national defense. Also addresses critical issues such as civil liberties, privacy rights, police organization and structure, as well as the relationship between federal and local law enforcement. Introduces students to emergency management and the critical importance of managing risk. Prerequisite: CRJS 1120.

CRJS 3357 Applied Civil Law (3 credits)

An examination of the statutes and a review of cases with regard for those aspects of family and business law that are most typical to law enforcement.

CRJS 3358 Criminal Law (4 credits)

This course encompasses the basic concepts of the criminal law and the elements of criminal offenses in Minnesota in particular. Crimes against persons, crimes against property, crimes against the administration of justice and others are reviewed. The case method is used to define the contours of judicial interpretation of the criminal law.

CRJS 3359 Criminal Investigation (4 credits)

The concepts and principles related to criminal investigation. This course addresses those techniques and methods of evidentiary collection, processing, and testimony commonly employed by police investigators and crime scene technicians conducting a lawful inquiry, from arrival at a crime scene to laboratory analysis to closing the investigation by making an arrest. Also includes a section devoted to police report writing as well as a laboratory section where various evidence collection and crime scene processing techniques are conducted. Prerequisite: CRJS 3358 or consent of instructor.

CRJS 3360 Criminal Procedure and Evidence (4 credits)

This course focuses on the rights of the criminally accused, primarily those involved in the pre-trial stages of the criminal process. The Bill of Rights as it pertains to the criminally accused will be examined. The rules of evidence defining the types and use of criminal evidence allowed in court will also be addressed in this course.

CRJS 3380 Community Corrections (3 credits)

An in-depth examination of community corrections programs including: program planning, implementation and evaluation, client's rights, intake, contracting, release, use of community resources, and use of various treatment modalities. Prerequisite: CRJS 3306.

CRJS 4103 Criminal Justice Diversity (3 credits)

A course in applied human relations that examines the dynamics of class, race, and gender as they intersect with the social realities of crime and justice in the U.S. today. How class, race, and gender operate both separately and in combination to influence the criminal justice system. Includes a summary of reforms and policies to reduce bias in crime control and criminal reduction currently under consideration. Prepares students for conducting and managing criminal justice in a pluralistic society. The facts and theoretical foundation are presented so that students can make their own informed decisions about discrimination in the criminal justice system.

CRJS 4420 Legal Aspects of Corrections (3 credits)

This course examines the scope and nature of legal aspects of corrections in the United States. It emphasizes the court structure and sentencing practices, prison law, probation and parole law, juvenile law. Liability for correction personnel is also examined. Prerequisite: CRJS 3306.

CRJS 4480 Police and Community Relations (4 credits)

Primarily intended for those entering the police profession, this course covers the rules that govern peace officer behavior under the Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board; addresses a number of Minnesota Board of Police Officer Standards and Training learning objectives, including victimization, ethical behavior, media relations, and response to and coping with stress; and examines police and community relations. Prerequisites: CRJS 1120 and CRJS 3304.

CRJS 4487 Offender Intervention (3 credits)

Examines counseling and treatment approaches and strategies applicable for use in correctional settings including institutions and community corrections. Various treatment modalities are explored in relationship to offender rehabilitation. Prerequisite: CRJS 3306.

CRJS 4920 Directed Group Study (4 credits)

When taken as a requirement the following description may apply: Course entails advanced study in theories, philosophies, and practices in criminal justice. Requires extensive review of writings with emphasis on recent developments in the practice of criminal justice. Prerequisite: Senior status or consent of instructor.

CRJS 4970 Internship (12 credits)

When taken as a requirement the following description may apply: A full time supervised field instruction in a public or private criminal justice agency. The student is expected to demonstrate his/her acquired knowledge and skills to the criminal justice practice. Students should arrange for this class at least one quarter in advance of the quarter of enrollment. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Prerequisites: Completion of major required courses; major GPA of 2.25; overall GPA of 2.00 and consent of instructor.

All-University Courses

The course numbers listed below, not always included in the semester class schedule, may be registered for by consent of the advisor, instructor, or department chair, or may be assigned by the department when warranted. Individual registration requires previous arrangement by the student and the completion of any required form or planning outline as well as any prerequisites.

1910, 2910, 3910, 4910 DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY

1920, 2920, 3920, 4920 DIRECTED GROUP STUDY

1930, 2930, 3930, 4930 EXPERIMENTAL COURSE

1940, 2940, 3940, 4940 IN-SERVICE COURSE

1950, 2950, 3950, 4950 WORKSHOP, INSTITUTE, TOUR

1960, 2960, 3960, 4960 SPECIAL PURPOSE INSTRUCTION

1970, 2970, 3970, 4970 INTERNSHIP

1980, 2980, 3980, 4980 RESEARCH

1990, 2990, 3990, 4990 THESIS