School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Criminology (BA)

The Criminology Program is an interdisciplinary academic program, based primarily in criminology and sociology that studies the interrelationships among law, policy, and societal conditions. The relationships among these factors are dynamic and complex, therefore Criminology integrates a variety of perspectives, approaches, and social science disciplines in order to analyze and understand the origins of crime and injustice and society's response to these issues.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Criminology Program is to examine the causes and consequences of crime and crime control politics by providing a program of study involving a variety of perspectives, approaches, and social science disciplines to undergraduate students. Our faculty members are dedicated teachers and scholars who have published their work in the most prestigious journals in the field. They are committed to expanding the knowledge of the discipline and preparing students to be leaders in influencing our society's response to crime.

Majors in the Criminology Program at UT Dallas will be provided an educational experience, which will allow them to put their academic training, background and experience to use in a wide variety of post-graduate educational and occupational positions, including:

- Employment in Criminal Justice agencies at the federal, state, and local government level;
- Graduate School in Criminology or Criminal Justice (or a related social science discipline);
- Law School; or
- Social Work, Counseling, or other Human Service program.

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology

Degree Requirements (120 semester credit hours)

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

Professors: Bruce A. Jacobs, Alex R. Piquero, Nicole Leeper Piquero, John L. Worrall

Associate Professors: Denise Paquette Boots, Nadine Connell, Tomislav Kovandzic, Lynne M. Vieraitis

Clinical Professor: Elmer Polk

Assistant Professors: Jonathan Maskaly, Andrew Wheeler

Clinical Assistant Professor: Timothy M. Bray

Senior Lecturer: Galia Cohen

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours

**Communication: 6 semester credit hours**

- COMM 1311 Survey of Oral and Technology-based Communication
- RHET 1302 Rhetoric

**Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours**

Choose one course from the following:

- MATH 1306 College Algebra for the Non-Scientist
- MATH 1314 College Algebra

**Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours**

Select any 6 semester credit hours from Life and Physical Sciences core courses (see advisor)

**Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours**

Choose one course from the following:

- HUMA 1301 Exploration of the Humanities
- LIT 2331 Masterpieces of World Literature
- PHIL 1301 Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 2316 History of Philosophy I
- PHIL 2317 History of Philosophy II

**Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours**

- ARTS 1301 Explorations of the Arts

**American History: 6 semester credit hours**

- HIST 1301 U.S. History Survey to Civil War
- HIST 1302 U.S. Survey from Civil War
Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours

GOVT 2305 American National Government
GOVT 2306 State and Local Government

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours

Choose one course from the following:

CRIM 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRIM 1307 Introduction to Crime and Criminology
ECON 2301 Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2302 Principles of Microeconomics
SOC 1301 Introduction to Sociology

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours

EPPS 2301 Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences

And choose one course from following:

EPPS 2302 Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
EPPS 2303 Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences

II. Major Requirements: 60 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 15 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum

CRIM 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRIM 1307 Introduction to Crime and Criminology
CRIM 2306 Criminal Law
CRIM 2313 Police and Society
CRIM 2316 Corrections
CRIM 2317 Criminal Prosecution and Court Process
EPPS 2301 Research Design in the Social and Policy Sciences
EPPS 2302 Methods of Quantitative Analysis in the Social and Policy Sciences
or EPPS 2303 Descriptive and Inferential Statistics for the Social and Policy Sciences

Major Core Courses: 24 semester credit hours

CRIM 3300 Crime and Civil Liberties
**CRIM 3302** Advanced Criminology  
**CRIM 3303** Advanced Criminal Justice  
**CRIM 3310** Youth Crime and Justice  
**CRIM 4311** Crime and Justice Policy  
**CRIM 4322** Senior Research Seminar

And **Distributive Justice Focus**

Choose one course from the following (3 semester credit hours):

- **CRIM 3301** Theories of Justice
- **SOC 4369** Public Health and Society  
- **SOC 3325** Race, Ethnicity, and Community  
- **SOC 4302** Class, Status and Power  
- **ECON 4333** Environmental Economics

And **International or Comparative Focus**

Choose one course from the following (3 semester credit hours):

- **CRIM 3319** Comparative Justice Systems
- **ECON 3369** Political Economy of Terrorism  
- **SOC 4387** Religion in International Development  
- **SOC 3336** Culture Regions

**Major Related Upper-Division Elective Courses: 21 semester credit hours**

21 semester credit hours of CRIM upper-division courses or related to CRIM

**III. Elective Requirements: 18 semester credit hours**

This requirement may be satisfied with lower-and upper-division courses from any field of study. Students must complete at least 51 semester credit hours of upper-division courses to qualify for graduation.

**Minor in Criminology: 18 semester credit hours**

**Required Courses: 6 semester credit hours**

- **CRIM 1301** Introduction to Criminal Justice
**CRIM 1307** Introduction to Crime and Criminology

**Upper-Division Courses: 12 semester credit hours**

Any CRIM upper-division courses excluding **CRIM 4V97, CRIM 4V98, and CRIM 4V99.**

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

3. Preferred course for Criminology Majors.

4. A Major requirement that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. Semester credit hours are counted in Core Curriculum.

5. To be taken upon completion of Criminology major core courses.

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