Criminology and Criminal Justice

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Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Degree Program Hours: 120

Lower Division Preparation

Students are admitted directly to their chosen major at the University. Students are expected to make good progress based on critical indicators that include course completion and GPA requirements. In cases where students are not making successful progress, a change of major may be required. Academic advisors work with students to identify an appropriate major where a student will be successful in completing an undergraduate degree.

For a list of all state-approved common prerequisites, including alternatives, visit https://cpm.flvc.org.

Upper Division Program

Criminal Justice majors must complete 18 semester hours of core courses and 18 semester hours of criminal justice electives with a grade of ‘C’ or higher in all core and criminal justice elective classes. Students must satisfy the Green School Foreign Language Requirement.

Core Courses: (18)

Six courses are required for all criminal justice majors:

- CCJ 2020 Introduction to Criminal Justice 3
- CCJ 4014 Criminological Theory 3
- CCJ 4700 Research Methods and Analysis 3
- CJE 3001 Professional Development in Criminal Justice 3
- CCJ 4497 Senior Capstone in Criminal Justice 3

*Students employed full-time in a criminal justice related position for a minimum of three years may petition to replace CJE 3001 with CCJ 4054 Ethics in Criminal Justice.

Criminal Justice Electives: (18)

Any 3000 or 4000 level courses with the prefixes CCJ, CJC, CJE, CJJ, CJL, and DSC.

General Electives

A minimum of 15 semester hours must be 3000 or 4000 level courses. Nine semester hours of electives must be taken outside of criminal justice. One- and two-credit physical activity courses (with the prefixes PEL, PEM, PEN) cannot be included as part of the hours needed for graduation. Independent study courses may not be taken outside of criminal justice.

Students are encouraged to double major or pursue a minor in related fields. Students may also consider appropriate academic certificates such as the Certificate in National Security Studies, the Certificate in Leadership Studies, the Certificate in Law, Ethics and Society, the Certificate in Public Policy, and the Certificate in Pre-Law Skills And Professional Values.

Internship Program

It is highly recommended that students apply for an internship with a criminal justice agency. Students must have an overall minimum GPA of 2.0. For more information on the application process and course requirements, see http://cj.fiu.edu/internship/.

Law Enforcement Apprenticeship Program (LEAP)

LEAP combines classroom instruction with specialized police training and workplace experience to produce successful law enforcement professionals and future leaders in the field. LEAP provides students with college credits towards the completion of the Bachelor of Science degree programs in Criminal Justice (BSCJ) or Crime Science (BSCS). For additional information, see https://cj.fiu.edu/leap/.

Bachelor of Science in Crime Science

Degree Program Hours: 120

Lower Division Preparation

Students admitted to the university are directly admitted to their chosen major. Students are expected to make adequate progress based on critical indicators such as GPA in specific courses or credits earned. In cases where students are not making adequate progress, a change of major may be required. Advisors will redirect students to more appropriate majors when critical indicators are not actualized.

Common Prerequisites

For a list of all state-approved common prerequisites, including alternatives, visit https://cpm.flvc.org.
admissions criteria for the MS in Criminal Justice. Only 75 credits, have a 3.2 cumulative GPA, and meet the Admission Requirements:

- students enrolled in an approved bachelor's degree program at FIU, including up to 12 credits of upper division courses.
- 5000 level or higher courses, and no more than 12 credits may be applied toward both degrees.

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**Upper Division Program**

Crime science majors must complete 40 credit hours of core courses and 20 credit hours of general electives. Students must earn a grade of 'C' or higher in all classes required for the major and satisfy the Green School Language Requirement.

**Core Courses (40 credits)**

- **CCJ 4014** Criminological Theory 3
- **CCJ 4700** Research Methods and Analysis 3
- **CCJ 4072** GIS and Crime Mapping 3
- **CJE 3444** Security and Crime Science – GL 3
- **CJE 3610** Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) 3
- **CJE 4014** Criminal Evidence 3
- **CHS 3501** Survey of Forensic Science 3
- **CHS 3501L** Survey of Forensic Science Laboratory 1
- **CCJ 4225** The Courts and Forensic Science 3
- **DSC 4012** Terrorism and Homeland Security – GL 3
- **CJE 4694** Cyber Crime 3
- **CTS 1120** Fundamentals of Cybersecurity 3
- **EEE 4752** Introduction to Network Forensics and Incident Response 3
- **CJE 4717** Senior Capstone in Crime Science 3

**General Electives (20 credits)**

Students must complete 5 credit hours of 3000 or 4000 level courses and 9 credit hours outside the Criminology and Criminal Justice Department. Students are strongly encouraged to complete an internship to gain practical experience in the field (CCJ 4940). For information on internships, see http://cj.fiu.edu/internship/.

**Accelerated MS in Criminal Justice Degree Pathways**

**Combined BS/MS in Criminal Justice Degree Pathway:** This pathway accelerates completion of the MS in Criminal Justice for qualified students enrolled in the BS in Criminal Justice at FIU.

