

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BA)

Bachelor of Arts

This major is offered in the traditional and AU Online format.

The criminal justice program has two aspects to its mission. First, it provides a broad academic background for students in the area of criminal justice so that they have maximum flexibility while in college and after they graduate, regardless of whether they intend to undertake a career in law enforcement, corrections, probation, parole, homeland security, federal service, or attend graduate school. Second, the program provides criminal justice practitioners with related and pertinent college courses to assist them in the performance of public service.

With these purposes in mind, the goal of the criminal justice program is to provide students with opportunities to develop both a theoretical and a practical understanding of the complexities involved in the processes of the justice system. Criminal justice majors are encouraged to seek and secure internship opportunities in one or more professional capacities within the functional agencies of the criminal justice system and in other community service agencies.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CRJ-1010	Introduction to Criminal Justice System	4
CRJ-2150	Correctional Services	4
CRJ-2220	Criminal Justice Report Writing	4
CRJ/SOC-2300	Criminology	4
CRJ-2420	Criminal Law	4
CRJ-2500	Policing America	4
CRJ-3610/SOC-3600	Research Methods	4
CRJ-4800	Strategic Planning and Ethics	4
Selected Courses		
Select 8 semester hours of the following:		8
CRJ-3010	International Crime and Justice	
CRJ-3100	Security Leadership	
CRJ-3150	Probation and Parole	
CRJ/PSC-3180	Constitutional Law and the Judicial System	
CRJ-3200	Homeland Security	
CRJ-3300	Criminal Investigation	
CRJ-3310	Forensic Science	
CRJ-3340	Juvenile Justice	
CRJ-3350	Terrorism and Counterterrorism	
CRJ-3400	Criminal Evidence and Procedure	
CRJ-3500	Organized Crime	
CRJ-3550	Cyber Crime Investigations	
CRJ-3700	Forensic Investigation of Child Abuse and Neglect	
CRJ-3710	Serial and Mass Murder	
CRJ-3720	Criminal Profiling	
CRJ-3810-9	Selected Topics in Criminal Justice	
CRJ-4810-9	Selected Topics of Criminal Justice	
CRJ-4400	Introduction to Intelligence Policy	

CRJ-4940	Criminal Justice Internship	
Total Credits		40

- ¹ Students seeking additional forensic psychology coursework should consult the Supplemental Course Listing (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/undergraduate/programs/supplemental-course-listings/>) section for guidance in major and free elective course selection.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

A student who graduates from Aurora University with a baccalaureate degree will have met the following requirements:

- Completion of all requirements for an approved major (with no grades lower than "C").
- Overall completion of at least 120 semester hours of coursework with a GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale (a course may be utilized only once in application toward a degree requirement, unless otherwise noted in the academic regulations). The 120 semester hours of coursework must include:
 - At least 52 semester hours completed at a senior college.
 - Residency Requirement - At least 30 semester hours completed at Aurora University, including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and including at least 18 semester hours in the major. (Portfolio assessment credit, life and vocational experience credit, off-campus experience credit, examination credit, participation credit, and block credit, shall not count toward the residency requirement).
 - Upper-Division Requirement - A minimum of 30 semester hours numbered 3000 or above. Of these 30 semester hours, 15 semester hours must lie within the major and 15 semester hours must be completed at Aurora University.
- Completion of all General Education requirements (with no grades lower than "C"), as follows:
 - Quantitative and Formal Reasoning competency requirement (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#satisfy-quantitative-reasoning-requirement>)
 - ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing
 - IDS-1200 Discover What Matters or GWC-1000 or IDS-3040 Global Justice
 - IDS-1150 First Year Experience or GWC-4000 - *Not required for Transfer or AU Online students*)
 - Satisfactory participation in the junior-year mentoring and assessment process designed to guide students to successful completion of their degree and to encourage planning for next steps beyond graduation. (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II - *Not required for ADC or AU Online students*)
 - Distribution Requirements
Students will complete one approved course¹ from each of the following categories:
 - Artistic Literacy
 - Cultural Literacy
 - Human Inquiry
 - Scientific Inquiry

In addition to the above, ADC and Online students will also complete one approved course¹ from the following category:

- Integration and Application

- ¹ Only courses that are approved to meet the distribution requirement can be used toward this requirement. See the list of approved courses (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#approved-courses-gen-ed-distribution>) for available options. Courses taken to meet distribution requirements are 4 semester hours apiece, with the following exceptions:
- An approved transfer course of at least 2.50 semester hours can be used to satisfy a distribution requirement.
 - Courses with co-requisite laboratory components may be used to satisfy a distribution requirement, provided that the student successfully complete both the three-credit-hour course and the single-credit-hour lab component.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to use the concepts, language, and theories of criminology to explain criminal behavior.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the basic functions of law enforcement, the court system and corrections.
3. Students will differentiate between and judge the value of primary versus secondary sources, empirical versus non-empirical, and peer reviewed versus non-peer reviewed sources.
4. Students will be able to articulate and defend a position about a correctional issue in America.
5. Students will define preferred career paths based on self-assessment, academic achievement, motivation, and work habits.