

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Criminal Justice minor provides an overview of the criminal justice system and a thorough grounding in criminological theory. Students receive an in-depth look at the three main system components: policing, courts, and corrections, as well as the opportunity to delve into two or more specialized topics relating to criminal justice. The minor is designed not only for students who have a professional interest in criminal justice, but also for those who want to be informed members of the voting citizenry. A functional understanding of crime and the criminal justice system is useful in many careers, including law, social work, education, and journalism.

What is Criminal Justice?

Criminal justice is the study of the adult and juvenile justice systems, including law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. It is interdisciplinary and includes understanding the intersections of law, public policy, and behavioral science, in an effort to understand crime as a social problem and improve these systems for the good of society.

You Might Like This Program If...

You want to be informed members of the voting citizenry. A functional understanding of crime and the criminal justice system is useful in many careers, including law, social work, education, and journalism.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CRIMINAL JUSTICE (<http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/minor-programs/criminal-justice>)

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CRIMJ 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ 210	Policing in America	3
CRIMJ 220	Courts and the Prosecution Process	3
CRIMJ 230	Corrections in America	3

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 6 credits of 400-level CRIMJ courses (excluding CRIMJ 495)		6

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their

intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and-out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy>)

Altoona

Mary Ann Probst, Esq.

Program Coordinator/Assistant Teaching Professor
Cypress Building 103
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5352
map141@psu.edu

Abington

Patricia Collins

Program Chair
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7533
pxc36@psu.edu

Beaver

Mari Pierce

Associate Professor of Administration of Justice
100 University Drive
Monaca, PA 15061
724-773-3549
mpb16@psu.edu

Berks

Jennifer Murphy

Program Coordinator, Associate Professor
Franco,F138
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6050
jxm1192@psu.edu

Fayette

Judith Sturges

Associate Professor
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4263
jes45@psu.edu

Harrisburg

Jonathan Lee, Ph.D.

Program Coordinator
Olmsted Building, W160
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-4319

jlee@psu.edu

Shenango

Lavarr McBride

Instructor
147 Shenango Avenue
124 Forker Lab
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2904
lwm13@psu.edu

World Campus

Undergraduate Academic Advising

301 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-3283
advising@outreach.psu.edu

Career Paths

The minor is designed not only for students who have a professional interest in criminal justice, but also for those who want to be informed members of the voting citizenry. A functional understanding of crime and the criminal justice system is useful in many careers, including law, social work, education, and journalism.

Careers

Career Services supports and serves students and alumni, faculty and staff, families, and employers in all areas related to career development and preparation. We can assist in any of the following: Major and Career Exploration Career Decision-Making Preparation of Employment Documents Internship and Job Search Strategies Interview Preparation Preparing for Graduate School Developing your Professional Online Brand Presentations and Workshops

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A MINOR IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (<http://altoona.psu.edu/offices-divisions/continuing-education-training/career-services>)

Contact

Altoona

DIVISION OF EDUCATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Elm Building 103
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5756
alg177@psu.edu

<http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/criminal-justice/request-information>

Abington

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7533
pxc36@psu.edu

<http://abington.psu.edu/criminal-justice>

Beaver

100 University Drive
Monaca, PA 15061
724-773-3549
mpb16@psu.edu

<http://beaver.psu.edu/crimj-minor>

Berks

DIVISION OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Franco Building
Reading, PA 19610
610-396-6050
jxm1192@psu.edu

Fayette

2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4263
jes45@psu.edu

<http://fayette.psu.edu/administration-justice>

Harrisburg

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Olmsted Building, W160
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6648
jzr701@psu.edu

<http://harrisburg.psu.edu/public-affairs/criminal-justice/minor-criminal-justice>

Shenango

147 Shenango Avenue
106 McDowell Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2954
slb64@psu.edu

<http://shenango.psu.edu/aoj>

World Campus

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Olmsted Building, W160
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6042
map54@psu.edu

<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/criminal-justice-minor/overview>