

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, BACJ

The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice prepares students to become criminal justice professionals.

Courses in the Criminal Justice major cover contemporary issues facing decision makers in the American criminal justice system. Students learn how a society maintains social control while protecting individual rights, and how the Constitution applies to everyday life. Students discuss what causes criminal behavior and what makes effective crime policy. They learn how justice systems deter, control, and punish crime, and they understand the role of police, prosecutors, courts, defense attorneys, juries, and prisons in criminal justice outcomes.

The Criminal Justice major is divided into three components: a lower division 18 credit hour core that covers fundamentals and is consistent with Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) guidelines; an upper division 18 credit hour core; and six credit hours of elective requirements. The major includes a capstone senior seminar course designed to identify and analyze real-life issues facing criminal justice agencies, as well as techniques for developing and proposing solutions to constituents.

Requirements

The major is divided into three components: a lower division 15 credit hour core that serves as a basis for the fundamentals of criminal justice and is consistent with Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) guidelines; an upper division 18 credit hour core requirement; and a six credit hour criminal justice elective component. The major includes a capstone course designed to identify and analyze real-life issues facing criminal justice agencies, as well as techniques for developing and proposing solutions to constituents.

Grade of C- or higher required in all major courses.

Core Requirements, Lower Division (meets IAI guidelines)

CJL 200	INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE (IAI-CRJ901)	3
CJL 220	JUVENILE JUSTICE (IAI-CRJ914)	3
CJL 230	INTRODUCTION TO CORRECTIONS (IAI-CRJ911)	3
CJL 240	INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY (IAI-CRJ912)	3
CJL 250	CRIMINAL LAW (IAI-CRJ913)	3

Core Requirements, Upper Division

CJL 300	POLICE & SOCIETY	3
CJL 305	RESEARCH METHODS	3
CJL 310	ETHICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	3
CJL 330	CRIMINAL JUSTICE & THE CONSTITUTION	3
CJL 355	CRIME IN AMERICA	3
CJL 390	SENIOR SEMINAR	3

Electives

Select two of the following:		6
CJL 331	VICTIMOLOGY	
CJL 332	SERIAL AND MASS MURDER	
CJL 360	COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS	
CJL 365	WHITE COLLAR CRIME	
CJL 381	DEATH PENALTY IN AMERICA	

CJL 382	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION	
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CJL 389	SPECIAL TOPICS	
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Other Requirements

Functional area: Related courses in a discipline or interdisciplinary area selected in consultation with an advisor	18
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General Education

Additional courses must be selected from any area to complete the 120 hour degree requirement	63
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Total Credit Hours	120
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General Education Requirements

Academic Communities of Practice

ACP 101	FIRST YEAR SEMINAR (required for students who enter RU with fewer than 12 credit hours)	3
ACP 110	PRIMARY TEXTS	3
ACP 250	FOUNDATIONS FOR CHANGE	3

English Composition (minimum grade of C- required)

ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3

Humanities

Select nine credit hours total required from the following subject areas:	9
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African-American Studies

Art History

English (excluding 101 and 102)

History

Languages

Music

Philosophy

Theatre

Speech

Women's and Gender Studies

Mathematics

MATH 110	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY	3
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Natural Sciences

Select nine credit hours of the following:	9
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Astronomy

Biology

Chemistry

Earth Science

Environmental Science

Geology

MATH 116	FINITE MATHEMATICS (or higher)
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Physical Science

Physics

Sustainability

Social Sciences

Select nine credit hours total required from the following subject areas:	9
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African-American Studies

Anthropology	
Economics	
History	
Journalism	
Philosophy	
Political Science	
Psychology	
Sociology	
Women's and Gender Studies	
Total Credit Hours	45

These quantitative requirements also apply to this degree:

- Students may apply no more than 60 credit hours of 100-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must apply no fewer than 60 credit hours of 200- and 300-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must have at least 18 credit hours (of the 60 credit hours above) at the 300 level.
- Students may transfer in no more than 66 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students must take their final 30 credit hours at Roosevelt University.
- Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to graduate.

Year 1

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
ACP 101	3 ACP 110	3
ENG 101	3 ENG 102	3
CJL 200	3 CJL 220	3
Humanities #1	3 MATH 110	3
Social Science #1	3 Natural Science #1	3
	15	15

Year 2

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
ACP 250	3 CJL 230	3
CJL 240	3 CJL 250	3
Functional Area Course ⁵	3 General Elective ¹	3
Humanities #2	3 Humanities #3	3
Natural Science #2	3 Social Science #2	3
	15	15

Year 3

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
CJL 300	3 CJL 310	3
CJL 305	3 CJL 330	3
Functional Area Course ⁵	3 CJL 3XX ³	3
Natural Science #3	3 General Elective ¹	3
Social Science #3	3 General Elective ¹	3
	15	15

Year 4

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
CJL 355	3 CJL 390	3
CJL 3XX ³	3 Functional Area Course ⁵	3
Functional Area Course ⁵	3 General Elective ¹	3
Functional Area Course ⁵	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
	15	15

Total Credit Hours 120

- ¹ Or course towards an optional Minor.
- ² Any course at the 200 level within the discipline.
- ³ Any course at the 300 level within the discipline.
- ⁴ This requirement can be fulfilled by other requirements.
- ⁵ See advisor for coursework. A minor is suggested.