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: Denise Paquette Boots, Bruce A. Jacobs, Alex R. Piquero, Nicole Leeper Piquero, Lynne M. Vieraitis, John L. Worrall
Associate Professors: Nadine Connell, Tomislav Kovandzic
Clinical Professor: Elmer Polk
Assistant Professors: Jonathan Maskaly, Andrew Wheeler
Associate Professor of Practice: 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** Introduction to 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** Exploration of the Arts

American History: 6 semester credit hours
- **HIST 1301** U.S. History Survey to Civil War
- **HIST 1302** U.S. History 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

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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 the 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 and Ethnicity  
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.