

Criminology

Faculty: Leigey Chair; Becker, Holleran, Mazeika, Mitchell

The Bachelor of Arts program in criminology is designed to enhance students' understanding of how crime is defined, analyzed, and addressed in policy and practice. Through the multidisciplinary exploration of theory and research, students understand crime as a social phenomenon and convey it through an inclusive exchange of perspectives. With an individualized, collaborative approach to learning within and beyond the classroom, students are prepared for professional success.

The department seeks to achieve this mission through its curriculum that emphasizes the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills with respect to each of the following: 1) the structure and organizational behaviors of the justice system; 2) the theories underpinning normative socialization and both formal and informal social control; 3) the roles police, courts, corrections, and laws and policies play in contributing to social control; 4) macro and micro level criminology theories regarding the etiology of crime, criminality, and delinquency; 5) the measurement, detection, and prevention of crime, criminality, and delinquency; 6) the research, planning, and evaluation methods used to expand knowledge in the field; 7) the international variations on criminal justice systems and social control and comparative criminology; 8) the development and refinement of communication skills both orally and in writing with particular emphasis on persuasive argumentation supported by logic and scholarly research; and 9) the application of knowledge and skills in ways that promote active leadership in governmental agencies, academia, and research.

Students who successfully complete the required curriculum in the Department of Criminology receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

Requirements for the Major

Twelve course units in criminology including: CRI 100, 200, 201, or 202, 205, 215 or 217, 306, 499, and six electives (four at the 300-level or higher) . Students must also take one course unit of statistics, specifically STA 115 (or STA 215).

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for the Department of Criminology.

- Transfer into the program from another program within the College is based upon the following performance standards: successful completion of CRI 100 and STA 115 or STA 215.
- Graduation requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in courses for the program.

Students should always consult their advisers when planning courses for future years. Also supplements to this online bulletin will be available on an ongoing basis.

Four Year Suggested Sequence: 32 Total Course Units

First Year:

FYS	First Year Seminar	1 course unit
HSS	099/Orientation to Humanities and Social Sciences	0 course unit
CRI	100/ Intro to Criminology	1 course unit
CRI	200, 201, or 202	1 course unit
FYW	102/Academic Writing*	1 course unit
STA	115/Statistics	1 course unit
	Second Language**	2 course units
	Liberal Learning	1 course unit
Total		8 course units

* Course required unless exempt

**Course required unless exempt. Intensive language courses carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a typical four-unit semester.

Second Year:

CRI	Elective	1 course unit
CRI	Elective	1 course unit
CRI	205/Criminology	1 course unit
CRI	215/Data Management and Analysis or CRI 217 Introduction to Crime Mapping	1 course unit
	Second Language	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning	3 course units
Total		8 course units

Third Year:

CRI	Elective	1 course unit
CRI	306/Research Methods	1 course unit
CRI	Elective	1 course unit
	Liberal Learning	2 course units
	Electives	3 course units
Total		8 course units

Fourth Year:

CRI	499/Senior Capstone	1 course unit
CRI	Elective	2 course units
	Liberal Learning	3 course units
	Electives	2 course units
Total		8 course units

Graduate and Legal Studies

Traditionally, the department has had a significant number of its majors apply for and be accepted into graduate or law school. As a result, members of the faculty have been assigned to seek out, identify, and mentor students (both majors and minors) who indicate an interest in graduate studies or law school.

Internships in Criminology

The department has a dynamic internship program for majors and minors. The program matches each student's internship interest with a field placement. In addition to the work-site activities as an intern, students are required to complete a graded research paper. Typical internship sites are the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, the Mercer County Prosecutor's and Public Defender's Office, federal and state law enforcement agencies, and local non-profit organizations .

CRI 399/Internship in Criminology may be taken after students have completed 3 course units at TCNJ and meet the other requirements for an internship (i.e., a 2.0 GPA).

