

Criminal Justice

Contact Person: Larry Driscoll, Ph.D.

Wheeling Jesuit's Criminal Justice major prepares you for entrance to a broad range of careers that demand effective writing, speaking and critical thinking skills. This major offers a solid, rigorous course of instruction in criminal justice that will allow you to successfully compete after graduation, whether you decide to pursue graduate school, law school, or employment opportunities.

Upon completion of the Criminal Justice program, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. Exhibit familiarity with basic concepts, such as justice, crime and criminality.
2. Explain the operations of the Criminal Justice System and how the various subsystems are interrelated.
3. Explain the theoretical underpinnings of crime, victimization and punishment.
4. Understand, as both consumers and producers, the intricacies of the research process, as well as being able to design and implement a research project.
5. Successfully complete a practical field experience with a Criminal Justice or related agency.

Requirements for Criminal Justice Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

Criminal Justice majors must complete the following social science core, in addition to completing core curriculum requirements:

POS 110	American Political Process	(3 crs)
INS 111	World Community	(3 crs)
SSC 327	Research Methods	(3 crs)
SSC 415	Statistical Analysis	(3 crs)
SSC 488	Senior Thesis	(3 crs)
SSC 489	Senior Seminar	(3 crs)
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		(18 crs)

In addition to completing the core curriculum and social science core requirements (including senior thesis and seminar and the comprehensive oral examination in SSC 488, 489), all criminal justice majors must complete the following courses:

CRJ 111	Survey of Criminology	(3 crs)
CRJ 112	Introduction to the Criminal Justice System	(3 crs)
CRJ 325	Theoretical Criminology	(3 crs)
CRJ 410	Ethical and Philosophic Issues in Criminal Justice	(3 crs)
CRJ 473	Internship	(3 crs)
	Five (5) Approved Electives	(15 crs)
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		(30 crs)

Special Note on Elective

The criminal justice elective must be approved by the Department Contact Person. The following are recommended: CRJ 212 Criminal Law and Procedure; CRJ 215 Law Enforcement; CRJ 312 Juvenile Justice System; CRJ 318 Occupational Crime; CRJ 321 Corrections; CRJ 327 Comparative Systems of Justice and Social Control; CRJ 340 Issues in Criminal Justice; CRJ 421 Theories of Management and Administration in Criminal Justice Organizations. Other courses offered in the Social Science discipline may also satisfy this requirement including: POS 241 Public Policy, POS 242 State and Local Government, POS 329 Constitutional Law, and POS 330 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

Requirements for Criminal Justice Minor

Criminal justice minors must complete a) CRJ 111 Criminology; b) CRJ 112 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System; c) and four (4) approved criminal justice electives.

Special Note on Double Majors:

In addition to complying with University rules regarding double majors, students completing a double major between criminal justice and political science must either write two senior theses or an enhanced senior thesis with both criminological and political science content.



Course Descriptions

CRJ 111 Survey of Criminology (3 crs)

Looks at theoretical approaches to criminal behavior and the controversies arising from them. Modern criminal justice policies and the ideologies that lie behind them are applied to the problems of crime control and the sentencing of criminal offenders.

CRJ 112 Introduction to the Criminal Justice System (3 crs)

Surveys patterns of crime and the processes of the American justice system. Crime, law enforcement, judicial process and corrections are examined from political, sociological and psychological perspectives.

CRJ 212 Criminal Law and Procedure (3 crs)

The basic principles of substantive criminal law are illustrated through analysis of cases. Topics include the elements of crimes against persons and property, the fundamentals of criminal liability and justifications and excuses such as self-defense and insanity. Problems of advocacy at both trial and appellate levels are also explored.

CRJ 215 Law Enforcement (3 crs)

Provides a social science perspective on the training and socialization of police, police corruption, police-community relations and the pressures of police work. The fundamentals of criminal procedure are also covered, including arrest, search and seizure and the use of deadly force. Prerequisite: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 220 Cyber Crime (3 crs)

Cyber crime traces technological advances and the adaptation by the criminal element for illegal activities. The student will learn about the difficulties in investigating and tracking the cyber criminal, as well as the complex jurisdiction and legal issues facing the prosecution of a cyber crime. Examples will be explored of unauthorized access into a private computer or information system by hackers, crackers, business competitors and foreign agents traveling on the "Information Highway."

