

Bachelor Of Science In Criminology Requirements

| DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY | | | |
|--|--|-------|-----------------|
| Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology Major Requirements | | | |
| Corrections Option | | | |
| Academic Year 2015-2016 | | | |
| <i>The Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology with an option in CORRECTIONS is granted upon completion of a four-year curriculum of 120 units. Degree and general education requirements must be completed. See Degree and Credentials in the General Catalog. A grade of C or higher is required for all courses to be counted toward the major or minor (excluding CR/NC classes, please see Advising Note #5 below).</i> | | | |
| | | Units | Required Needed |
| Lower-division Requirements | | | 10 Units |
| CRIM 1 | Strategies for Success | 1 | |
| CRIM 2 | Administration of Justice | 3 | |
| CRIM 20 | Criminal Law | 3 | |
| CRIM 50 | Statistics and Computer Applications in CJ | 3 | |
| Upper-division Requirements | | | 37 Units |
| CRIM 100 | Criminology | 3 | |
| CRIM 102 | Criminal Justice Organization & Management | 3 | |
| CRIM 109 | Comparative Systems of Criminal Justice | 3 | |
| CRIM 112 | Professionalism in Criminal Justice | 3 | |
| CRIM 119 | Legal Aspects of Corrections | 3 | |
| CRIM 131 | Correctional Institutions Visitation | 1 | |
| CRIM 133 | Institutional Corrections | 3 | |
| CRIM 134 | Criminal Justice Counseling | 3 | |
| CRIM 135 | Community-Based Corrections | 3 | |
| CRIM 141 | Alcohol, Drugs, and Criminality | 3 | |
| CRIM 170 | Research Methods | 3 | |
| CRIM 174 | Ethnic and Gender Issues in Criminal Justice | 3 | |
| CRIM 181 | Internship in Corrections | 3 | |
| Electives - Choose two from the list below: | | | 6 Units |
| CRIM 110 | Police in America (formerly CRIM 160T) | 3 | |
| CRIM 113 | Forensic Science | 3 | |
| CRIM 120 | Juvenile Delinquency | 3 | |
| CRIM 126 | Women & Violence: Public Policy & the Law | 3 | |
| CRIM 136T | Topics in Criminology | 3 | |
| CRIM 137 | Women, Girls and the Criminal Justice System | 3 | |
| CRIM 139 | Criminal Justice Counseling Skills Practicum | 3 | |
| CRIM 140 | Family Violence | 3 | |
| CRIM 153 | Psychology of Crime | 3 | |
| CRIM 175 | Victimology | 3 | |
| CRIM 176 | Victim Services | 3 | |
| CRIM 177 | Legal Policy in Victim Services | 3 | |
| PAX 100 | Peace and Conflict | 3 | |
| PAX 110 | Peacebuilding | 3 | |
| PAX 120 | Mediation | 3 | |
| PHIL 121 | Ethics of Criminal Justice | 3 | |
| TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED IN MAJOR | | | 53 Units |
| ADVISING NOTES: | | | |
| 1. Lower-division courses should be taken before upper-division courses. | | | |
| 2. Upper-division requirements should be taken prior to upper-division electives. | | | |
| 3. No General Education Integration or Multicultural International course offered by the Department of Criminology may be used to satisfy the General Education requirements for criminology majors. | | | |
| 4. CR/NC grading is not permitted in the major, with the exceptions of CRIM 1, 108, 131, 180, 181, and 182. | | | |
| 5. CRIM 50 should be taken before CRIM 170. | | | |
| 6. CRIM 170 should be taken during the junior year. | | | |
| 7. General Education and elective units may be used toward a dual major or minor (see <i>Dual Major</i> or departmental minor). Consult the appropriate department chair, program coordinator, or faculty adviser for further information. | | | |
| 8. Freshmen and transfer students majoring in criminology must take CRIM 1 during their first or second semester. | | | |
| 9. Students who wish to be considered for the Criminology Honors Program are advised not to take CRIM 100 or CRIM 170 prior to application to the Honors Program, as there are honors versions of these courses. For further information, please see http://www.fresnostate.edu/socialsciences/criminology/degrees-programs/ . | | | |

Revised 6-4-2014

Bachelor of Science in Criminology Requirements

The Bachelor of Science in Criminology is an academic degree designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of criminal behavior, the criminal justice system, and the social implications of crime. This degree prepares graduates for various careers in law enforcement, corrections, forensic science, and other sectors related to crime and justice. However, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Criminology requires meeting specific academic and administrative requirements that vary from one institution to another. This article outlines the common requirements and considerations for students interested in this field.

