Criminal Justice (CRJS)

CRJS 181. Introduction to Criminal Justice. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Comprehensive overview of criminal justice; assesses the extent of crime; reviews law enforcement, judicial and correctional processes at all levels of government; discusses history and philosophy of public safety; evaluates career opportunities.

CRJS 252. Juvenile Justice. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181 or permission of instructor. Examines all segments of juvenile justice and special procedures designed for young persons; recognizes the importance of proper handling of the juvenile by the police and the courts; reviews recent developments in juvenile rehabilitation.

CRJS 253. Introduction to Corrections. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. A survey of societal responses to the offender; traces the evolution of practices based on philosophies of retribution, punishment and rehabilitation; reviews contemporary correctional activities and their relationships to other aspects of the criminal justice system; introduces the emerging area of correctional programming within the community.

CRJS 254. Introduction to Policing. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. A survey of different facets of law enforcement including the activities of public police agencies and private security organizations. Assesses changes in law enforcement philosophy and practices, police relationships with the public and the political arena and anticipated future trends in policing.

CRJS 255. Introduction to Legal Studies. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Overview of the American legal system, processes, terminology; analysis of historical and philosophical bases of law. Examines the systems that adjudicate criminal and civil law; considers the role of law in the functioning of the justice system.

CRJS 300. Forensic Criminology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. The intersection of law, predictions of dangerousness, mental disorder and crime. Behavioral prediction, classification and the development of typologies of offenses and offending will be considered. Issues in the use of clinical and statistical prediction methods in criminal justice will be presented.

CRJS 302. Legal Writing. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Intensive practice in writing on subjects related to law or legal problems. Emphasis on organization, development, logical flow and clarity of style. May not be used to satisfy the literature requirement of the College of Humanities and Sciences. Crosslisted as: ENGL 302.

CRJS 305. Policing Theories and Practice. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181 and 254. An overview of the nature and application of law enforcement theory. Examines the theoretical underpinnings of a variety of law enforcement practices, with emphasis on evolving trends.

CRJS 320. Principles of Criminal Investigation. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Surveys the fundamentals of criminal investigation procedures and techniques. Examines crime scene management, searching, collecting, handling and preserving of evidence as applied to forensic crime scene investigation.

CRJS 324. Courts and the Judicial Process. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Examines the systems that adjudicate criminal and civil law; includes constitutional authority, jurisdictions and trial processes, with particular emphasis on reform in court administration, disposition without trial and sentencing.

CRJS 350. Evaluation and Treatment of the Offender. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181 and 253. An analysis of the issues and procedures involved in evaluating individual differences in offenders and among classes of offenders; current diagnostic and treatment methods are discussed; introduces the student to case analysis and correctional counseling techniques. Includes analysis of evaluation and treatment resources external to corrections.

CRJS 351. Community Corrections. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181 and 253. A comprehensive review of various community-based rehabilitation and treatment efforts; includes analysis of probation, parole, work release, halfway houses and other methods of re-integrating the offender into society.

CRJS 352. Crime and Delinquency Prevention. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Review and analysis of the problems associated with prevention of crime and delinquency, viewed in a total systems context. Programs and activities involving citizen, community and agency interrelationships will be developed and examined. Students are responsible for preparing and evaluating projects with crime preventive goals.

CRJS 355. Criminological Theory. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181 or permission of instructor. Examines the intellectual underpinnings of the criminal justice system. Includes analysis of evolving values and ideas regarding social control, individual and collective responsibilities and rights, the role of punishment, politics and the law, practitioners as public servants, and criminological and other foundations of the criminal justice system.

CRJS 358. Lawyer's Role in the Justice System. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Examines the multiple responsibilities of lawyers from an historical and contemporary perspective. The basic techniques of the lawyer's craft will be studied with emphasis placed on case advocacy, negotiation skills and legal reasoning, and problem-solving.

CRJS 360. Foundations of Criminal Law. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Clarifies both the content and role of criminal law within criminal justice and its administration in America. Explores the moral, theoretical and historical foundations of American criminal law and jurisprudence; elements and classification of criminal conduct; burdens of proof; defenses to criminal culpability; and a variety of crime types focusing in particular on crimes against person and property.

CRJS 370. Criminalistics and Crime Analysis. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. A comprehensive evaluation of current developments in research, instrumentation and laboratory technology utilized to detect, identify, analyze and compare evidence.
CRJS 373. Crime Scene Evidence: Law and Trial Procedure. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Provides a fundamental understanding of evidence law. Examines the  
nature and admissibility of various forms of evidence. Provides an  
understanding of the investigator’s role in the judicial process including  
the presentation of testimony and adversarial proceedings.