**Criminal Justice 4+1 Program:** This pathway accelerates completion of the MS in Criminal Justice for qualified students enrolled in an approved bachelor’s degree program at FIU (other than the BS in Criminal Justice). Admission Requirements: Students must have completed 75 credits, have a 3.2 cumulative GPA, and meet the admissions criteria for the MS in Criminal Justice. Only 5000-level or higher courses, and no more than 12 credits may be applied toward both degrees.

**Completion Requirements:** Students must complete their bachelor’s degree at FIU, including up to 12 credits of graduate criminal justice courses.

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**Minor in Criminal Justice (15)**

Students must complete CCJ 2020, CCJ 4014, CCJ 4700, CJL 4064 and CCJ 4054.

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**Course Descriptions**

**Definition of Prefixes**

- CCJ-Criminology and Criminal Justice; CJC-Corrections; CJE-Law Enforcement; CJJ-Juvenile Justice; CJL-Law and Process; DSC-Domestic Security

Courses that meet the University’s Global Learning requirement are identified as GL.

- **CCJ 2010** Criminology (3). Examines the nature, extent, and causes of crime and criminal behavior.

- **CCJ 2020** Introduction to Criminal Justice (3). An examination of the history, organization, and function of the criminal justice system, including police, courts, and corrections.

- **CCJ 3060** Ethical Issues and Challenges of Investigations (3). Explores the ethical challenges and issues facing criminal investigations, with a focus on detectives and forensic experts.

- **CCJ 3628** Homicide (3). A comprehensive study of homicide in the United States through the examination of individual cases, typology construction, and models.

- **CCJ 3651** Drugs and Crime (3). Examines the history and consequences of mind-altering drugs, and criminal behavior as it is affected by drugs, the legal response to substance abuse, treatment and prevention of substance abuse.

- **CCJ 3666** Victimology (3). A comprehensive study of victimization, including the relationship between the victims and offenders, and their interaction with the criminal justice system.

- **CCJ 3934** Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice (3). An intensive examination of a contemporary topic in criminal justice. May be repeated for different topics.

- **CCJ 3941** Law Enforcement Apprenticeship Program (3-15). LEAP combines classroom instruction with specialized police training and workplace experience to produce successful law enforcement professionals and future leaders in the field. Prerequisites: 60 credits.

- **CCJ 4014** Criminological Theory (3). Advanced study and critical appraisal of various theories of crime causation, including an examination of biological psychological, economic, and sociological perspective on the etiology of crime.

- **CCJ 4032** Crime and the Media (3). An examination of the role of the media in reporting crime and the extent to which media coverage of crime and the criminal justice system impacts the commission of crimes and the operation of the system.

- **CCJ 4034** Crime Documentaries (3). A study of selected criminology and criminal justice topics through the medium of documentary films and academic research publications (articles, book chapters, research reports, etc.).
CCJ 4045 Transnational Crime (3). Explores transnational crimes and the issues involved in investigating such crimes.

CCJ 4054 Ethics in Criminal Justice (3). An introduction to ethical decision making in the criminal justice system.

CCJ 4072 GIS and Crime Mapping (3). Utilizes ArcGIS software to help students examine and identify patterns of crime incidents through a geographical lens.

CCJ 4225 The Courts and Forensic Science (3). Examines the criminal justice system and its reliance on forensic evidence in the court room.

CCJ 4294 Criminal Trials (3). Provides an in depth understanding to the concepts of a criminal trial.

CCJ 4361 Death Penalty (3). An examination of the problems and issues related to the death penalty in the United States.

CCJ 4497 Senior Capstone in Criminal Justice (3). Emphasizes integration of knowledge acquired in previous courses. Students engage in development and production of a senior level research paper grounded in relevant criminology and criminal justice. Prerequisite: Senior standing and completion of CCJ 2020, CCJ 4014, CCJ 4700, and CJI 4064.

CCJ 4633 Guns and Violence (3). The course explores research on the relationship between guns, violence, and gun control.

CCJ 4634 Biosocial Criminology (3). This course provides students with an overview of current thinking, research, and debate centered on the overlapping role that genes, the brain, and social environments play in the commission of violent and antisocial behavior. Prerequisites: CCJ 4014.

CCJ 4641 Organized Crime (3). Historical development of organized crime in the U.S.; defining "organized crime" from U.S. and international perspective; patterns of criminal activity; critique of police and prosecutorial efforts to curb organized crime.

CCJ 4644 White Collar Crime (3). The nature of white-collar crime and its social control is examined including the definition, typologies, theories, law, policing, regulating, prosecuting, defending, and its adjudication.

CCJ 4662 Race, Crime, and Justice (3). Examines the intersection between race and crime in the criminal justice system, in addition to the role that race plays in policing, courts, corrections, and the death penalty.

