

Criminal Justice, BSCJ

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

The Department of Justice Studies houses undergraduate programs leading to Bachelor of Science degrees in Criminal Justice and Juvenile Justice. The Criminal Justice degree has five concentrations to choose from (policing, corrections, juvenile justice, legal studies, and criminalistics) or no concentration selection. The BS in Criminal Justice may be completed in person or fully online.

Departmental Requirements

Only courses passed with grades of "C" or higher may be applied to the forty-two (42) semester hours constituting the Major Requirements for Criminal Justice.

Criminal Justice Degree Program Requirements

Complete Core Curriculum Listing at <https://catalog.pvamu.edu/universitycorecurriculum/>

Core Curriculum 42 Credit Hours

Communication Core (Select Two)	6
Mathematics (Select One)	3
Life and Physical Sciences (Select Two)	6
Language, Philosophy, and Culture (Select One)	3
Creative Arts (Select One)	3
American History (Select Two)	6
Government/Political Science	6
POSC 2305	American Government
POSC 2306	Texas Government
Social and Behavioral Sciences (Select One)	3
Component Area Option One (Select One)	3
Component Area Option Two (Select One)	3

College of Juvenile Justice Language Requirements

Foreign Language Electives (One Language; One Sequence)

Support Area Requirement 3

Select one from the following:

MATH 1342	Elementary Statistics
PSYC 2317	Statistical Methods in Psychology
SOCG 4305	Social Statistics

Major Requirements for Criminal Justice

27

CRIJ 1301	Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRIJ 1306	Court Systems and Practices
CRIJ 1313	Juvenile Justice Systems
CRIJ 2313	Correctional Systems and Practices
CRIJ 2328	Police Systems and Practices
CRIJ 3362	Criminal Law
CRIJ 3382	Criminal Justice Research Methods I
CRIJ 4392	Criminology
CRIJ 4398	Ethical Decision-Making in Criminal Justice

Unrestricted Electives¹

27

Concentration Courses or CJ Electives if no Concentration is selected

15

Total Hours

120

¹ Students may use their unrestricted electives to complete a minor. The student is responsible for ensuring that all of the requirements are met. Students are advised to select minors in areas that are supportive of the criminal justice field such as psychology, human development, sociology, social work, political science, economics, or foreign language. If the minor requires less than 27 credit hours the difference should be made up in

unrestricted electives. If no minor is selected, the total unrestricted electives would be 27 hours. Students are advised to select electives in areas that are supportive of the criminal justice field.

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Degree Sequence

Core: <https://catalog.pvamu.edu/universitycorecurriculum/>

Freshman

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
Communication Core		3 Communication Core	3
Mathematics Core		3 Life and Physical Science Core	3
Language, Philosophy & Culture Core		3 Creative Arts Core	3
American History Core		3 American History Core	3
CRIJ 1301		3 CRIJ 1306	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Sophomore

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
Life and Physical Sciences Core		3 Social and Behavioral Sciences Core	3
Government/Political Science Core POSC 2305		3 Government/Political Science POSC 2306	3
Component Area Option One Core		3 Support Required Social Statistics	3
CRIJ 2328		3 CRIJ 1313	3
CRIJ 2313		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Junior

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
Component Area Option Two Core		3 Foreign Language II	3
Foreign Language I		3 Concentration or CRIJ Elective	3
Concentration or CRIJ Elective		3 CRIJ 3382	3
CRIJ 3362		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Concentration or CRIJ Elective		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Senior

Fall - Semester 1	Hours	Spring - Semester 2	Hours
CRIJ 4392		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
CRIJ 4398		3 Concentration or CRIJ Elective	3
Unrestricted Elective		3 Concentration or CRIJ Elective	3
Unrestricted Elective		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Unrestricted Elective		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
Total		15 Total	15

Total Hours: 30

Name	Unit
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Total Semester Credit Hours: 120

Marketable Skills

Marketable skills, as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30TX Plan (<http://www.60x30tx.com/>), include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills that are valued by employers, and can be either primary or complimentary to a major. Marketable skills are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities.

BSCJ Criminal Justice

Degree Skills

1. Working knowledge and application of criminal justice terminology
2. Ability to supervise and manage workforce and clients
3. Ability to work with diverse individuals and communities with issues related to criminal justice and social justice.
4. Effective use of verbal communication in the workplace
5. Written and communication skills appropriate in criminal justice service agencies.
6. Problem-solving skills

Concentration Skills

1. Appropriate use of terminology related to their area of concentration (Policing, Corrections, Legal Studies, Juvenile Justice, Criminalistics)
2. Effective understanding and application of knowledge to their area of concentration (Policing, Corrections, Legal Studies, Juvenile Justice, Criminalistics)
3. Working knowledge of legal analysis
4. Ability and interest in working with children and adolescents
5. Working knowledge of crime trends and analysis
6. Management skills in various settings such as Social Services, Emergency Management

Co-curricular and Extracurricular Skills

1. Leadership
2. Time management
3. Teamwork
4. Good judgment and work ethic
5. Cultural competency and awareness of diversity issues
6. Grit
7. Resourcefulness