CRJS 380. Research Methods in Criminal Justice. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181  
and STAT 210. Designed to familiarize the student with current and  
applied research methods in criminal justice, including the application  
of data and information processing techniques and procedures; analyzes  
research in criminal justice journals and government reports; and  
enhances the capability to evaluate contemporary research.

CRJS 382. Gender, Crime and Justice. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181  
or permission of instructor. Examines the role of gender as it relates  
to crime and justice. Special attention will focus on the gendered  
experiences of practitioners, offenders and victims within the criminal  
justice system in terms of processing, adjudication and institutional  
responses. Crosslisted as: GSWS 382.

CRJS 400. Current Issues in Juvenile Justice. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Restricted to criminal justice majors. Examines key issues facing the  
modern American juvenile justice system. Integrates social science  
research, juvenile justice policy and legal scholarship pertaining to  
current law and policy controversies in juvenile justice.

CRJS 401. Sex Crime and Society. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Restricted to criminal justice majors. Examines the nature and extent  
of sex offending, societal responses to sex crime, and the laws and  
policies enacted to reduce sexual offending. Explores the etiology of sex  
offending as well as methods to evaluate the efficacy of sex crime laws.

CRJS 405. Special Issues in Juvenile Detention. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Restricted to criminal justice majors. Examines the operations of modern  
juvenile detention facilities with an emphasis on the special needs of  
youth detainees. Explores the challenges facing administrators, staff and  
youth residents within a juvenile correctional setting.

CRJS 406. Issues in Short-term Detention. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181  
and 253. Restricted to criminal justice majors. Examines issues encountered  
by corrections officers who work in jails and other short-term detention  
facilities. Explores the role of jails within the criminal trial process, the  
diverse nature of the jail inmate population and the challenges of pretrial  
detention for both offenders and staff.

CRJS 407. Urban Jails. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181  
and CRJS 253. Restricted to criminal justice majors. Examines issues  
encountered by corrections officers who work in urban short-term  
detention facilities. Explores the complexities of jails in urban settings  
as well as the diverse and dynamic offender population in urban jails.

CRJS 425. Violent Crime Scene Investigation. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Introduces students to specialized tools and scientific aids used in the  
criminal investigation of homicide and rape cases. Applies investigative  
techniques and preparation of trial evidence used in homicides and rape  
cases.

CRJS 432. Criminal Justice: Organizations. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Considers the behavioral dimensions of administrations in criminal  
justice and public safety agencies. Examines the concepts of leadership  
and decision-making and the effect of environmental dynamics in the  
management of the criminal justice system.

CRJS 434. Police Administration. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181 and  
254. Examines major management concepts and principles with special  
emphasis on consideration of law enforcement. Policies and procedures  
formulated and followed by managers in law enforcement settings  
will be evaluated from a structural as well as a functional perspective.  
Contemporary and anticipated future problems, challenges and trends  
facing police managers will be addressed.

CRJS 450. Cyber Crime and Computer Forensics. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Study of computer-related crime and related laws and policies. Focus  
on the investigation and processes of securing evidence for computer-
related crimes.

CRJS 463. Comparative Criminal Justice Systems. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Study of national and international criminal justice systems with  
an emphasis on historical, cultural and operational comparisons.  
Contemporary research relating to law enforcement, adjudicative and  
correctional systems will be considered.

CRJS 468. Economic and Organized Crime. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
Analysis of the types of offenses which occur in the business and  
governmental work and the consequences of illegal practices. Primary  
attention will address the public sector through the methods utilized to  
detect and investigate criminal activities affecting governmental units.  
Relationships to organized crime will be described for each of the specific  
topics and techniques.

CRJS 475. Criminal Procedure. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181 or  
permission of instructor. Analyzes criminal procedure regarding  
the courts and their supervisory role over prosecutions and the use  
of testimonial and non-testimonial evidence. Examines the judicial  
interpretive processes by which the public safety is balanced with  
individual rights.

CRJS 480. Senior Seminar. 3 Hours.  
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 181  
and 355 and 380. Restricted to seniors in criminal justice with at least 85  
credit hours taken toward the degree. A capstone course designed to  
assist students to apply and to think critically about current knowledge  
regarding crime, crime trends, law, law enforcement, the adjudication  
process, corrections and crime prevention. Scenarios, research,  
projections and evaluation of different viewpoints will be employed to  
develop the student’s ability to assess methods of argumentation, use  
information and apply existing knowledge to new fact situations.

CRJS 491. Topics in Criminal Justice. 1-3 Hours.  
Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181.  
In-depth examination of selected administration of justice topics. See the  
Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester and  
prerequisites.
CRJS 492. Directed Individual Study. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. 1, 2 or 3 credits. Maximum total of 6 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181. Available to all other criminal justice students who are seniors and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (with permission of department chair) as a substitute for a major elective course. Provides an independent study opportunity for the adult student who is (or was) employed in a criminal justice, safety or risk administration position and who does not require internship or volunteer experience.