CCJ 4663 Women, Crime and the Criminal Justice System (3). Women as deviants, criminals, victims, and professionals in the criminal justice system.

CCJ 4694 Human Trafficking – GL (3). Examines issues related to human trafficking and immigration from an international and global perspective.

CCJ 4700 Research Methods and Analysis (3). Explores basic research methods and analytical techniques used in criminology and criminal justice.

CCJ 4701 Measurement and Analysis in Criminal Justice (3). This course explores the current knowledge, trends, and future directions in the measurement and analysis of crime and the criminal justice system. Prerequisite or corequisite: CCJ 4700.

CCJ 4910 Supervised Research (3). Undergraduate students engage in research in criminal justice under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisites: CCJ 4700, CCJ 4701.

CCJ 4940 Internship in Criminal Justice (0-12). Provides an opportunity for the student to observe the criminal justice system in operation. Prerequisite: GPA of 2.0 minimum.

CCJ 5669 Minorities in Justice Administration (3). This course focuses on current research and theories of racial, ethnic, and gender discrimination within America's criminal justice system.

CCJ 6926 Teaching Practicum in Criminal Justice (3). This course provides graduate students with pedagogical, teaching and learning techniques to teach undergraduate classes in criminal justice. Prerequisite: 18 graduate credit hours in criminal justice.

CCJ 6946 Internship in Criminal Justice (0-6). Provides an opportunity for the graduate student to observe the criminal justice system in operation. Prerequisite: Student must have a minimum of 3.0 GPA.

CJC 2000 Corrections (3). Examines corrections from historical and contemporary perspectives and provides an overview of correctional philosophies, practices, and procedures.

CJC 4510 Punishment and Society (3). Explores contemporary dimensions of punishment. Engages social, political, economic, and historical conditions to understand why punishment takes the shape it does and the ways people are punished.

CJC 4511 Crime and Punishment (3). Traces the history, size, scope, and effects of policing, prison, jail, and the misdemeanor system. Reveals how the justice system maintains inequalities related to race, class, gender, and sexuality.

CJE 3001 Professional Development in Criminal Justice (3). An overview and exploration of development of the criminal justice profession.

CJE 3110 Policing in Society (3). Examines the establishment, role and function of policing in democratic society.


CJE 3610 Crime Scene Investigation (3). Understand how to perform basic search patterns. Demonstrate how to identify, document, and collect forensic evidence. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of different evidence types.

CJE 3617 Cold Case Investigation (3). Explores best practice cold case investigation techniques as well as discuss resources available to investigators.

CJE 4135 Impression and Pattern Evidence (3). Develop the basic techniques needed to identify,
document, collect, and analyze impression and pattern evidence in criminal investigations.

CJE 4174 Comparative Criminal Justice Systems – GL (3). A comparative study of the major legal traditions (e.g., common law, civil law, socialist law) and analysis of the criminal justice system across the world, including police, courts, and corrections.

CJE 4247 Efficacy of Forensics in Investigations (3). Discussion of forensic evidence efficacy, issues facing evidence collection and examination, use of forensic evidence in the investigative process, and courtroom challenges.

CJE 4585 Interviews and Interrogations (3). An overview of best practices in interviewing techniques and interrogation tactics in the criminal justice system. Compares and contrasts witness/victim interviews and suspect interrogations.

CJE 4694 Cyber Crime (3). Examines the types, extent and response to cyber crime, including the constitutional protections and procedural law that governs its detection and prosecution.

CJE 4697 Cryptocurrency and the Dark Web (3). Explores cryptocurrency, the dark web, and how law enforcement deals with illegal activity occurring on the dark web.

CJE 4717 Senior Capstone in Crime Science (3). This senior capstone course integrates material learned in the Crime Science curriculum. Prerequisite: Senior standing in Crime Science.

CJE 5024 Violent Crime & Criminal Behavior (3). This course deals with violent criminal behavior and the criminal justice system’s reaction to violence.

CJE 6716 Law Enforcement Practicum (3-6). Combines classroom instruction with specialized police training and workplace experience to produce successful law enforcement professionals and future leaders in the field.

CJJ 2001 Juvenile Justice (3). Examines the nature and extent of delinquency and the justice system response to juvenile crime.

CJL 3512 The Courts (3). An overview of jurisdiction, policies, and procedures of courts in the administration of criminal justice.

CJL 4064 Criminal Justice and the Constitution (3). A case law study of constitutional issues related to the administration of criminal justice.

CJL 4133 Criminal Evidence (3). A study of evidentiary principles and rules of evidence, and their application in a courtroom setting.

CJL 4412 Criminal Law (3). Examines the structure, function, and principles of criminal law, including the acts, mental state, and attendant circumstances that are necessary elements of crime.

DSC 4012 Terrorism and Homeland Security – GL (3). This course examines issues of terrorism and homeland security.