

# BS in Criminal and Justice Studies

- Degree Program Description (p. 1)
- Major Program Requirements (p. 1)
- Semester Plan (p. 1)
- Degree Audit (p. 2)
- Major and Career Exploration (p. 2)

## Degree Program Description

The criminal-legal system affects millions of people in the US. Criminal and juvenile justice, forensic psychology, and other interdisciplinary fields rooted in the Progressive Era, during which the fields of sociology and criminology, as well as the profession of social work, emerged. At the time, deepening understanding of the interplay of behavior, development, family/community contexts, and legal policy led to innovations like probation, juvenile courts, and community-based interventions. Later in the 20th century, policy and practice was rehabilitative and more punitive creating high incarceration rates/costs. The criminal-legal system is now facing tremendous change. High costs of maintaining prisons/jails and a broader understanding of substance abuse and mental health treatment's role in limiting recidivism have combined to drive states/municipalities to reconsider traditional approaches to criminal justice. Responses increasingly emphasize community-based efforts, assistance with reentry, and attention to mental health needs.

The BS in Criminal & Justice Studies degree is responsive to these changes. It provides critical foundational knowledge about the adult criminal-legal system and juvenile justice system including theory, key policy, and cutting-edge research on delinquency and desistance. Theories and research on the intersections of substance use, mental illness, poverty, community surveillance, and crime are interrogated. Coursework also includes contemporary approaches to the prevention and treatment of crime that rely on multi-system (macro, mezzo, micro) and community-based approaches used in the criminal-legal field. A core component of the curriculum includes experiential learning through internships, study abroad, and/or service learning.

## Major Program Requirements

Requires 120 credit hours for completion. A grade of C or higher is required for CJS Program, Core, and Electives courses.

### Program Requirements

COMMUN 1200 or AGSC_COM 2220	Public Speaking Verbal Communication in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	3
STAT 1200 or STAT 2500 or ESC_PS 4170	Introductory Statistical Reasoning Introduction to Probability and Statistics I Introduction to Applied Statistics	3
<b>Required Core Courses *</b>		
SOC_WK 1200	Criminal Justice	3
SOC_WK 2000	Exploration in Social and Economic Justice	3
SOC_WK 4370	Delinquency, Corrections and Social Treatment	3
SOCIO 3600	Criminology	3

BL_STU 4303	Black Studies in Race, Class, Gender, and U.S. Policy	3
<b>CJS Electives (6 hours required)</b>		<b>6</b>
ANTHRO 2520	Forensic Anthropology	3
H_D_FS 4200	Latino/a Children, Youth, and Families	3
HIST 4232	White Collar and Celebrity Crime in 20th and 21st Century America	3
HIST 4235	The Wire: Race, Urban Inequality, and the "Crisis" of the American City	3
HIST 4400	History of American Law	3
LAW 1100	Cases and Controversies in American Law	3
LAW 2001	Topics in Law - General	1-3
LAW 2010	Law of the Internet	3
LAW 3800	Logical Reasoning and Legal Analysis	3
LAW 4001	Topics in Law - General	1-3
POL_SC 2100	State Government	3
POL_SC 2200	The Judicial Process	3
POL_SC 4210	Constitutional Rights	3
POL_SC 4230	Constitution and Civil Liberties	3
POL_SC 4380	Politics of Criminal Justice	3
PTH_AS 4220W	Forensic Pathology and Death Investigation - Writing Intensive	2
SOC_WK 4400	Domestic Violence	3
SOC_WK 4410	Social Welfare and the Law	3
SOCIO 1650	Social Deviance	3
SOCIO 2200	Social Inequalities	3
SOCIO 4620	Drugs and Society	3
WGST 3260	Gender, Law and Justice	3

\* Courses within the program are underdevelopment and courses will be added as they are approved. This includes a minimum 15 hours of new CJS coursework that will be required for degree completion.

## Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available and chosen program modality.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
STAT 1200		3 CJS 2000W (writing intensive)	3
CJS 1200		3 HIST 1100, 1200, or POL_SC 1100	3
ENGLISH 1000		3 Elective	3
Humanities		3 Elective	3
Intro. to CJS (CJS)		1 Bio/Phys/Math Science	3
SSC 1150		2	
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOCIO 3600		3 Skills for Public Safety Professionals (CJS)	3
2000-level Humanities		3 Bio/Phys/Math Science	3
Bio/Phys Science with Lab		3 COMMUN 1200	3
Elective		3 Elective	3

Elective	3	Elective	3
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Third Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>CR</b>
Criminal Justice Policy Analysis and Reform (WI) (CJS)	3	CJS 4370	3
Approved CJS Elective	3	Approved CJS Elective	3
BL_STU 4303	3	Substance Use and Mental Health Treatment for Justice Involved Populations (CJS)	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>CR</b>
Experiential Learning (CJS)	3	Experiential Learning (optional, CJS)	3
Applied Research in Justice Systems (CJS)	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Total Credits: 120**

## Degree Audit

The degree audit is an automated report reflecting a student's academic progress toward the completion of a degree.

**MU students** can request a degree audit by logging in to myDegreePlanner (<https://mydegreeplanner.missouri.edu>). Students may also access myDegreePlanner via myZou, in the Student Center, click on the Academic Progress Tile, then select Request Degree Audit. The audit automatically pulls in the student's MU course work, transfer courses and courses in progress. This is available to current students, admitted students, and those who last attended less than three terms ago.

**Past MU students** can request a degree audit by contacting the Academic Advising Unit of the division in which they were last enrolled at MU. For contact information, go to <https://advising.missouri.edu/contact/>.

**Prospective students**, can access a preliminary MU degree audit via <https://www.transferology.com> (<https://www.transferology.com/>). Information on the college credits already earned will have to be manually entered before it can be evaluated against current degree requirements.

For additional details on degree audits, go to <https://registrar.missouri.edu/degrees-audits/degree-audits/>.

## Major and Career Exploration

The University of Missouri has many resources to assist you in exploring majors and career possibilities. For guidance, visit the Majors and Careers (<https://career.missouri.edu/majors-careers/>) website or view specific resources below.

- If you are considering a change of major or are exploring multiple majors, schedule an appointment with an advisor in the Discovery Center (<https://discoverycenter.missouri.edu/>) by calling (573)884-9700 or through MU Connect (<https://mizzou.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/dl/instructor/>

[serviceCatalog.html?bookmark=service/3761489](https://discoverycenter.missouri.edu/serviceCatalog.html?bookmark=service/3761489)) Discovery Center service in your success network.

- If you have decided on a major, visit an academic advisor in the School or College that you are interested in to discuss the process of declaring the major (<https://advising.missouri.edu/majors-minors/changing-major/>).
- If you would like to learn more about your career interests, abilities, values and talents, visit the MU Career Center (<https://career.missouri.edu/connect/>). No Appointment is necessary to explore career options with one of our staff members.
- If you would like information about MU majors and degree programs, visit:
  - the Degrees, Majors (Degree Programs), Emphasis Areas, Minors and Certificates (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/degreesanddegreeprograms/>) page in the catalog,
  - the MU Majors (<https://majors.missouri.edu>) website.

For additional major and career exploration resources, visit Major & Career Exploration (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/majorcareereexploration/>) in the catalog.