CRJS 501. Principles of Criminal Justice. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Survey of the American criminal justice system, and the relationships among crime, law, police, courts and corrections. Review of contemporary criminal justice literature.

CRJS 550. Professional Ethics and Liability. 3 Hours.
3 credits. The ethical basis for decision-making in criminal justice. How ethical considerations affect every important decision in criminal justice, especially as they involve the liberty interests of others. These decisions include: police stop and arrest decisions, prosecutor charging decision, defendant plea decisions, defense strategy decisions, judicial evidentiary rulings, sentencing decisions, among others. The consequences of unethical decisions on management ability, civil and criminal liability faced by criminal justice professionals.

CRJS 591. Topic Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Periodic seminar in contemporary criminal justice topics. Topics to be determined.

CRJS 612. Criminal Justice Politics and Planning. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines the theoretical underpinnings of law and justice. Studies the evolution of theories of jurisprudence within the context of developing concepts of responsibility and law. Systems of law will be contrasted and emphasis will be placed on contemporary developments in substantive laws.

CRJS 620. Seminar in Criminology. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examination and analysis of social, psychological, and economic theories and correlates of criminal behavior. Typologies of offenders. Crosslisted as: SOCY 620.

CRJS 622. Comparative Criminal Justice Systems. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Study of crime, law and criminal justice from an international perspective, emphasizing their comparative aspects.

CRJS 623. Research Methods for Government and Public Affairs. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduction to the scope and methods of applied research for the public sector. Focuses on problem structuring through logical methods, exploring problems through observation and other methods of data collection, analyzing and summarizing findings using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Crosslisted as: GVPA 623/PADM 623/URSP 623.

CRJS 624. Problems in Policing. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment requires graduate status. Intended to provide an overview of the causes, nature and potential solutions to many of the most significant problems in modern American law enforcement. Problems include issues related to excessive force, corruption, police pursuit and other areas of police discretion.

CRJS 631. Criminal Justice Management and Leadership. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Application of organizational theory and administrative behavior to criminal justice policy, management and operation. Administrative concepts, program planning and development, and innovative management practices.

CRJS 641. Jurisprudence. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines the theoretical underpinnings of law and justice. Studies the evolution of theories of jurisprudence within the context of developing concepts of responsibility and law. Systems of law will be contrasted and emphasis will be placed on contemporary developments in substantive laws.

CRJS 660. Seminar in Legal Process. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Studies the formal and informal procedures of various criminal justice systems. Advanced study of criminal procedure and the major legal constraints and authorizations placed upon arrest, prosecution, trial, sentencing and appeal.

CRJS 680. Forensic Psychology. 3 Hours.

CRJS 690. Criminal Justice Policy Analysis. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: CRJS 501, CRJS 612, CRJS/SOCY 620 and CRJS/GVPA/PADM/URSP 623. Enrollment restricted to graduate students. Integration of knowledge of criminological theory and justice policy with the research skills acquired while working toward completion of the graduate degree. Successful completion of this course requires the formulation of a research question that addresses a problem of criminal justice policy, the conceptualization of the scope of the answer to the research question and the submission of an in-depth analysis of the question with reference to theory, methodology and policy.

CRJS 691. Special Topics in Criminal Justice and Public Policy. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics. Enrollment requires graduate status. Periodic seminar in contemporary criminal justice or policy topics. Topics to be determined.

CRJS 692. Directed Independent Study. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. The instructor’s review and approval of the study proposal must precede independent work by student. Provides an opportunity for an advanced student to pursue an independent research project or extensive literature review under the supervision of an instructor.
CRJS 693. Internship. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Students must apply for this internship a semester in advance. Provides student an opportunity to relate theory to practice through observation and experience in an approved agency. The internship should be taken near the end of the degree program. Graded as pass/fail.

CRJS 763. Seminar in Social Justice. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines the philosophical and historical underpinnings of the principles of justice and their relationship to equality, liberty, government and law.

CRJS 798. Thesis Research. 1,3 Hour.
Semester course; 3 credits with 1 credit extension. Prerequisite: CRJS 601; a graduate statistics course is strongly recommended. Permission of graduate instructor. Registration for this course is permitted only upon approval of the candidate's detailed research proposal and statement of qualifications reviewed a semester in advance by a faculty committee. A two-semester project resulting in an advanced research paper that involves a comprehensive literature review, approved research design, and an original analysis or replication study. CRJS 798 involves preparation and oral defense of the thesis prospectus. Graded as S/U/F.

CRJS 799. Thesis. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; 1-3 credits. Prerequisite: completion of CRJS 798. Execution of the research prospectus approved in CRJS 798. The master’s thesis will be written according to university guidelines, approved by the student’s faculty committee and defended orally before the faculty committee. Graded as S/U/F.