

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJOR

The criminal justice major is designed to provide theoretical and practical knowledge for students interested in professional careers in traditional law enforcement fields such as federal law enforcement, corrections, courts, police, and probation; in administrative and management positions in criminal justice and private security; and in law and para-legal occupations. Moreover, the major's curriculum is intended to facilitate entry into graduate programs in criminal justice, sociology, and law, while also retaining a humanistic understanding of the study of crime. The criminal justice major at Saint Joseph's is distinguished by its emphasis on creative participation, student-faculty interaction, and independent research projects.

Learning Goals and Outcomes

Goal 1: Criminal justice majors will gain foundational knowledge of the core concepts and theoretical perspectives that define the causes of and responses to crime.

Outcome 1: Students will be able to define, classify, and compare the core concepts and theoretical perspectives that explain individual behaviors and criminal justice systems.

Goal 2: Criminal justice majors will analyze social problems with appropriate social scientific research methods.

Outcome 2: Students will be able to design a research study and apply appropriate designs and analytic methods to answer research questions.

Goal 3: Criminal justice majors will effectively communicate about their discipline.

Outcome 3: Students will be able to interpret and explain course content and empirical findings in oral and written communications.

Goal 4: Criminal justice majors will examine the impacts of culture and social structure on the criminal justice system.

Outcome 4: Students will be able to explain and critically assess the significance of race, class, gender identity, sexual identity, and age in the social construction of crime and justice.

Requirements

The traditional undergraduate programs includes a minimum of 120 credits distributed across three components: A General Education component divided into Signature Courses, Variable Courses, and an Integrative Learning requirement; a Major and Divisional component; and Free Electives. In addition to course requirements as specified in each area, students must complete one certified course in each of the following overlay areas¹:

1. Diversity, Globalization or Non-western Area Studies,
2. Ethics Intensive
3. Writing Intensive, and
4. Diversity

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Overlay requirements are part of the 120 credit requirements

General Education Signature Courses

See this page about Signature courses (<https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/curricula/#signature>).

General Education Variable Courses

See this page about Variable courses (<https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/curricula/#variable>). Six to Nine courses

Code	Title	Hours
Social/Behavioral Science		
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3

General Education Overlays

See this page about Overlays (<https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/curricula/#overlay>).

General Education Integrative Learning Component

See this page about Integrative Learning Component (<https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/curricula/#integrative-learning>). Three courses:

Code	Title	Hours
SOC 118	Intro Statistics Social Sci	3
or MAT 118	Introduction to Statistics	
Social Science	Select any College of Arts and Science course outside of sociology with a "social science" attribute	3
Arts and Sciences	Select any other course within the College of Arts and Sciences	3

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ACC 101	Concepts of Financial Acct	3
or GIS 101	Introduction to GIS	
or GIS 201	Intermediate GIS	
SOC 102	Social Problems	3
SOC 190	Strategies for Success	1
SOC 206	Theories of Crime	3
SOC 207	Juvenile Justice	3
SOC 225	Intro to American CJ	3
SOC 290	Professional Prep Seminar	1
SOC 312 & SOC 313	Research Methods and Data Analysis	6
SOC 470	Special Topics	3
SOC 495	Senior Thesis	3
Select any experiential learning, including study abroad, internships, study tour courses, and service learning		3
Select five other approved Criminal Justice courses numbered above SOC 102. ¹		15
Total Hours		47

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Approved courses are indicated in the Sociology course descriptions.

Free Electives

Seven elective courses.

Requirements for College Honors in Sociology

To receive College Honors credit, Sociology majors will participate in the Senior Capstone experience required of all majors by taking SOC 495 as an honors course during the fall of the senior year. Additionally, College Honors candidates in Sociology will complete a second honors course during the spring of the senior year (SOC 497) that includes research, extending the senior capstone experience beyond what non-Honors students complete.

For students in the University Honors program, these two upgraded courses may be counted toward the eight course Honors requirement. To be eligible to participate in College Honors, a student must have a 3.5 GPA. If you are interested in completing the College Honors project during your senior year, please be in touch with the department chair early in the spring of your junior year. More details concerning College Honors may be found under Honors Program (<https://academiccatalog.sju.edu/arts-sciences/honors-program/>).

Typical Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman		
Fall		
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3
SOC 190	Strategies for Success	1
First-Year Seminar		3
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
HIS 154	Forging the Modern World	3
Non-native Language		3
Hours		16
Spring		
SOC 102	Social Problems	3
SOC 225	Intro to American CJ	3
ENG 102	Texts & Contexts	3
Math Beauty		3
Non-native Language		3
Hours		15
Sophomore		
Fall		
SOC 206	Theories of Crime	3
ACC 101	Concepts of Financial Acct	3
or GIS 101	or Introduction to GIS	
or GIS 201	or Intermediate GIS	
THE 154	Catholic Theological Tradition	3
or THE 153	or Encountering the New Testament	
or THE 154	or Catholic Theological Tradition	
Free-Elective		3
Arts & Sciences (ILC)		
Hours		12
Spring		
Upper Level CJ elective		3
PHL 154	Moral Foundations	3
SOC 118	Intro Statistics Social Sci	3
or MAT 118	or Introduction to Statistics	
Social Science (ILC)		3
Free-Elective		3
SOC 290	Professional Prep Seminar	1
Hours		16
Junior		
Fall		
SOC 312	Research Methods	3

SOC 207	Juvenile Justice	3
Upper Division CJ elective		3
Religious Difference		3
Free-Elective (Ethics-Intensive Overlay, if needed)		3
Hours		15
Spring		
SOC 313	Data Analysis	3
Philosophical Anthropology		3
SOC 490	Internship (or Upper Division CJ elective)	2-3
Free-Elective		6
Hours		14-15
Senior		
Fall		
SOC 495	Senior Thesis	3
Upper Division CJ elective		3
Natural Science (with lab)		4
Faith and Reason		3
Free-Elective		3
Hours		16
Spring		
SOC 470	Special Topics	3
Upper Division CJ elective		3
Fine Arts/Literature		3
Free-Elective		6
Hours		15
Total Hours		119-120

4+1 Program

Saint Joseph University's combined BS/MS in Criminal Justice offers students an exciting and challenging curriculum of study. The program allows students to engage the most cogent criminal justice theories while providing opportunities for research with nationally renowned Sociology faculty. This unique program is designed for successful completion over five academic years.

Undergraduate criminal justice/sociology majors at Saint Joseph's who apply for the 4+1 BS/MS program will be evaluated for acceptance into the program following the completion of the first semester of the junior year. These undergraduate applicants will be asked to submit a complete undergraduate transcript, two letters of recommendation/reference, and an essay describing their interests and goals of graduate education in criminal justice. Minimum GPA requirement is 3.00.

Course	Title	Hours
Senior		
Fall		
CRJ 565	Ethics and Criminal Justice	3
Hours		3
Spring		
CRJ 570	Prof Writ for Criminal Justice	3
Hours		3
Summer		
CRJ 550	Research Methods and Analysis	3
or CRJ 575	or Adv Resrch Methds & Analysis	
CRJ elective (3 credits)		3
Hours		6
Fifth Year		
Fall		
CRJ 793	Thesis Supervision I <small>If thesis option is not chosen, student will take 2 CRJ electives.</small>	3
CRJ 560	Criminological Theory	3

CRJ elective (3 credits)		3
	Hours	9
Spring		
CRJ 793	Thesis Supervision If thesis option is not chosen, student will take 3 CRJ electives.	3
2 CRJ electives (6 credits)		6
	Hours	9
	Total Hours	30