

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, BA

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.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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
CJL 389	SPECIAL TOPICS

General Education

Additional courses must be selected from any area to complete the 120 hour degree requirement	81
Total Credit Hours	120

CORE Requirements (General Education)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
First Year Success Course or Transfer Success Course		
FYS 101 or TRS 101	FIRST YEAR SUCCESS COURSE TRANSFER SUCCESS 101	1
Communication Requirement		
ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3
LIBS 201	WRITING SOCIAL JUSTICE (Transfer students with acceptable communication credit may be exempt from this requirement.)	3
Ideas Across Disciplines		
3 credits in coursework categorized as Ideas.		3
Humanities and Fine and Performing Arts		
9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Art History, English (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102), History, Languages, Music, Philosophy, Theatre, Speech and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Mathematics		
MATH 110	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (or above)	3
Science		
One biological science and one physical science required (at least one must be a four-hour lab). (Not applicable for science majors)		7-8
Social Sciences		
9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Experiential Learning		
6 credits from coursework categorized as Experiential Learning.		
Total Credit Hours		41-42

These quantitative requirements also apply to degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences:

- Students must earn a minimum of 120 semester hours.
- 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 70 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students must take their final 30 hours at Roosevelt University. Note that some majors have additional requirements for RU hours.
- Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to graduate. Note that some majors have additional GPA requirements.
- Students may apply no more than 51 hours in the major (BA) or 57 hours in the major (BS)

Year 1

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
FYS 101	1 Ideas Across Disciplines	3
ENG 101	3 ENG 102	3
CJL 200	3 CJL 220	3
Social Science #1	3 MATH 110	3
Humanities #1	3 BIOL 111 or 112 ⁴	4
Physical Science ⁴	3	
	16	16

Year 2

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
CJL 240	3 CJL 230	3
LIBS 201	3 CJL 250	3
Humanities #2	3 General Elective ¹	3
Social Science #2	3 Humanities #3	3
General Elective ¹	3 Social Science #3	3
	15	15

Year 3

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
CJL 300	3 CJL 310	3
CJL 305	3 CJL 330	3
Experiential Learning #1 ²	3 CJL 3XX ³	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	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 General Elective ¹	3
Experiential Learning #2 ²	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	1
	15	13

Total Credit Hours 120

¹ Or course towards an optional Minor.

² Experiential Learning class must be 200/300 level. Satisfies CORE Experiential Learning requirement. EXL courses can satisfy major requirements/electives or CORE requirement.

³ Any course at the 300 level within the discipline.

⁴ One Natural Science course must have a lab.