

Criminology

Faculty: Mazeika, *Chair:* Becker, Holleran, Leigey, Mitchell, Ortiz

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.

Upon successful completion of the major, students will demonstrate enhanced awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the relationship between race, ethnicity, class, gender, and other identities and how they intersect with community level factors to shape criminological theory, and the social construction of crime, criminality, delinquency, and victimization. Additionally, they will examine various data sources and analytical techniques and how they are used to produce empirical research and evaluation methods to expand knowledge in the discipline and inform policies, laws, and practices with close attention to their ethical and social justice implications. Students will also acquire knowledge of and systematically investigate the structures and functionings of the various institutions and organizations that comprise of and collaborate with the criminal justice system and how they contribute to social and legal injustice, including conditions of oppression and exploitation. They will identify and critically evaluate how historical and contemporary ideological, social, political, and fiscal forces shape relevant practices, policies, and laws, and their consequences, and areas of criminal justice reform. Lastly, students will develop oral and written communication skills with particular emphasis on the utilization of empirical research to demonstrate an understanding of the criminal justice apparatus and humanize the individuals, families, and communities it impacts.

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: four required courses (CRI 100, 205, 306, and 499), an institution elective (CRI 200, 201, or 202), a technology methods option (CRI 315, 317, or 319 Qualitative Research) and six electives (four at the 300-level or higher). Students must also take one course to fulfill the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion requirement and one AAS/CRI cross-listed course (completing CRI 352 or CRI 363 will fulfill both the DEI and the AAS/CRI elective requirements). One unit of a statistics correlate requirement satisfied by STA 115 or STA 145 (preferred) 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.
- 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

Note that all students need 30 units to graduate, therefore students should craft course progressions that will ensure that they reach this threshold. Repeated courses only count once toward graduation.

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
STA 115/145 (preferred)/215	1 course unit
Foreign Language*	2 course units
College Core	2 course units
Total	7-8 course units

**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 306/Research Methods	1 course unit
Foreign Language	1 course unit
College Core	3 course units
Total	7-8 course units

Third Year:

CRI Elective	1 course unit
CRI Tech Option (CRI 315 or 317, or 370 Qual Research)	1 course unit
CRI Elective	1 course unit
College Core	2 course units

Electives	3 course units
Total	7-8 course units

Fourth Year:

CRI 499/Senior Capstone	1 course unit
CRI Elective	2 course units
College Core	3 course units
Electives	2 course units
Total	7-8 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 include federal, state, and local government agencies and 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/Gender and the Criminal Legal System
CRI 301/Criminal Law and Procedure
CRI 352/Race, Crime, and Justice

Students can also double major in psychology, political science, sociology, and nearly any other major of interest.

Criminology Minor

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

CRI 100/ Intro to Criminology 1 course unit

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 315/Data Management and Analysis

CRI 317/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.