

# 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 Electives<sup>1</sup>

27

### Concentration Courses or CJ Electives if no Concentration is selected

15

### Total Hours

120

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## Policing Concentration

### Concentration in Policing

CRIJ 2311	Intro Geog Info System	3
CRIJ 2314	Introduction to Criminal Investigation and Identification	3
CRIJ 2343	Police Community Relations	3
Criminal Justice elective		3
Choose one from the following:		3
CRIJ 2344	Introduction to Homeland Security	
CRIJ 2348	Introduction to Emergency Management	
CRIJ 4332	Criminal Justice Management Principles	
CRIJ 4365	Constitutional Rights of the Criminally Accused	
ENGL 2311	Technical and Business Writing	
SOWK 2313	Social Work with Children and Families	
SOWK 2317	Multicultural Issues in Mental Health	

**Total Hours** **15**

## Legal Studies Concentration

### Concentration in Legal Studies

CRIJ 2323	Criminal Procedure	3
CRIJ 2374	Law of Juvenile Justice	3
CRIJ 4365	Constitutional Rights of the Criminally Accused	3
Criminal Justice elective		3
Choose one from the following:		3
POSC 2314	Legal Studies	
POSC 4320	Judicial Politics	
CRIJ 2366	Evidence Law	
SOWK 2317	Multicultural Issues in Mental Health	
ENGL 3307	Writing for Legal Professions	

**Total Hours** **15**

## Corrections Concentration

### Concentration in Corrections

CRIJ 2301	Alternatives to Incarceration	3
CRIJ 3331	Prevention and Control	3
CRIJ 3373	Juvenile Probation and Parole	3
Criminal Justice elective		3
Choose one from the following:		3
SOCG 2326	Social Psychology	
SOWK 2317	Multicultural Issues in Mental Health	
SOWK 3313	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	
HDFM 2351	Childhood Disorders	
CRIJ 3365	Drugs, Crime and Society	
CRIJ 4332	Criminal Justice Management Principles	
CRIJ 4365	Constitutional Rights of the Criminally Accused	

**Total Hours** **15**

## Criminalistics Concentration

### Concentration in Criminalistics

CRIJ 2391	Practical Forensic Science <sup>1</sup>	3
CRIJ 3351	Crime Scene Investigation <sup>2</sup>	3
Choose three from the following:		9
CRIJ 3352	Forensic Investigation of Sex Crimes	
CRIJ 3353	Technology and Crime	
CRIJ 3354	Forensic Photography	
CRIJ 4354	Interview and Interrogation Techniques	
CRIJ 4355	Death Investigations	
CRIJ 4356	Enterprise Crime Investigation	
CRIJ 4361	Courtroom Testimony and Procedure	
CRIJ 4362	Evidence Processing	
CRIJ 4671	Internship in Criminal Justice and Criminalistics	

**Total Hours** **15**

<sup>1</sup> Pre-requisite for CRIJ 2391 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=CRIJ%202391>), two courses (6 hours) from the CORE Life & Physical Sciences courses. Select two from the following:

BIOL 1308 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=BIOL%201308>) College Biology I

BIOL 1309 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=BIOL%201309>) College Biology II

BIOL 2401 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=BIOL%202401>) Human Anatomy & Physiology I

BIOL 2402 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=BIOL%202402>) Human Anatomy & Physiology II

CHEM 1303 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=CHEM%201303>) General Organic Chemistry

CHEM 1306 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=CHEM%201306>) Introduction to General Chemistry

<sup>2</sup> CRIJ 3351 (<https://catalog.pvamu.edu/search/?P=CRIJ%203351>) is a pre-requisite for many of the criminalistics electives.

## 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

**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		3 Government/Political Science	3
POSC 2305		POSC 2306	
Component Area Option One Core		3 Support Required Social Statistics	3
CRIJ 2328		3 CRIJ 1313	3
CRIJ 2313		3 Unrestricted Elective	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 Total</b>		<b>15</b>

**Total Hours: 30**

**Junior**

<b>Fall - Semester 1</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring - Semester 2</b>	<b>Hours</b>
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
<b>Total</b>		<b>15 Total</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours: 30****Senior**

<b>Fall - Semester 1</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring - Semester 2</b>	<b>Hours</b>
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
<b>Total</b>		<b>15 Total</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours: 30**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Unit</b>
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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