Curriculum Guide

B.S. Criminal Justice

2023-24

WEBSITE
https://www.swau.edu/HisSoc

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL
Chair
Steve Jones, Ph.D.
Faculty
Elizabeth Bowser, M.A.
Adjunct
Randal Butler, Ph.D.
Karen Kaiser, Ph.D.
Chloe Northrop, Ph. D.
Craig Huskey, M.A.
Willie Kingren, M.A.
Rob Severance, M.A.

LOCATION
Pechero Hall

CONTACT
admissions@swau.edu
joness@swau.edu
(817) 202-6263

The Criminal Justice program seeks to prepare majors for a variety of careers by fostering the knowledge and skills needed to be successful broadly in the field as well as the flexibility and depth needed for success in individual positions. Public sector opportunities such as law enforcement – at the community, state, national or international level – encompass uniquely meaningful and engaging ways to serve the common good, strengthen society, and provide compassionate support for individuals. Employment in the public sector offers positive personal incentives as well, as law enforcement and public safety positions generally offer stability, decent pay, decent benefits, and retirement.

Job Market

While criminal justice graduates often enter the workforce as police officers, the prospects for expanded opportunities are vast. A criminal justice degree can also prepare a student for careers in, probation, asset management, crime scene investigation, corporate security, corrections administration, federal protective services, or corporate loss prevention. Additional education may be required for some career paths. A criminal justice degree can also serve as a pre-law degree and the basis of a criminal law career.

Job Outlook

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics expects employment for people with criminal justice degrees to increase by 7% yearly through 2026. There are currently almost 810,000 jobs in criminal justice in the United States. The continued need for public safety is expected to lead to new openings for criminal justice graduates, although demand may vary by location.

Earnings

Earnings will vary by job and region. Entry pay for criminal justice officers is expected to be $50,000 to $54,000. Bureau of Labor reports for median pay in advanced criminal justice positions includes: criminal justice officers in the federal government, $84,660; detectives and criminal investigators, $79,970; police and sheriff's patrol officers, $61,050. Bilingual officers are especially sought after, and some police departments offer extra pay for bilingual abilities.

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRIJ 116	Juvenile Delinquency	3
CRIJ 120	Crime in America	3
CRIJ 220	Community Policing	3
CRIJ 231	Community Corrections	3
CRIJ 310	Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement	3
CRIJ 311	Criminal Investigations	3
CRIJ 325	Criminology	3
CRIJ 430	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
CRIJ 434	Criminal Justice Administration and Management	3
HIST 338	History of Terrorism in the United States	3
HIST 425	Executive Leadership	3
POLS 110	Court Systems and Practices	3
POLS 211	National and Texas Constitutions	3
POLS 315	Political Thought	3
	Sub-Total Credits	45

Required Cognates

Item #	Title	Credits
PSYC 212	General Psychology	3
SOCI 111	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Sub-Total Credits	6

Sample 4 Year Curriculum

General Education Requirements
To view general education requirements for this major please visit: https://catalog.swau.edu/core-curriculum-for-a-bachelors-degree

First Year First Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
ENGL 121	Freshman Composition	3
HIST 111	United States History to 1865	3
	Mathematics GE Curriculum Guide	3
POLS 110	Court Systems and Practices	3
	Sub-Total Credits	15

First Year Second Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 116	Juvenile Delinquency	3
CRIJ 120	Crime in America	3
HIST 112	United States History from 1865	3
	Religion GE Requirement	3
UNIV 111	Wellness for Life	2
	Sub-Total Credits	14

Second Year First Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 130	Fundamentals of Criminal Law	3
ENGL 220	Research Writing	3
	Life and Physical Science GE Requirement	4
POLS 211	National and Texas Constitutions	3
	Religion GE Requirement	3
	Sub-Total Credits	16

Second Year Second Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
COMM 111	Speech	3
CRIJ 220	Community Policing	3
CRIJ 231	Community Corrections	3
	Elective Course for 120	3
	Kinesiology GE Requirement	1
SOCI 111	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Sub-Total Credits	16

Third Year First Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 310	Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement	3
CRIJ 311	Criminal Investigations	3
	Literature GE Requirement	3
PSYC 212	General Psychology	3
	Religion GE Requirement	3
	Sub-Total Credits	15

Third Year Second Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 325	Criminology	3
CRIJ 430	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3
	Elective Course for 120	3
	Fine Arts GE Requirement	3
	Life and Physical Science GE Requirement	4
	Sub-Total Credits	16

Fourth Year First Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
	Elective Course for 120	3
HIST 338	History of Terrorism in the United States	3
	Kinesiology GE Requirement	1
POLS 364	American Constitutional Development	3
	Religion GE Requirement	3
	Sub-Total Credits	13

Fourth Year Second Semester

Item #	Title	Credits
CRIJ 434	Criminal Justice Administration and Management	3
	Elective Course for 120	3
	Elective Course for 120	3
	Elective Course for 120	3
HIST 425	Executive Leadership	3
	Sub-Total Credits	15