General Admission Requirements

Before enrolling in a Bachelor of Science in Criminology program, prospective students must fulfill several general admission requirements:

1. High School Diploma or Equivalent

Most universities require applicants to have a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) certificate. This foundational educational achievement is crucial as it demonstrates the student's ability to perform at the college level.

2. Minimum GPA

Many institutions set a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) requirement for admission. This GPA threshold can vary, but it typically ranges from 2.0 to 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. Students are often encouraged to maintain strong academic performance in relevant subjects such as social studies, psychology, and mathematics.

3. Standardized Test Scores

Some universities may require standardized test scores, such as the SAT or ACT, as part of the admissions process. These scores help institutions assess a student's readiness for college-level coursework. In recent years, many colleges have adopted test-optional policies, but students should verify the requirements of their chosen institution.

4. Letters of Recommendation

Many programs request one or more letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, or professionals who can vouch for the applicant's academic abilities and character. These letters should highlight the student's strengths, work ethic, and potential for success in the field of criminology.

5. Personal Statement or Essay

A personal statement or essay is often a critical component of the application. This document allows applicants to express their motivations for pursuing a degree in criminology, their career aspirations, and any relevant experiences that have shaped their interest in the field.

Program-Specific Requirements

Once admitted, students must fulfill specific program requirements to successfully complete their Bachelor of Science in Criminology. These requirements typically include coursework, internships, and sometimes additional certifications.

1. Core Coursework

The curriculum for a Bachelor of Science in Criminology usually consists of core courses that provide a foundational understanding of criminology and the criminal justice system. Common core subjects include:

- Introduction to Criminology
- Criminal Justice System
- Criminal Law
- Research Methods in Criminology
- Sociology of Crime
- Forensic Psychology
- Ethics in Criminal Justice
- Victimology
- Juvenile Delinquency
- Crime Prevention Strategies

Students may also have the opportunity to take elective courses that align with their interests, such as cybersecurity, drug addiction, or international crime.

2. Internships and Practical Experience

Many criminology programs require students to complete an internship or practical experience in a related field. This hands-on experience is pivotal for students to apply their theoretical knowledge in real-world situations. Internships can be conducted in various settings, including:

- Law enforcement agencies (police departments, federal agencies)
- Correctional facilities (jails, prisons)
- Community service organizations
- Forensic laboratories
- Legal offices

Participating in internships not only enhances students' learning experiences but also helps them build valuable professional networks in the criminal justice field.

3. Capstone Project or Thesis

Some programs may require students to complete a capstone project or thesis as part of their degree requirements. This project typically involves research on a specific topic within criminology and demonstrates the student's ability to conduct independent research, analyze data, and present findings.

4. GPA and Course Requirements

Students must maintain a certain GPA throughout their studies, often around 2.0 to 2.5, to remain in good standing and graduate from the program. Additionally, students are usually required to complete a certain number of credit hours, often around 120, to earn their degree.

Skills Developed During the Program

Pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Criminology not only provides students with knowledge about criminal behavior and justice systems but also helps them develop essential skills that are highly valued in the workforce. These skills include:

- Analytical Thinking: Students learn to analyze complex issues, understand data, and make informed decisions based on evidence.
- Communication Skills: Students develop strong verbal and written communication skills, essential for interacting with diverse populations and presenting research findings.
- Problem-Solving Skills: The curriculum encourages critical thinking and problem-solving, preparing students to address real-world challenges in criminal justice.
- Ethical Reasoning: A focus on ethics in criminal justice helps students understand the moral implications of their decisions and actions.

Career Opportunities After Graduation

Graduates with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology have a wide range of career opportunities available to them. Some common job roles include:

1. Law Enforcement Officer: Working in local, state, or federal police departments.
2. Probation or Parole Officer: Supervising offenders placed on probation or parole.
3. Forensic Analyst: Analyzing evidence collected from crime scenes.
4. Criminal Investigator: Conducting investigations to solve crimes.
5. Social Worker: Providing support and resources to individuals affected by crime.
6. Policy Analyst: Assessing and developing policies related to crime and justice.
7. Crime Analyst: Utilizing data to identify crime trends and inform law enforcement strategies.

