



DEGREE PLANNING GUIDE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Bachelor of Arts degree program in Criminal Justice is designed to provide education for students preparing for careers in the many fields of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, court administration, corrections, as well as preparation for law school and graduate studies. Classroom lectures are supplemented by a wide variety of internship opportunities and organizations for extracurricular development, such as Phi Alpha Delta (the National Undergraduate Pre-Law Fraternity) and Alpha Phi Sigma (the National Criminal Justice Academic Honors Society).

There are two general components of your degree program at St. Edward's: a general study of the liberal arts (this is required for all majors and is often referred to as the general education requirements), and an in-depth study of your major. A complete degree takes approximately 120 credit hours (about 40 courses). Almost half of your study will be in the general liberal arts area including English, math, science, and other courses outlined in the undergraduate bulletin, with the remainder of your program focused on your major field of study and its related courses and general electives. Electives are courses you choose because they interest you, strengthen your career preparation, or perhaps provide you with a secondary area of emphasis (a minor).

YOUR MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS This phase of your study will allow you to study your particular field of interest in-depth. Criminal Justice requires a minimum of 40 hours (14 courses) of study in that field. The program includes such courses as American Law Enforcement, Criminal Law I and II, American Court System, Constitutional Criminal Procedural Law, Criminology, Administration of Juvenile Justice, Corrections, Comparative Legal Systems, Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice, and other topics. General education and major courses span all four years of study. Sometimes there is a condition for taking a course called a prerequisite. It could be a requirement that you have had a previous course, junior standing, or some other condition. Complete description of all courses and their prerequisites are found in the University catalog.

HONORS Alpha Phi Sigma serves to recognize and promote high scholarship among students actively engaged in collegiate preparation for participation in the Criminal Justice professions. In order to be eligible for membership, you must have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and a 3.2 grade point average in Criminal Justice courses.

WHAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? No problem! Part of what college is about is a process to identify your area of interest. As long as that decision is made in the first two years, it is not likely to impact your degree program very much, as a good deal of your initial coursework is the area of general education, that body of courses common to all students regardless of major. After the first two years, a significant change in your major (for example, from accounting to philosophy) would lengthen your program. If you take five courses each semester, you will graduate in four years. It's unusual to do it much faster and not uncommon for it to take a little longer. It depends on how many courses you take each semester and if you enroll in summer(s).

PLANNING YOUR YEARS OF STUDY We want you to take an active role in planning your degree program. While there are a number of required courses, there are still decisions you will need to make. For example, which foreign language do you wish to study; which math classes do you want to choose to satisfy the math requirement; is there a particular religious study or philosophy course that appeals to you; what criminal justice electives do you want to take, etc.? Your advisor will help, but your planning and proactive involvement is critical.

SUGGESTED DEGREE PLAN FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRIJ)

FIRST FALL

FSTY 1310 Freshman Studies
FSTY 1311 Rhet & Comp I
MATH 1312 or higher
Modern Language
CRIJ 1302 Admin of Justice
15 hours

SECOND FALL

Oral Communication
CULF 1319 Und. & App Arts
CULF 2321 American Dilemmas
SOC1 1301 Self & Society
POLS 1305 Amer. Nat'l Gov't
15 hours

THIRD FALL

CULF 3330 Hist of Global Process
RELS/PHIL
SCIE 2320 Science in Persp
CRIJ 3323 Const'l Crim Proced
CRIJ/CRIM/FRSC 3/4xxx
15 hours

FOURTH FALL

CAPS 4360 Capstone
CRIJ 3313 Corrections
CRIM 3336 Criminology
CRIJ 4341 Compar Legal Syst
Elective
15 hours

FIRST SPRING

ENGW 1302 Rhet & Comp II
Modern Language
CULF 1318 Lit & Human Exper.
CULF 1320 American Experience
CRIJ 2328 American Law Enforcemt
15 hours

SECOND SPRING

Science in Depth
CRIJ 1306 Amer. Court System
CRIJ 1310 Criminal Law I
PSYC 2301 General Psychology
POLS 1306 State & Local Gov't
15 hours

THIRD SPRING

CULF 3331 Contemp World Issues
Ethics
CRIJ 3322 Juv.Delinq & Justice
CRIJ/CRIM/FRSC 3/4xxx
Elective
15 hours

FOURTH SPRING

Computational skills
CRIJ 4345 Contemp. Issues in CJ
CRIJ/CRIM/FRSC 3/4xxx
Elective
Elective
GDCT 4000.01* for Intent to graduate
15 hours

Note: You have some choices as to when you would like to take a particular course, particularly those under the General Education Requirement. Please consult the bulletin and your degree plan for prerequisite requirements.

**You must register for this course in the term you plan to graduate.
Failure to do so will result in you not being certified and not graduating.*