Double Majoring in Criminology and Philosophy

Students may pursue a double major between Criminology (CRI) and Philosophy (PHI). In doing so, a maximum of **three courses total** can be double counted between the two majors.

Toward completion of the Philosophy Major, students may take in place of the CRI option electives up to **two** of the following:

- PHL 135/Contemporary Moral Issues
- PHL 275/Philosophy of Law
- PHL 350/Ethical Theory
- PHL 375/Law and Ethics
- PHL 430/Advanced Ethics

Toward completion of the Criminology Major, students may take in place of PHL electives up to **two** of the following:

- CRI 201/Judicature
- CRI 202/Penology
- CRI 256/Women in the Criminal Justice System
- CRI 301/Criminal Law and Procedure
- CRI 352/Race, Crime, and Justice

Criminology Minor

Students participating in the department's minor are required to take the following:

CRI 100/ Intro to Criminology	1 course unit
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In addition, any other four 200, 300, or 400 level Criminology courses, at least two of which must be at the 300 or 400 level.

Note: Students will be required to receive permission from the department chairperson to participate in the minor and must submit appropriate declaration forms to the Office of Records and Registration.

Quantitative Criminology Minor

Coordinator: David Holleran

Sponsoring Department: Criminology

To enter the minor, the student must satisfy the following prerequisites:

- One semester of Calculus (MAT 125 or MAT 127)
- One semester of Criminology (CRI 205)

For students who are statistics majors

Students will be able to double-count STA 305 since this is required in the Statistics major. They will then take four courses from the five in Group B.

For students who are criminology majors

Students will be required to take MAT 125 and the requirements listed in Group A.

For students who are mathematics majors

Students must choose at least two courses from both Groups A and B, and five courses in total.

For students in other majors

Selections from Groups A and B as advised by Dr. David Holleran in the Department of Criminology.

TCNJ policy on minors: Five courses are required for a minor. Only one course taken as a part of the student's major may also be counted toward the student's minor.

Courses for the Minor

The courses for the minor are organized into two groups (Group A and Group B).

Group A:

STA 215/Statistics
 STA 305/Regression Analysis
 STA any three courses at the 300 level/400 level

Group B:

CRI 215/Data Management and Analysis
 CRI 217/Introduction to Crime Mapping
 CRI 306/Research Methods
 CRI Elective (1 unit at the 300/400 level with the exception of CRI 301)
 CRI 499/Senior Capstone in Policy Analysis

Note: Students will be required to receive permission from the department chairperson to participate in the minor and must submit appropriate declaration forms to the Office of Records and Registration. Students will also be required to meet with Dr. David Holleran (Criminology) to discuss course sequencing for the minor.

Departmental Honors

Majors who earn departmental honors in Criminology conduct original research and write a thesis of at least 35 pages. Each semester, honors applications will be distributed to eligible majors. Eligibility criteria include senior standing and a 3.5 grade point average in the major and overall. The honors course sequence is two courses, CRI 495 Department Honors Thesis I and CRI 496, Department Honors Thesis II, taken in consecutive semesters. With special permission from the department honors committee, a student could begin the sequence in the second semester of his or her junior year.

To apply for departmental honors, students must obtain a faculty member in the department who will serve as the project's faculty sponsor and complete the department honors application. The required elements of the application include: a preliminary title of the proposed project, a research proposal, a schedule for completion, and the name and signature of the faculty sponsor. The department honors committee, composed of all tenure-track faculty in the Department of Criminology, will review submitted applications and notify selected students of admission into the departmental honors program.

In order to achieve departmental honors, students will be required to complete all of the following:

- Completion of CRI 495 and CRI 496 with a grade of a B or higher
- Maintenance of a 3.5 GPA in the major and overall
- Submission of a completed thesis to the department honors committee prior to the end of Week 13 of the semester
- An oral presentation at either the fall or spring Celebration of Student Achievement
- A successful private defense of the thesis to a faculty committee composed of the faculty sponsor and two other department faculty in Week 14 or Week 15 of the semester.