

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, B.S. (CAPITAL)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg, World Campus

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	18
Requirements for the Major	60-61

3-4 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 3-4 credits of GQ courses.

Requirements for the Major

At least 9 credits in Additional Courses and/or Supporting Courses must be at the 400 level.

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

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CRIMJ/SOC 12	Criminology	3
CRIMJ/CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ 210	Policing in America	3
CRIMJ 220	Courts and the Prosecution Process	3
CRIMJ 230	Corrections in America	3
CRIMJ 250W	Research Methods in Criminal Justice	3
CRIMJ 450W	Senior Seminar	3
CRIMJ 465	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
Additional Courses		
Select 6 credits each from sequence A and B or 12 credits from sequence C:		12
<i>Sequence A</i>		
CRIMJ 221	Issues in the American Criminal Justice System	
CRIMJ 234	Fundamental Techniques of Scientific Criminal Investigation	
<i>Sequence B</i>		
CRIMJ 389	Gangs and Gang Behavior	
CRIMJ/SOC/CRIM 406	Sociology of Deviance	

CRIMJ 407	Victimology
CRIMJ 408	Police Administration
CRIMJ 409	White Collar Crime
CRIMJ 410	The Pennsylvania Court System
CRIMJ/SOC/CRIM 413	Advanced Criminological Theory
CRIMJ/SOC 414	Criminal Careers and the Organization of Crime
CRIMJ 415	Drug Control Policy in Comparative Perspective
CRIMJ 416	The Death Penalty
CRIMJ/CRIM 421	Violent Crime in the United States
CRIMJ/WMNST/CRIM 423	Sexual and Domestic Violence
CRIMJ/CRIM 425	Organized Crime
CRIMJ 426	Special Offender Types
CRIMJ 430	Alternatives to Incarceration
CRIMJ 431	Offender and Prisoner Rights
CRIMJ/CRIM 441	The Juvenile Justice System
CRIMJ/WMNST/CRIM 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System
CRIMJ 460	
CRIMJ 462	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems
CRIMJ/HIST 469	Drugs and Drug Policy in the United States
CRIMJ 489W	
CRIMJ 495	Internship in Criminal Justice
CRIMJ 496	Independent Studies
CRIMJ 497	Special Topics
<i>Sequence C</i>	
CRIMJ 304	Security Administration
CRIMJ 389	Gangs and Gang Behavior
CRIMJ/SOC/CRIM 406	Sociology of Deviance
CRIMJ 407	Victimology
CRIMJ 408	Police Administration
CRIMJ 409	White Collar Crime
CRIMJ 410	The Pennsylvania Court System
CRIMJ/SOC/CRIM 413	Advanced Criminological Theory
CRIMJ/SOC 414	Criminal Careers and the Organization of Crime
CRIMJ 415	Drug Control Policy in Comparative Perspective
CRIMJ 416	The Death Penalty
CRIMJ/CRIM 421	Violent Crime in the United States
CRIMJ/WMNST/CRIM 423	Sexual and Domestic Violence
CRIMJ/CRIM 425	Organized Crime

CRIMJ 426	Special Offender Types	
CRIMJ 430	Alternatives to Incarceration	
CRIMJ 431	Offender and Prisoner Rights	
CRIMJ/CRIM 441	The Juvenile Justice System	
CRIMJ/WMNST/CRIM 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System	
CRIMJ 460		
CRIMJ 462	Comparative Criminal Justice Systems	
CRIMJ/HIST 469	Drugs and Drug Policy in the United States	
CRIMJ 489W		
CRIMJ 495	Internship in Criminal Justice	
CRIMJ 496	Independent Studies	
CRIMJ 497	Special Topics	
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CRIMJ 260	Statistical Analysis for the Social Sciences	3-4
or STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
Select 6 credits: 3 credits at the 200 level and 3 credits at the 300 and 400 level or 6 credits at the 300 and 400 level from the following: AFRAS, BESC, PLSC, PUBPL, PSYCH, SOC		6
Select 15 credits in consultation with an academic adviser and in support of the student's interests. For information about specific courses in this area, contact the School of Public Affairs.		15

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/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.