

CRIMINOLOGY

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Criminology and Social Data Analytics

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Criminology doctoral students seeking to attain and be identified with an interdisciplinary array of tools, techniques, and methodologies for social data analytics, while maintaining a close association with criminology, may apply to pursue a dual-title Ph.D. in Criminology and Social Data Analytics.

Social data analytics is the integration of social scientific, computational, informational, statistical, and visual analytic approaches to the analysis of large or complex data that arise from human interaction. The dual-title Ph.D. program provides additional training with the aim of providing criminologists with the skills required to expand the field of social data analytics, creatively answer important criminological questions, and communicate effectively with both academic and nonacademic audiences.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Criminology and the Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. After admission to the Criminology program, students must apply for admission to and meet the admissions requirements of the Social Data Analytics dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Social Data Analytics Bulletin page (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/social-data-analytics/#admissionrequirements>). Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may note their interest in the program on their applications to Criminology and include remarks in their personal statements, in which they address the ways in which their research and professional goals in sociology reflect related interests in Social Data Analytics-related research.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the degree requirements for the Ph.D. in Criminology, listed on the Degree Requirements tab. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title Social Data Analytics, listed on the Social Data Analytics Bulletin page. This requirement involves 18 credits, including: SoDA 501 (3 credits), SoDA 502 (3 credits), and 12 or more elective credits in Social Data Analytics from a list of courses maintained by the Social Data Analytics Committee. There is no formal maximum number of credits from the primary Criminology degree that can be double-counted toward the SoDA degree, though Ph.D. committees may limit the number of double-counted credits. For those meeting the SoDA elective requirement with the minimum of 12 credits, the outside-program minimum effectively limits the number of primary degree credits that count toward SoDA at 6.

The qualifying examination in Criminology satisfies the qualifying exam requirement for the dual-title degree program in Social Data Analytics. In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements

for Ph.D. committees (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>), the Ph.D. committee of a Social Data Analytics dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the Social Data Analytics Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Social Data Analytics, the member of the committee representing Social Data Analytics must be appointed as co-chair. The Social Data Analytics representative on the student's Ph.D. committee will participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination. Students in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and education in Criminology and Social Data Analytics. Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.