

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)

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| 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

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| 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

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| 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 | |

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| CJL 382 | CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION | |
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| CJL 389 | SPECIAL TOPICS | |
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Other Requirements

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

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| 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

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| 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)

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

Humanities

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| Select nine credit hours total required from the following subject areas: | 9 |
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| African-American Studies |
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| Art History |
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| English (excluding 101 and 102) |
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| History |
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| Languages |
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| Music |
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| Philosophy |
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| Theatre |
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| Speech |
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| Women's and Gender Studies |
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Mathematics

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| MATH 110 | QUANTITATIVE LITERACY | 3 |
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Natural Sciences

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| Select nine credit hours of the following: | 9 |
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| Astronomy |
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| Biology |
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| Chemistry |
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| Earth Science |
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| Environmental Science |
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| Geology |
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| MATH 116 | FINITE MATHEMATICS (or higher) |
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| Physical Science |
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| Physics |
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| Sustainability |
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Social Sciences

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