Criminal Studies

Recent Majors
Students interested in criminal studies have designed a variety of majors through the Individualized Major Program. Some recent titles include:

- Crime, Law, and Justice
- Crime, Justice, and Gender
- Criminal Behavior
- Crime, Law, and the Family

Required Courses
Your individualized major plan of study will consist of at least 36 credits of 2000-level or higher courses, 18 of which must be from the college granting your degree, and must include the following:

**Research Methods Course**
A research methods course will introduce you to how knowledge is produced and evaluated in a particular discipline. Choose one from an academic department that is integral to your major. Some examples include: SOCI 3201, HDFS 2004W, PSYC 2100WQ, or POLS 2072Q.

**Capstone**
UNIV 4600W Capstone Course, UNIV 4697W Senior Thesis, or an approved alternative.

**Writing Intensive Course**
A writing intensive course that is relevant to the major theme. This will normally be designated “W” in the course catalog and is in addition to the capstone.

We strongly recommend that you include an experiential learning component, such as an internship, research, or study abroad, in your plan of study.

Recommended Courses
The following courses included in the Crime and Justice minor are an excellent place to start:

- HDFS 3420 Abuse and Violence in Families
- HIST 2810 Crime, Policing, and Punishment in the US
- POLS 3827 Politics of Crime and Justice
- PSYC 2300 Abnormal Psychology
- SOCI 2301 Criminology
- SOCI 3311 Deviant Behavior
- SOCI 2310 Intro to Criminal Justice
- WGSS 2263 Women, Gender, and Violence

Prerequisites
Check the course catalog for the specific prerequisites for the courses in your plan of study. The following courses are almost always useful:

- PSYC 1100 General Psychology I and PSYC 1101 General Psychology II or PSYC 1103 General Psychology II (Enhanced) are required for upper-level Psychology courses.
- SOCI 1001 Introduction to Sociology or SOCI 1251 Social Problems, while not formal prerequisites, provide a good foundation in social issues related to crime.
Frequently Included Courses
Please note that this is not a complete list; you may find other relevant courses in the catalog. Please check Student Admin and consult with your faculty advisors to be sure that the courses you would like to include in your major will be taught in the upcoming semesters.

**AFRA**
- 3898 Special Topics: Prisons, Human Rights and Social Control
- 3898 Special Topics: Human Rights and Mass Incarceration in the US

**BADM**
- 3252 Corporate Social Impact and Responsibility
- 3720 Legal and Ethical Environment of Business

**HDFS**
- 2004W Research Methods in HDFS
- 2300 Family Interaction Processes
- 3319 Risk and Resilience in Individuals and Families
- 3340 Individual and Family Interventions
- 3520 Legal Aspects of Family Life
- 3540/W Child Welfare, Law and Social Policy

**HIST**
- 2810 Crime, Policing, and Punishment in the US *(taught at the Hartford campus in one 3-hour block per week)*

**HRTS**
- 2263 Women, Gender and Violence
- 3042 Theories of Human Rights
- 3055 Theory and Practice of International Criminal Justice
- 3421 Class, Power, and Inequality
- 3807 Constitutional Rights and Liberties
- 3831 Human Rights in the United States

**PHIL**
- 2215/W Ethics
- 2217 Social and Political Philosophy
- 3226 Philosophy of Law

**POLS**
- 2062 Privacy in the Information Age
- 2072Q Quantitative Analysis in Political Science
- 2998 Political Issues *(if a relevant issue)*
- 3042 Theories of Human Rights
- 3802 Constitutional Law
- 3807 Constitutional Rights and Liberties
- 3817 Law and Society
- 3827 Politics of Crime and Justice

**PSYC**
- 2100WQ Principles of Research in Psychology
- 2201 Drugs and Behavior
- 2300 Abnormal Psychology
- 2400 Developmental Psychology
- 2501 Cognitive Psychology
- 2700 Social Psychology
- 3103 Motivation and Emotion

**SOCI**
- 2301/W Criminology
- 2310 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- 3201 Methods of Social Research
- 3211Q Quantitative Methods of Social Research
- 3307 Drugs and Society
- 3421 Class, Power, and Inequality
- 3429/W Sociological Perspectives on Poverty
- 3501/W Ethnicity and Race
- 3823 Sociology of Law: Global and Comparative Perspectives
- 3831 Human Rights in the United States

**WGSS**
- 2263 Women, Gender, and Violence
- 3270 Masculinities