CRJ 225 Crime and the Media (3 crs)

This course will analyze images of crime and criminal justice as portrayed and presented by the mass media. The focus will primarily be on crime in movies, television and news/newspaper coverage; more specifically, how the media portrays society's struggle with the crime problem. A major theme of the course is whether media interpretations of crime, which are acknowledged by the public to be accurate, make it more complicated for a true explanation of crime to be understood. Prerequisite: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 312 The Juvenile Justice System (3 crs)

Analyzes theories of the causes of juvenile crime and the processes of the juvenile justice system, including a critical look at juvenile correctional policies. Prerequisite: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 317 Survey of Court Operation & Organization (3 crs)

The course begins with an examination of the structure of courts and how they are administered. Other areas of focus include pre-trial procedures, the roles of the prosecutor, the defense, the judge, the sentencing process and the appeal process.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE - Recommended Course Sequence								
	Freshman		Sophomore		Junior		Senior	
FALL	FYS 101	1	RST 106/107	3	RST Core	3	SSC 415, 488	6
	MOL Core	3	POS 110	3	SCI Core	3	CRJ 473	3
	CRJ 111	3	CRJ Elective	3	CRJ 325	3	CRJ 410	3
	ENG 105 or 110	3	PHI 105	3	PHI 205	3	Elective	3
	MAT105	3	LIT 250	3	CRJ Elective	3		
	HIS 110	3						
	Semester total	16		15		15		15
SPRING	HIS 120	3	CRJ Elective	3	SCI Core	3	Electives	9
	MOL Core	3	Global Persp.	3	RST/PHI 305	3	CRJ Elective	3
	CRJ 112	3	FAS 101	1	SSC 327	3	SSC 489	3
	LIT 120	3	Electives	9	CRJ Electives	3		
	INS 111	3			FAS 20x	2		
		Semester total	15		16		14	
	Total Credits	31		31		29		30 121



CRJ 318 Occupational Crime (3 crs)

Examination of conduct in violation of the law that is committed through opportunities created in the course of a legal occupation. Methods for counting and regarding occupational crimes and criminals. Theories and explanations of these behaviors. Sanctioning and social control of occupational crime.

CRJ 321 Corrections (3 crs)

Examines American correctional policies and their historical development. Provides a close look at both community-based and institutional corrections, as well as the processes of probation and parole and the legal rights of prisoners. Prerequisite: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 325 Theoretical Criminology (3 crs)

This course examines the meaning of criminal behavior and the different sociological and psychological explanations of criminal behavior. In addition, the student will learn how to critically evaluate theory and its relevance for policy implementation. Prerequisites: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 327 Comparative Systems of Justice and Social Control (3 crs)

Introduction to the concepts of justice, law, deviance and social control. Examination of informal and formal systems of justice and social control, including traditional systems, common law, civil law, Marxist law and Islamic law.

CRJ 330 Civil Rights & Civil Liberties (3 crs)

A comparison course to Constitutional Law (POS 329), this course analyzes Bill of Rights guarantees of individual freedom, due process and equal protection interpretations, as well as modern policies flowing from civil rights legislation in areas affecting employment, education and welfare benefits.

CRJ 340 Issues in Criminal Justice (3 crs)

Analysis of specific topics, depending on student interest and current importance; examples include the international war on drugs, causes and effects of domestic violence. Prerequisite: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 410 Ethical & Philosophic Issues in Criminal Justice (3 crs)

Examination of selected ethical and philosophic issues currently facing the field of criminology and criminal justice. Issues will be drawn from categories, such as the function of law, the development of moral behavior, individual versus societal rights, ethics and the application of the law within the justice system. Prerequisites: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 421 Theories of Management and Administration in Criminal Justice Organizations (3 crs)

Focus on the complex theories and related issues of management and administration within the criminal justice system. Problems of communication, motivation, leadership, organizational effectiveness and innovation. Prerequisites: CRJ 111, 112.

CRJ 473 Internship (variable cr)

A field experience course in which the student is actively involved in the community under the direction of the Social Science Faculty. Enrollment requires the approval of the departmental contact person; a member meets periodically with the student during the internship to examine the relationships between the theoretical concepts found in the assigned readings and the field experience. The number of credits is negotiable.