

CRIMINOLOGY (BA)

Criminology is an interdisciplinary social science that studies the causes of crime and delinquency, analyzes crime patterns, and critically examines the origins and functions of criminal law and the criminal justice system. The Criminology Program at Benedictine College, housed in the Department of Sociology and Criminology, provides students with a rigorous introduction to the methods and materials of contemporary criminological inquiry, including classical and contemporary theories of crime and criminality, methods of theory testing and data analysis, and public policy issues related to crime prevention, control, and punishment. Students who successfully complete the program requirements will be well prepared for graduate and professional school, and will have the critical thinking and communication skills necessary for postbaccalaureate training as criminal justice practitioners.

Although the criminology program at Benedictine College is more aligned with the liberal arts pillar of the college than it is with training students for careers in criminal justice, direct contact and experience with criminal justice agencies is available through internship placements.

Program Mission

The mission of the Criminology Program is to provide students, within a community of faith and scholarship, with the theoretical and practical tools necessary to engage in and investigate the social world, to develop a working knowledge of criminological concepts, and to evaluate programs and resolve social problems by applying a criminological perspective.

Program Outcomes

1. Graduates will have familiarity with classical and contemporary criminological theory.
2. Graduates will possess the ability to use and interpret qualitative and quantitative data and conduct social scientific research.
3. Graduates will exhibit awareness of major social issues in modern life and the ability to view these issues from a criminological perspective.
4. Graduates will know the institutional context surrounding the lived experiences of diverse populations included, but not limited to, how these experiences differ in contemporary societies by class, race, and gender.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
CRIM-1000	Introduction to Crime & Justice	3
CRIM-3100	Theories of Crime & Deviance	3
SOCI-3155	Research Design for Sociology & Criminology	3
CRIM-4790	Criminology Internship ¹	3
CRIM-COMP	Senior Comprehensive Exam	0
MATH-1220	Introductory Statistics	4
THEO-2000	Christian Moral Life	3
or PHIL-3250	Ethics	
Students must select one of the following courses in applied research methods:		3
CRIM-3200	Crime Analysis ²	
SOCI-4175	Seminar in Social Research I (or another course approved by the department chair)	

Criminology Electives

Select 15 credit hour of the following:		15
CRIM-prefix courses outside of the core requirements ³		
CRIM-3000	Criminal Law	
CRIM-3220	Religion & Crime	
CRIM-3200	Crime Analysis ⁴	
CRIM-3225	Criminal Investigations	
CRIM-3250	Policing in America	
CRIM-3300	Juvenile Delinquency	
CRIM-3400	The Corrections System	
CRIM-4200	Crime & Place	

Allied and Skills Electives

Select 15 credit hours ⁵		15
Options		
Select one of the following:		15
Option 1		
Option 2		

Total Hours 67

¹ CRIM-4780 Experiential Learning Activity, a not-for-credit option is available as an alternative to the for-credit version.

² If not used as a criminology elective.

³ Including pilot and test courses (i.e., CRIM-3770 Pilot Testing Course and CRIM-4770 Pilot Testing Course)

⁴ If not used as a core requirement; see options above.

⁵ Allied and skills electives are defined as

1. selected upper-division courses from sociology, psychology, political science, and other allied fields and
2. skills-related coursework in modern foreign language, business, mass communication, and the sciences.

Course substitutions (Option 1 only) are at the discretion of the department chair.

Option 1

Code	Title	Hours
Select five courses of the following:		15
MGMT-3500	Organizational Behavior & Theory	
PHIL-3550	Political Philosophy	
PHIL-4410	Social Ethics	
PHIL-4550	Advanced Logic	
PHIL-4860	Philosophy of Law	
PSYC-3901	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYC-4502	Psychology & Law	
PSYC-4820	Social Psychology	
POLS-3750	American Constitutional Development	
POLS-3760	Fundamental Freedoms: First Amendment	
POLS-3765	Civil Rights: 14th Amendment	
POLS-4600	Public Administration	
SOCI-3205	Marriage & the Family	
SOCI-3250	Race & Ethnicity	
SOCI-3270	Social Stratification	
SOCI-3305	Population & Society	

SOCI-4305	Urban Sociology	
Total Hours		15

Option 2

Code	Title	Hours
Complete one of the following minors:		15
	Accounting	
	Computer Science	
	Journalism and Mass Communications	
	Mathematics	
	Philosophy	
	Political Science	
	Psychology	
	Spanish	
Total Hours		15

Additional Requirements

1. No grade lower than C– in a core requirement or criminology elective course may be used toward the Criminology major.
2. No grade lower than C– can be used toward the Criminology minor.
3. Transfer students majoring in Criminology must take a minimum of 40% of the coursework required for the major at Benedictine College.
4. Transfer students pursuing a minor in Criminology must take a minimum 50% of the coursework required for the minor at Benedictine College.

Suggested Sequence of Courses for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology

This eight-semester plan includes only the broad outlines within which programming can be arranged and adapted to the student’s individualized needs and plans. It is expected that a major program will be planned by the student with his or her advisor and/or the department chair and that of the electives; several will be in the field of sociology.

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
First Semester		
ENGL-1010	English Composition	3
	Foreign Language	4
THEO-1100	Introduction to Theology	3
GNST-1000	BC Experience	1
EXSC-1115	Wellness for Life	1
CRIM-1000	Introduction to Crime & Justice	3
	Historical Inquiry Foundation	3
Hours		18
Second Semester		
PHIL-1750	Principles of Nature	3
	Foreign Language	4
	Aesthetic Foundation	3
	Understanding the Natural World Foundation	4
	Historical Foundation	3
Hours		17

Sophomore Year

First Semester		
	CRIM Elective	3
	Aesthetic Experience	3
	Faith Foundation	3
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	6
	EXSC Fitness Course	1
Hours		16

Second Semester		
CRIM-3100	Theories of Crime & Deviance	3
NASC-2300	World Regional Geography	3
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	6
MATH-1220	Introductory Statistics	4
Hours		16

Junior Year

First Semester		
	Faith Foundation	3
	Philosophical Inquiry Foundation	3
SOCI-3155	Research Design for Sociology & Crimin	3
	CRIM Elective	3
	CRIM Allied and Skills Electives	3
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	3
Hours		18

Second Semester		
PHIL-3250	Ethics	3
	CRIM Elective	3
	CRIM Allied and Skills Electives	3
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	6
Hours		15

Senior Year

First Semester		
CRIM-COMP	Senior Comprehensive Exam	0
CRIM-4790	Criminology Internship	3
	CRIM Elective	6
	CRIM Allied and Skills Electives	3
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	3
Hours		15

Second Semester		
	CRIM Elective	3
	CRIM Allied and Skills Electives	6
	Skills and Perspectives or Electives	3
	Second Course in Research Methods	3
Hours		15

Total Hours		130
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