

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, BA

Introduction

Please click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/>) to see School of Public Affairs information.

The School of Public Affairs' Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (BACJ) program is designed for students who are interested in studying the American criminal justice system. Coursework in the major includes the complex nature of crime causation; the history, framework, and operations of criminal justice organizations; the implications of public policies related to crime and justice; and special topics such as capital punishment, victimology, race and crime, and community corrections. Students also receive rigorous training in research methods and statistics, allowing them to understand how to frame important questions and become critical consumers of information. Students may choose to concentrate their electives in Law Enforcement (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/criminal-justice-law-enforcement-concentration-ba/#text>), Victims and Victim Services (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/public-affairs/criminal-justice-victims-victim-services-concentration-ba/>), or they may use electives to study other criminal justice-related topics.

As with all undergraduate degrees at CU Denver, BACJ students will also complete the requirements of the CU Denver core curriculum, ensuring that they have a well-rounded liberal arts education. The critical thinking skills provided by the degree are important to any future career path, but BACJ students are particularly well-prepared for careers in criminal justice organizations such as local, state, and federal law enforcement and criminal justice agencies and in nonprofit organizations working with people and communities affected by crime. Many graduates pursue advanced degrees in law, criminal justice, and related fields.

Program Delivery

- Courses are offered on campus, online, and in remote and hybrid formats.

Declaring This Major

- Please contact spa.advising@ucdenver.edu
- Click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/records-registration/registration/declare-change-major-minor/>) to go to information about declaring a major.

General Requirements

To earn a degree, students must satisfy all requirements in each of the areas below, in addition to their individual major requirements.

- CU Denver Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/graduation/general-graduation-requirements/>)
- CU Denver Undergraduate Core Curriculum (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/graduation-undergraduate-core-requirements/>)

- School of Public Affairs Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/schools-colleges-departments/school-public-affairs/#graduationrequirementstext>)
- Click here (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/>) for information about Academic Policies

Program Requirements

1. The Bachelors of Arts in Criminal Justice degree requires 39 credit hours of coursework. Students must complete a minimum of 45 upper-division credit hours, 21 of which must be Criminal Justice credit hours.
2. A maximum of 15 transfer credits may be applied to the major. Transfer Criminal Justice credits above the 15 credits already applied to the major will count as general electives. CRJU courses taken from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs are not subject to this transfer credit limit for the major.
3. Students must receive a minimum C- grade in each undergraduate course applied to satisfy major or minor degree requirements and must maintain a 2.0 GPA overall in major or minor courses.

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
CRJU 1000	Criminology and Criminal Justice: An Overview	3
CRJU 2041	Criminological Theory	3
CRJU 3100	Research Methods	3
CRJU 3150	Statistics for Criminal Justice ¹	3
CRJU 4042	Corrections	3
CRJU 4043	Law Enforcement	3
CRJU 4044	Courts and Judicial Process	3
SOCY 1001	Understanding the Social World ²	3
Elective Courses		
Select 15 credit hours of Elective Courses from the list (p. 1)		15
Total Hours		39

¹ Students must successfully pass CRJU 3100 Research Methods with a C- or better before taking CRJU 3150 Statistics for Criminal Justice

² This class also fulfills a Social Science requirement of the CU Denver core curriculum

Elective Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Required Elective		
CRJU 4939	Internship ¹	1-9
Other Electives ²		
ANTH 4090	Drug Syndemic	3
CHEM 1494	Forensic Chemistry	4
COMM 3231	Famous U.S. Trials	3
COMM 4040	Communication, Prisons, and Social Justice	3
COMM 4265	Gender and Communication	3
COMM 4750	Legal Reasoning and Writing	3
HDFR 4075	Family Policy & Law	3

HIST 4308	Crime, Policing, and Justice in American History	3
ECON 3300	Economics of Crime and Punishment	3
PSCI 3034	Race, Gender, Law and Public Policy	3
PSCI 4124	Denver Politics	3
PSCI 4185	Corruption in the U.S. and Abroad	3
PSCI 4216	International Politics: Human Rights	3
PSCI 4237	American National Security	3
PSCI 4240	International Security	3
PSCI 4280	The Politics of War Law	3
PSCI 4427	Law, Politics and Justice	3
PSCI 4477	Constitutional Law I	3
PSCI 4487	Constitutional Law II	3
PSCI 4494	Judicial Politics	3
PSCI 4545	Immigration Politics	3
PSCI 4837	Contemporary Issues in Civil Liberties	3
PSYC 3205	Human Development I: Child Psychology	3
PSYC 3215	Human Development II: Adolescence and Adulthood	3
PSYC 3265	Drugs, Brain and Behavior	3
PSYC 3305	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 3505	Psychology and the Law	3
PSYC 3612	Domestic Abuse	3
SOCY 2462	Introduction to Social Psychology	3
SOCY 3020	Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.	3
SOCY 3040	Drugs, Alcohol & Society	3
SOCY 3490	Criminology	3
SOCY 3700	Families and Society	3
SOCY 4340	Juvenile Delinquency	3
SOCY 4440	Poverty and Social Inequality	3
SOCY 4460	Hate Groups and Group Violence	3
SOCY 4700	Sociology of Law	3
SOCY 4770	Advanced Topics in Sociology	3
PSCI 4807	Political Violence	3
PSCI 4827	Women and the Law	3
SOCY 4780	Violence in Relationships	3

See advisor for recent additions to the list.

¹ CRJU 4939 Internship is required as one of the electives for the major unless officially waived by the BACJ Program Director. The internship is a minimum of 3 credit hours. Students who have previous full-time, professional work experience in the criminal justice field may request a waiver of the internship requirement. Students whose internship waivers are approved will take a 3-credit-hour Criminal Justice elective in place of a 3-credit-hour internship. Students should direct questions and concerns to their Academic Advisor. See SPA Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-denver/undergraduate/graduation-undergraduate-core-requirements/graduation-requirements/school-public-affairs/>) for more information.

² Students must complete 15 credit hours of electives, 9 of which must be Criminal Justice courses offered by the School of Public Affairs, and 6 of which may be taken from the approved list of other department courses. Students must comply with departmental prerequisites. Other electives not already listed may be considered, but the student must receive approval from the academic advisor prior to enrollment.

To review the Degree Map for this program, please visit our website. (<https://www.ucdenver.edu/student/advising/undergraduate/degree-maps/spa/>)