Additionally, graduates may choose to pursue further education, such as a Master's degree in Criminology, Criminal Justice, or related fields, which can open up even more advanced career opportunities.

Conclusion

A Bachelor of Science in Criminology is a versatile degree that equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of crime and justice. By understanding the admission requirements, program specifics, and potential career paths, prospective students can make informed decisions about their educational journey. With a comprehensive foundation in criminology, graduates can contribute positively to society by addressing crime, supporting victims, and promoting justice. Whether through law enforcement, social work, or policy analysis, a degree in criminology opens doors to a rewarding career in making a difference in the community.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the general admission requirements for a Bachelor of Science in Criminology?

General admission requirements typically include a high school diploma or equivalent, standardized test scores (like SAT or ACT), and letters of recommendation. Some programs may also require a personal statement.

Are there specific high school courses recommended for aspiring criminology students?

Yes, students are often encouraged to take courses in social studies, psychology, sociology, and basic mathematics to prepare for a Bachelor of Science in Criminology.

Is prior experience in law enforcement necessary to pursue a degree in criminology?

No, prior experience in law enforcement is not necessary to pursue a degree in criminology, although it may enhance your understanding and application of the concepts learned.

What types of degrees can I pursue after completing a Bachelor of Science in Criminology?

After completing a Bachelor of Science in Criminology, students can pursue advanced degrees such as a Master's in Criminology, Criminal Justice, Forensic Science, or even a law degree.

Do Bachelor of Science in Criminology programs require internships?

Many Bachelor of Science in Criminology programs encourage or require internships to provide students with practical experience in the field, although requirements may vary by institution.

What skills are emphasized in a Bachelor of Science in Criminology program?

Skills emphasized in a criminology program typically include critical thinking, analytical skills, communication, research methodologies, and understanding of legal systems.

Can I pursue a Bachelor of Science in Criminology online?

Yes, many universities offer online Bachelor of Science in Criminology programs, allowing students to complete coursework remotely while maintaining flexibility in their schedules.

What career opportunities are available with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology?

Career opportunities include roles in law enforcement, corrections, forensic analysis, security management, social work, and various positions within the criminal justice system.

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Debbie Reynolds - Wikipedia

Debbie Reynolds ... Mary Frances " Debbie " Reynolds (April 1, 1932 – December 28, 2016) was an American actress, singer and entrepreneur. Her acting career spanned almost 70 years. ...

Debbie Reynolds - IMDb

Debbie Reynolds was born Mary Frances Reynolds in El Paso, Texas, the second child of Maxine N. (Harmon) and Raymond Francis Reynolds, a carpenter for the Southern Pacific Railroad. ...

Debbie Reynolds | Biography, Films, & Facts | Britannica

Debbie Reynolds (born April 1, 1932, El Paso, Texas, U.S.—died December 28, 2016, Los Angeles, California) was an American actress and singer whose vivacious personality and ...

Debbie Reynolds Official website

The Person: Debbie Reynolds in Las Vegas ran from September 5 - October 26 2023 - Free Exhibition - Grand Gallery at Las Vegas City Hall Actress, comedienne, singer, dancer, and ...

Debbie Reynolds dies one day after daughter Carrie Fisher passes

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Debbie Reynolds - Movies, Daughter & Tammy - Biography

Apr 2, 2014 · Known for her boundless energy and pert demeanor, legendary actress Debbie

Reynolds made memorable turns in films like 'The Tender Trap,' 'Singin' in the Rain,' 'Tammy ...

Debbie Reynolds | Biography

Apr 1, 2025 · Debbie Reynolds biography details her age, marriage, children, and lasting legacy as an iconic actress. Know more about her life, career, and enduring relationship with Carrie ...

Actress Debbie Reynolds, 84, dies a day after daughter

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On This Day in History: Iconic actress, singer Debbie Reynolds ...

14 hours ago · On this day in history, in 1971, Debbie Reynolds made her new show at the Desert Inn a family affair.

Debbie Reynolds - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Debbie Reynolds ... Mary Frances Reynolds, [1] better known as Debbie Reynolds (April 1, 1932 – December 28, 2016), was an American actress and singer. Reynolds was born in El Paso, ...

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Explore the essential Bachelor of Science in Criminology requirements to kickstart your career in criminal justice. Learn more about admissions and prerequisites!

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