CRIMINOLOGY, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology, a minimum of 121 credits is required:

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4 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 4 credits of General Education GQ courses.

Per Senate Policy 82-44, a grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

Code | Title                                      | Credits
---   |--------------------------------------------|---------|
**Prescribed Courses**<br>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better<br>CRIM/CRIMJ 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice | 3
CRIM 249 Criminology Theory and Evidence | 3
CRIM 250W Research Methods in Criminology | 3
STAT 200 Elementary Statistics | 4

**Additional Courses**<br>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better<br>Select one of the following: 3
- CAS 283 Communication and Information Technology I
- CMPSC 100 Computer Fundamentals and Applications
- CMPSC 101 Introduction to Programming

Select one of the following: 3
- SOC 1 Introductory Sociology
- SOC 3 Introductory Social Psychology
- SOC 5 Social Problems

Select two of the following core courses: 6
- CRIM 430 American Correctional System
- CRIM/CRIMJ 432

**CRIM 435 Policing in America**
- CRIM/CRIMJ 451 Race, Crime, and Justice
- CRIM/CRIMJ/WMNST 453 Women and the Criminal Justice System
- CRIM/CRIMJ/SOC 467 Law and Society
- CRIM 490 Crime Policy

Select 6 credits from non-core CRIM/CRIMJ courses at the 400 level (including no more than 3 credits of LA 496, CRIM 494, or CRIM 499) 6
Select 6 credits in race, ethnicity and gender: 6
- AA 100 Introduction to International Arts
- AMST 105 American Popular Culture and Folklore
- AMST 432 Ethnicity and the American Experience
- ANTH 146 Indigenous North America
- CAS 271N Intercultural Communication
- CAS 455 Topics in Gender and Communication
- CAS 471 Intercultural Communication Theory and Research
- CMLIT 101 Race, Gender, and Identity in World Literature
- CRIM 451 Race, Crime, and Justice
- CRIM 453 Women and the Criminal Justice System
- ENGL 135 Alternative Voices in American Literature
- ENGL 139 African American Literature
- ENGL 462 Reading Black, Reading Feminist
- HIST 154 History of Welfare and Poverty in the United States
- PHIL 9 Race, Racism, and Diversity
- PSYCH 432 Multicultural Psychology in America
- SOC 103 Racism and Sexism
- SOC 119N Race, Ethnicity and Culture
- SOC 409 Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America
- SOC 419 Race and Public Policy
- SOC 429 Social Stratification
- WMNST 1 Introduction to Women's Studies
- WMNST 104 Women and the American Experience
- WMNST 136 Race, Gender, and Employment

**General Education**
Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.
Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
  • Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
  • Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
  • Arts (GA): 3 credits
  • Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
  • Humanities (GH): 3 credits
  • Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
  • Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies
  • Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration
  • GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
  • GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student’s degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
  • United States Cultures: 3 credits
  • International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-graduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-00)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.