

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE-CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Texas A&M University-Texarkana offers a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Criminal Justice. Using research-based knowledge of crime, criminal justice, and society, our students have the opportunity to develop skills in analytical thinking, research, and writing that increase their value to current and future employers.

The BS-CJ degree is oriented to pre-service and in-service criminal justice employees, particularly those who wish to be promoted to supervisory and management roles, employed in state and federal agencies, or attend graduate school. Graduates of the program work at local, state, and federal agencies. Other students who commonly seek the BS-CJ are those with career interests in social service and rehabilitation organizations that are commonly adjuncts to the criminal justice system. Faculty will help students customize their degree plan based on the individual student's interests and goals. Students may specialize in interests such as law enforcement, community corrections, juvenile justice, pre-law, incarceration, management & leadership, human behavior, forensic science, social justice, or other areas.

Careers in Criminal Justice

- Police Officer
- Jail Officer
- Victim advocate
- Probation officer
- Investigator

The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (BS-CJ) is a 120-credit hour curriculum starting with a freshman Introduction to Criminal Justice that is integrated into your University Core curriculum then continuing with upper-division work beginning in your sophomore year.

Both transfer students and changes of major can transition smoothly into the "2+2" program design. Students may begin their college experience in virtually any degree program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana or at a community college before transferring to complete their 4-year degree in Criminal Justice. Full-time students with 60 hours creditable toward the degree can complete the degree in two years or less taking day, night, and web classes.

The goal of the criminal justice faculty is to enhance the value of our students as employees and citizens. We strive to increase the knowledge, skills, and abilities of current and future criminal justice employees, citizens, and leaders through an intellectually challenging curriculum examining problems of crime and justice through theory, observation, and analysis. Our students include pre-service and in-service criminal justice personnel, social service providers, and students working in the private sector. Our graduates are employed in local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies and a host of public and private organizations.

Degree Requirements

Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
Major Requirements		
	General Education Requirements (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)	42
CJ 300	Criminal Justice Career Exploration	3
CJ 430	Constitutional Issues: Rights of Accused and Convicted Offenders	3
CJ 454	Research Techniques in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 480	Criminological Theories	3
CJ 485	Seminar in Criminal Justice	3
Upper Division Criminal Justice Electives		15
Other Requirements		
CJ 1301	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
ENG 340	Advanced Expository Writing (EL)	3
ITED 350	Technology and Digital Literacy	3
Upper Division Electives		18
Upper Division or Lower Division Electives <small>to reach 120sch total</small>		21-24
A maximum of 21 semester credit hours Criminal Justice transfer curriculum could be used to meet degree requirements		
Minimum Hours for Degree		120

NOTE: A maximum of 21 semester credit hours of Criminal Justice transfer courses can be used to meet degree requirements. Excess hours will be excluded.

Note: A minimum of 54 upper division hours (300 and 400 level courses) are required for this degree. Resident credit totaling 25% of the hours is required for the degree. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in three areas for graduation: Overall GPA, Institutional GPA, and Major GPA.

Bachelor of Science-Criminal Justice

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First Year

Code	Title	Hours
		Semester Credit Hours
Fall		
ENGL 1301	Composition I Minimum grade of 'C' required, Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
Mathematics Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
HIST 1301	United States History I satisfies Core Curriculum	3
Creative Arts Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
CJ 1301	Introduction to Criminal Justice Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
UNIV 1100	University Foundations	1
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring		
ENGL 1302	Composition II Minimum grade of 'C' required, Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
or ENGL 2311	Technical Writing & Communication	
HIST 1302	United States History II Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
Language, Philosophy and Culture Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
or MCOM 1307	Introduction to Mass Communication	
Component Area Option B of the Core Curriculum (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Total First Year Semester Credit Hours		31

Second Year

Code	Title	Hours
		Semester Credit Hours
Fall		
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3-4
PSCI 2305	U.S. Government and Politics	3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15-16
Spring		
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3-4
PSCI 2306	State and Local Government	3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15-16
Total Second Year Semester Credit Hours		30-32

Third Year

Code	Title	Hours
		Semester
		Credit
		Hours
Fall		
ENG 340	Advanced Expository Writing (EL)	3
CJ 430	Constitutional Issues: Rights of Accused and Convicted Offenders	3
CJ 454	Research Techniques in Criminal Justice	3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
ITED 350	Technology and Digital Literacy	3
CJ 480	Criminological Theories	3
Upper Division Criminal Justice Elective (300-400 level)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Summer		
CJ 485	Seminar in Criminal Justice	3
Summer Total Semester Credit Hours		3
Total Third Year Semester Credit Hours		33

Fourth Year

Code	Title	Hours
		Semester
		Credit
		Hours
Fall		
CJ 400	Internship (EL)	3-9
Criminal Justice Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Criminal Justice Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 Elective)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 Elective)		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
Criminal Justice Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Criminal Justice Upper Division Elective (300-400 level)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 Elective)		3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 Elective)		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		12
Total Fourth Year Semester Credit Hours		27
Minimum Hours for Degree		120

NOTE: A maximum of 21 semester credit hours of Criminal Justice transfer courses can be used to meet degree requirements. Excess hours will be excluded.

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